

PEOPLE + PLANET

APPLYING LEED AND THE WELL BUILDING STANDARD™



Strategies for interiors, new buildings and existing buildings seeking dual certification

Introduction

About IWBI and our mission

The International WELL Building Institute™ (IWBI™) is leading the global movement to transform buildings and communities in ways that help people thrive. IWBI's WELL Building Standard™ (WELL™) is focused exclusively on the ways that buildings and communities, and everything in them, can improve our comfort, drive better choices and generally enhance, not compromise, our health and wellness. IWBI engages, convenes and mobilizes the global wellness community through management of the WELL Accredited Professional™ (WELL AP™) credential, engagement with the IWBI member community and advocacy for policies that promote health and wellness everywhere.

IWBI also supports the active and ongoing evolution of WELL to help ensure it reflects the latest public health research, building science and industry best practices. Built on the pioneering foundation of the first version of the WELL Building Standard (WELL v1), WELL v2 is the most rigorously tested and vetted version of the WELL Building Standard to date.

Advancing human health and sustainability through better buildings

At IWBI, we recognize that advocating for the health of people and the health of the planet are inextricably linked. We believe that addressing human health in the built environment should support broader efforts to support a healthier world. LEED and WELL work alongside one another to help buildings and communities preserve energy and precious resources for a brighter and more equitable future, while also supporting enhanced human health, well-being and performance. Not only do the philosophies behind LEED and WELL align, but the standards themselves are designed to work in conjunction with one another for maximum impact.

Through a long-standing collaboration, IWBI and U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) have supported the movement to create buildings that prioritize human health and environmental sustainability.

The following crosswalk document outlines where the achievement of a LEED credit can also result in the achievement of a WELL feature.

The following LEED rating systems are addressed in this document:

- LEED v4.1 Building Design + Construction: New Construction
- LEED v4.1 Interior Design + Construction: Commercial Interiors
- LEED v4.1 Operations + Maintenance: Existing Buildings

General guidance for WELL v2 / LEED v4.1 crosswalk tool implementation:

This document identifies parts of the LEED rating system that may be equivalent to certain WELL v2 features.

IWBI has provided rulings for WELL features or parts that are satisfied by phases of the LEED Certification process or an active LEED Certification. To be eligible to use this tool, the LEED project boundary must fully encompass the WELL project boundary.

The following tables compare LEED credits with WELL features and classify them as either equivalent or aligned. The definitions for equivalent and aligned are as follows:

- E (Equivalent) - When the level of fulfillment is considered equivalent, it indicates that a feature or credit has been evaluated and deemed satisfactory to achieve the complete WELL Feature indicated. The awarded credit can be used as verification to achieve the equivalent.
- A (Aligned) - When the level of fulfillment is considered aligned, it indicates that LEED assessment addresses the same topics and may contribute to a part, but not all of WELL feature criteria. This may mean that the LEED assessment is a good steppingstone for meeting the requirements, but more work will be needed to confirm the achievement of a WELL feature. For instance, a project may be required to conduct on-site performance testing for additional parameters in order to achieve a specific WELL feature.
- If a project has achieved or is pursuing a LEED credit and wants to apply these efforts to a specific WELL feature, the project should complete the following:

If a project has achieved or is pursuing a LEED credit and wants to apply these efforts to a specific WELL v2 feature, the project should complete the following:

- During WELL documentation review, submit a short narrative identifying the extent to which LEED credits are being used to achieve WELL features, in line with the guidance provided in this document.
- Submit supporting evidence for each WELL feature or part utilizing the crosswalk equivalency:
 - Proof of awarded LEED credit(s) should be submitted, such as the final LEED report or scorecard. Include proof of pathway followed if applicable.
 - If a project is pursuing LEED and WELL Certification in parallel, the project may indicate that final proof of award will be submitted post project performance verification. In this case, the feature will stay pending until the proof of award is submitted.

