

UW Green Building Standards



I. Purpose

The University of Washington is a leader in sustainability and committed to implementing best practices in environmentally responsible construction for every new building and major capital renovation¹. Major capital renovations include all projects that are \$5M and above. Pursuant to the UW Climate Action Plan established in 2009, this Green Building Standard ensures project teams have the necessary information to manage all capital projects to achieve our sustainability goals, track progress towards those goals and communicate with stakeholders about these efforts.

II. Targets and Performance Metrics

During the project definition phase, it is important to identify a series of measurable targets specific to the project and track progress against them. Select key indicators of success at two levels; campus-wide and site specific. Minimum targets are identified below:

Overall Sustainability Rating: LEED Gold certified is the minimum target using the most current LEED standard. Seattle's Living Building Pilot Program (petals) is an acceptable substitute for LEED. Additional project-program specific certifications (WELL, Fitwel, Passive House, etc.) are also encouraged as a way to improve overall sustainability.

Energy Efficiency: Design to reduce energy use with a minimum threshold of 15% more efficient than the local city code.²

Potable Water: Using current code as a baseline, design to achieve at least 50% reduction for indoor potable water use and 50% reduction for outdoor potable water use.

III. Quarterly Report-out

Each project will include a brief status update on the progress of implementing the UW Green Building Standard for each project and will be submitted to the AVP of Asset Management and Sustainability.

¹ UW Executive Order Number 13, Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability, was approved by President Michael Young on August 30, 2012, and has been reviewed by the Faculty Senate, Board of Deans, the Environmental Stewardship Committee and the policy sub-teams. The Order, an umbrella statement confirming the UW's longstanding commitment to sustainability, will serve as a guiding principle for future sustainability policy development and pursuit of the UW's Climate Action Plan goals and objectives.

² Exceptions to meeting the Energy Efficiency target is subject to review and approval by the UW Environmental Stewardship Committee Chair.