WELL v2 / LEED v4.1 ID+C (Commercial Interiors) crosswalk:

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
LTC Surrounding Density and Diverse Uses (Option 2)	V05.1 Select Sites with Pedestrian-friendly Streets	A	WELL requires that projects achieve at least one additional pedestrian-friendly design strategy.
LTC Access to Quality Transit	V05.2 Select Sites with Access to Mass Transit	E	
LTC Bicycle Facilities	V04.1 Provide Cycling Infrastructure	E	
LTC Bicycle Facilities	V04.2 Provide Showers, Lockers and Changing Facilities	E	
<p><u>For mechanically ventilated spaces:</u> EA Fundamental Commissioning and Verification + EQp Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance</p> <p><u>For naturally ventilated spaces:</u> EQp Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance</p>	A03.1 Ensure Adequate Ventilation	E	
EA Enhanced Commissioning (Option 2)	A09.2 Perform Envelope Commissioning	E	
MRC Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 1)	X07.1 Select Products with Disclosed Ingredients	A	WELL requires at least 25 distinct products; LEED credit requires 10.
MRC Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 1)	X07.3 Select Products with Third-Party Verified Ingredients	A	WELL requires 15 distinct products and third-party verification of disclosure.

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
MRC Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 2)	X08.1 Select Materials with Enhanced Chemical Restrictions	A	WELL requires 25 distinct compliant products. Only for products valued at 100% or above by LEED.
MRC Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 2)	X08.2 Select Optimized Products	A	WELL only accepts Cradle to Cradle or Living Product Challenge certifications meeting the 'Material Ingredient Optimization' Pathway for 15 distinct products.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 1A)	A09.1 Design Healthy Entryways	E	
EQp Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control (Option 1 OR Option 2)	A02.1 Prohibit Indoor Smoking	E	
EQp Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control (Option 1)	A02.2 Prohibit Outdoor Smoking	E	
Enhanced IAQ strategies (Option 2, Strategy D)	A01.5 Monitor Air Parameters	A	WELL requires monitoring of a specific list of contaminants.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2B)	A06.1 Increase Outdoor Air Supply	E	1 point achieved in WELL.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2E)	A07.1 Provide Operable Windows	E	
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2)	A08.1 Install Indoor Air Monitors	A	LEED includes CO2 monitoring, one of the three contaminants that WELL requires.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 1B)	A11.1 Manage Pollution and Exhaust	A	WELL has additional requirements for bathrooms, kitchens and high-humidity areas.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 1C)	A12.1 Implement Particle Filtration	E	

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQc Low Emitting Materials	X06.1 Limit VOCs from Wet-Applied Products	E	Projects must achieve LEED product categories 'Paints and Coatings' and 'Adhesives and Sealants'.
EQc Low Emitting Materials	X06.2 Restrict VOC Emissions from Furniture, Architectural and Interior Products	E	<u>Applicable LEED product categories:</u> 'Flooring' = 1 WELL Product Category 'Wall panels' AND 'Ceilings' AND 'Insulation' = 1 WELL Product Category 'Furniture' = 1 WELL Product Category
EQc Construction Indoor Air Quality Management Plan	A04.1 Mitigate Construction Pollution	E	
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment (Option 2, Path 1)	A01.1 Meet Thresholds for Particulate Matter	A	WELL requires post-occupancy performance testing and LEED testing occurs before occupancy.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment (Option 2, Path 2)	A01.2 Meet Thresholds for Organic Gases	A	WELL requires post-occupancy performance testing and LEED testing occurs before occupancy.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment (Option 2, Path 1)	A01.3 Meet Thresholds for Inorganic Gases	A	WELL requires post-occupancy performance testing and LEED testing occurs before occupancy.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment	A05.1 Meet Enhanced Thresholds for Particulate Matter	A	WELL requires post-occupancy on-site performance testing.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment	A05.2 Meet Enhanced Thresholds for Organic Gases	A	WELL requires post-occupancy on-site performance testing.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment	A05.3 Meet Enhanced Thresholds for Inorganic Gases	A	WELL requires post-occupancy on-site performance testing.
EQc Thermal Comfort	T01.1 Provide Acceptable Thermal Environment	A	WELL and LEED refer to similar thermal comfort standards, but WELL is verified through either on-site performance testing, long-term thermal data or thermal comfort surveys.

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQc Thermal Comfort	T03.1 Provide Thermostat Control	A	LEED does not set thermal zone size limits for shared control.
EQc Thermal Comfort (Thermal Comfort Control)	T04.1 Provide Personal Cooling Options	A	LEED only requires individual thermal comfort controls for at least 50% of individual occupant spaces.
EQc Thermal Comfort (Thermal Comfort Control)	T04.2 Provide Personal Heating Options	A	LEED only requires individual thermal comfort controls for at least 50% of individual occupant spaces.
EQc Interior Lighting	L04.1 Manage Glare from Electric Lighting	A	LEED Option 2A has similar intent to WELL, but the requirements differ.
EQc Interior Lighting (Option 2G and 2H)	L07.1 Balance Visual Lighting	A	LEED Option 2G and 2H are similar to WELL, but there are additional requirements within WELL.
EQc Interior Lighting (Option 2B)	L08.1 Enhance Color Rendering Quality	E	
EQc Interior Lighting (Option 1)	L09.1 Enhance Occupant Controllability	A	LEED requires lighting controls in at least 90% of occupant spaces, however, WELL has requirements for lighting zones, color temperature, the color of electric light, and controllability for all occupants.
EQc Daylight	L01.1 Provide Indoor Light	E	At least 1 point required in LEED.
EQc Daylight (Option 1)	L05.2 Integrate Solar Shading	E	At least 1 point required in LEED to achieve a max of 1 point in WELL.
EQc Daylight	L06.1 Conduct Daylight Simulation	E	2 points achieved in LEED = 1 WELL point 3 points achieved in LEED = 2 WELL points
EQc Quality Views	M02.1 Provide Connection to Nature	A	LEED allows views of scenes other than nature.
EQc Quality Views	M09.1 Provide Nature Access Indoors	A	LEED allows views of scenes other than nature.
EQc Acoustic Performance	S01.2 Provide Acoustic Design Plan	E	

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQc Acoustic Performance (HVAC Background Noise)	S02.1 Limit Background Noise Levels	A	LEED does not require performance verification and ASHRAE requirements are only partially equivalent to WELL.
EQc Acoustic Performance (Sound Transmission)	S03.1 Design for Sound Isolation at Walls and Doors	E	
EQc Acoustic Performance (Sound Transmission)	S03.2 Achieve Sound Isolation at Walls	A	References to NIC targets differ from thresholds of WELL. Additionally, performance verification is not a requirement in LEED.
EQc Acoustic Performance (Reverberation Time)	S04.1 Achieve Reverberation Time Thresholds	A	Space types are not consistent between LEED and WELL.
EQc Acoustic Performance	S06.1 Provide Minimum Background Sound	A	LEED does not require the installation of sound masking systems and only requires that, if they exist, they should meet the criteria, as applicable.
LEED Certification	I05.1 Achieve Green Building Certification	E	

WELL v2 / LEED v4.1 BD+C (New Construction) crosswalk:

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
LTC High Priority Site and Equitable Development (Option 1, Path 2 'Brownfield Remediation')	X04.1 Assess and Mitigate Site Hazards	E	
LTC Access to Quality Transit	V05.2 Select Sites with Access to Mass Transit	E	
LTC Bicycle Facilities	V04.1 Provide Cycling Infrastructure	E	
LTC Bicycle Facilities	V04.2 Provide Showers, Lockers and Changing Facilities	E	
LTC Surrounding Density and Diverse Uses (Option 2)	V05.1 Select Sites with Pedestrian-friendly Streets	A	WELL requires that projects achieve at least one additional pedestrian-friendly design strategy.
SSc Open Space	N12.1 Provide Gardening Space	A	LEED includes an option for spaces dedicated to food production, but it is not required.
SSc Open Space	V08.2 Provide Outdoor Physical Activity Space	A	Some aspects of this LEED credit aim to increase physical activity but are not required.
SSc Open Space	M09.2 Provide Nature Access Outdoors	E	
EA Enhanced Commissioning (Option 2)	A09.2 Perform Envelope Commissioning	E	
<u>For mechanically ventilated spaces:</u> EQp Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance + EA Fundamental Commissioning and Verification <u>For naturally ventilated spaces:</u>	A03.1 Ensure Adequate Ventilation	E	

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQp Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance			
MRc Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 1)	X07.1 Select Products with Disclosed Ingredients	A	WELL requires at least 25 distinct products; LEED requires 10.
MRc Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 1)	X07.3 Select Products with Third-Party Verified Ingredients	A	WELL requires 15 distinct products and third-party verification of disclosure.
MRc Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 2)	X08.1 Select Materials with Enhanced Chemical Restrictions	A	WELL requires 25 distinct compliant products. Products valued at 50% by LEED credit do not comply with WELL.
MRc Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Material Ingredients (Option 2)	X08.2 Select Optimized Products	A	WELL only accepts Cradle to Cradle or Living Product Challenge certifications meeting the 'Material Ingredient Optimization' Pathway for 15 distinct products.
EQp Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control (Option 1)	A02.1 Prohibit Indoor Smoking	E	
EQp Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control (Option 1)	A02.2 Prohibit Outdoor Smoking	E	
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2, Strategy D)	A01.5 Monitor Air Parameters	A	WELL requires monitoring of a specific list of contaminants.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2B)	A06.1 Increase Outdoor Air Supply	E	1 point achieved in WELL.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2E)	A07.1 Provide Operable Windows	E	
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 2)	A08.1 Install Indoor Air Monitors	A	LEED includes CO2 monitoring, one of the three contaminants required by WELL.

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 1A)	A09.1 Design Healthy Entryways	E	
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 1B)	A11.1 Manage Pollution and Exhaust	A	WELL has additional requirements for bathrooms, kitchens and high-humidity areas.
EQc Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies (Option 1C)	A12.1 Implement Particle Filtration	E	
EQc Low Emitting Materials	X06.1 Limit VOCs from Wet-Applied Products	E	Projects must achieve LEED product categories 'Paints and Coatings' and 'Adhesives and Sealants'.
EQc Low Emitting Materials	X06.2 Restrict VOC Emissions from Furniture, Architectural and Interior Products	E	<u>Applicable LEED product categories:</u> 'Flooring' = 1 WELL Product Category 'Wall panels' AND 'Ceilings' AND 'Insulation' = 1 WELL Product Category 'Furniture' = 1 WELL Product Category
EQc Construction Indoor Air Quality Management Plan	A04.1 Mitigate Construction Pollution	E	
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment (Option 2, Path 1)	A01.1 Meet Thresholds for Particulate Matter	A	WELL requires post-occupancy performance testing and LEED testing occurs before occupancy.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment (Option 2, Path 2)	A01.2 Meet Thresholds for Organic Gases	A	WELL requires post-occupancy performance testing and LEED testing occurs before occupancy.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment (Option 2, Path 1)	A01.3 Meet Thresholds for Inorganic Gases	A	WELL requires post-occupancy performance testing and LEED testing occurs before occupancy.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment	A05.1 Meet Enhanced Thresholds for Particulate Matter	A	Feature requirements have partial overlap but WELL requires post-occupancy on-site performance testing.
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment	A05.2 Meet Enhanced Thresholds for Organic Gases	A	Feature requirements have partial overlap but WELL requires post-occupancy on-site performance testing.

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQc Indoor Air Quality Assessment	A05.3 Meet Enhanced Thresholds for Inorganic Gases	A	Feature requirements have partial overlap but WELL requires post-occupancy on-site performance testing.
EQc Thermal Comfort	T01.1 Provide Acceptable Thermal Environment	A	WELL and LEED refer to similar thermal comfort standards but WELL is verified through either on-site performance testing, long-term thermal data or thermal comfort surveys.
EQc Thermal Comfort	T03.1 Provide Thermostat Control	A	LEED does not set thermal zone size limits for shared control.
EQc Thermal Comfort (Thermal Comfort Control)	T04.1 Provide Personal Cooling Options	A	LEED only requires individual thermal comfort controls for at least 50% of individual occupant spaces.
EQc Thermal Comfort (Thermal Comfort Control)	T04.2 Provide Personal Heating Options	A	LEED only requires individual thermal comfort controls for at least 50% of individual occupant spaces.
EQc Interior Lighting	L04.1 Manage Glare from Electric Lighting	A	LEED Option 2A has similar intent to WELL, but the requirements differ.
EQc Interior Lighting (Option 2B)	L08.1 Enhance Color Rendering Quality	E	
EQc Interior Lighting (Option 1)	L09.1 Enhance Occupant Controllability	A	LEED requires lighting controls in at least 90% of occupant spaces, however, WELL has requirements for lighting zones, color temperature, the color of electric light, and controllability for all occupants.
EQc Daylight	L01.1 Provide Indoor Light	E	At least 1 point required in LEED.
EQc Daylight (Option 1)	L05.2 Integrate Solar Shading	E	At least 1 point required in LEED to achieve a max of 1 point in WELL.
EQc Daylight	L06.1 Conduct Daylight Simulation	E	2 points achieved in LEED = 1 WELL point 3 points achieved in LEED = 2 WELL points
EQc Quality Views	M02.1 Provide Connection to Nature	A	LEED allows views of scenes other than nature.

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
EQc Quality Views	M09.1 Provide Nature Access Indoors	A	LEED allows views of scenes other than nature.
EQc Acoustic Performance	S01.2 Provide Acoustic Design Plan	E	
EQc Acoustic Performance (HVAC Background Noise)	S02.1 Limit Background Noise Levels	A	LEED does not require performance verification and ASHRAE requirements are only partially equivalent to WELL.
EQc Acoustic Performance (Sound Transmission)	S03.1 Design for Sound Isolation at Walls and Doors	E	
EQc Acoustic Performance (Sound Transmission)	S03.2 Achieve Sound Isolation at Walls	A	References to NIC targets differ from thresholds of WELL. Additionally, performance verification is not a requirement in LEED.
EQc Acoustic Performance (Reverberation Time)	S04.1 Achieve Reverberation Time Thresholds	A	Space types are not consistent between LEED and WELL.
EQc Acoustic Performance	S06.1 Provide Minimum Background Sound	A	LEED does not require the installation of sound masking systems and only requires that, if they exist, they should meet the criteria, as applicable.
LEED certification	I05.1 Achieve Green Building Certification	E	

WELL v2 / LEED v4.1 O+M (Existing Buildings) crosswalk:

LEED prerequisite/credit name	WELL feature part name	Equivalent / Aligned? (E / A)	Notes
MRc Purchasing (Option 3, Electronic Equipment)	X01.2 Restrict Mercury	E	
EQp Minimum Indoor Air Quality	A03.1 Ensure Adequate Ventilation	E	
EQp Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control (Option 1 OR Option 2)	A02.1 Prohibit Indoor Smoking	E	
EQp Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control (Option 1 OR Option 2)	A02.2 Prohibit Outdoor Smoking	E	
EQc Green Cleaning (Option 2)	A09.1 Design Healthy Entryways	E	
EQp Green Cleaning Policy	X11.1 Improve Cleaning Practices	E	
EQp Green Cleaning (Option 4)	X11.2 Select Preferred Cleaning Products	E	
EQ Indoor Environmental Quality Performance	A01.2 Meet Thresholds for Organic Gases	A	LEED includes, though does not require, TVOC measurements.
EQ Indoor Environmental Quality Performance	T01.1 Provide Acceptable Thermal Environment	A	LEED includes a survey on occupant satisfaction, but the WELL feature is focused on thermal comfort.
EQ Indoor Environmental Quality Performance	T02.1 Survey for Thermal Comfort	A	LEED includes a survey on occupant satisfaction, but the WELL feature is focused on thermal comfort.
EQ Indoor Environmental Quality Performance	C04.1 Select Project Survey	A	WELL occupant survey includes different topics in addition to IEQ.
EQc Integrated Pest Management	X10.1 Manage Pests	E	
LEED certification	I05.1 Green Building Certification	E	

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USGBC and IWBI support the creation of educational resources and the free exchange and expression of ideas, especially as they contribute toward a more sustainable, healthy, resilient and equitable future. This Crosswalk has been created to illustrate some of the similarities and differences between the LEED™ rating system and the WELL Building Standard™ certification system. IWBI and USGBC retain copyrights in the Crosswalk to the extent protectable under copyright law and encourage the use of the Crosswalk to assist users in their projects pursuing certifications under LEED and WELL and for other educational purposes. Accordingly, USGBC and IWBI grant the public a limited, no-charge, non-assignable, unilateral, revocable license to use, display and create derivative works in the Crosswalk for such purposes so long as attribution is made to USGBC and IWBI.

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