

PRACTICE EXAM 18: LEED GREEN ASSOCIATE SIMULATION (100 QUESTIONS)

This practice exam contains 100 multiple-choice questions modeled on the LEED Green Associate (v5) exam administered by GBCI. The official exam has a 2-hour time limit and requires a score of 170 out of 200 to pass. Select the single best answer for each question. Answers and full explanations follow the exam.

1. A structural engineer with no prior LEED credential wants to begin her professional credentialing journey. Which credential can she pursue immediately with no prerequisites?

- A. LEED AP with specialty
- B. LEED Fellow
- C. LEED Green Associate
- D. LEED Green Rater

2. A landscape architect has passed the LEED Green Associate exam and now wants to pursue a specialty credential. What must be true before she can attempt the specialty exam?

- A. She must hold a professional landscape architecture license
- B. She has already passed Green Associate, satisfying this prerequisite
- C. She must complete a separate application fee waiver
- D. She must first work on three certified projects

3. A mechanical engineer registers for the LEED Green Associate exam and pays the registration fee. What does he receive next?

- A. An Eligibility ID valid for 12 months
- B. His final exam score immediately
- C. A LEED AP credential automatically

D. Confirmation that the exam is waived

4. An interior designer has held a LEED AP with specialty credential in good standing for exactly seven years. Is she eligible to apply for LEED Fellow this cycle?

- A. Yes, seven years exceeds the minimum requirement
- B. Only if she also holds a Green Associate credential separately
- C. Only after passing a Fellow-specific written exam
- D. No, she needs a minimum of eight years

5. A general contractor fails the LEED Green Associate exam on his first attempt. What is the accurate retake policy?

- A. He is permanently barred from retesting
- B. Retakes are offered free of charge after any failure
- C. He may retake the exam, paying the full fee each time
- D. Only two total attempts are ever permitted

6. An urban planner fails the LEED Green Associate exam for the third consecutive time. How long must she wait before submitting a new registration?

- A. 30 days
- B. 90 days
- C. 180 days
- D. 45 days

7. A real estate developer wants to know which organization independently administers the LEED Green Associate exam she is about to take. Which organization is this?

- A. GBCI
- B. USGBC

- C. The World Green Building Council
- D. Prometric alone, with no GBCI involvement

8. A facilities manager wants to know which organization actually writes and revises the LEED rating system's credits and prerequisites. Which organization performs this role?

- A. GBCI
- B. Prometric
- C. USGBC
- D. The EPA

9. An HVAC technician cannot test within his standard 12-month Eligibility ID window. What option is available to him?

- A. No extension of any kind is ever available
- B. An unlimited number of extensions may be requested
- C. He must wait a full additional year automatically
- D. He may request a single available extension

10. A property manager wants to know whether taking the LEED Green Associate exam remotely from her home office differs in rigor from an in-person testing center exam. What is accurate?

- A. Both formats share identical scoring, content, and proctoring rigor
- B. Remote exams use a smaller, easier question pool
- C. In-person exams award bonus points
- D. Remote exams have a shortened time limit

11. A civil engineer disagrees with the accuracy of a specific exam question after completing his LEED Green Associate exam. What is the accurate appeals process outcome if successful?

- A. GBCI directly edits and raises the original recorded score

- B. Appeals are never accepted under any circumstance
- C. A successful appeal always results in an automatic passing score
- D. He is offered a retest opportunity, not a changed original score

12. An architect holding a LEED AP with specialty credential wants to know her continuing education requirement per two-year reporting period. How many CE hours does she owe?

- A. 15 hours
- B. 30 hours
- C. 45 hours
- D. 60 hours

13. A construction project manager holding a LEED Green Associate credential wants to know his continuing education requirement per two-year reporting period. How many CE hours does he owe?

- A. 30 hours
- B. 45 hours
- C. 15 hours
- D. 60 hours

14. An acoustical consultant fails to report her required CE hours by the end of her reporting period. What is the resulting administrative status of her credential?

- A. An administrative lapse to inactive status, correctable by completing hours
- B. Permanent and irreversible revocation
- C. An automatic downgrade to a lower credential tier
- D. No effect, since CMP is only a recommendation

15. A commissioning agent wants to nominate a respected colleague for LEED Fellow. What is the primary role of the endorsers required for this application?

- A. Reducing the total application fee owed
- B. Providing credentialed peer verification of the nominee's claimed impact
- C. Automatically granting the endorsers Fellow status themselves
- D. Replacing the need for any portfolio materials

16. A LEED Fellow application requires a minimum number of endorsers holding LEED AP with specialty. How many is this minimum?

- A. Four
- B. One
- C. Five
- D. Two

17. A sustainability consultant wants to know which organization she should contact regarding a specific LEED project's certification review status. Which organization handles this?

- A. USGBC's committee structure
- B. Prometric's testing centers
- C. GBCI's certification review process
- D. The EPA's federal permitting office

18. A quantity surveyor wants to understand why USGBC does not also grade LEED exams and directly certify projects itself. What is the primary reason for this organizational separation?

- A. USGBC lacks any legal authority to do so
- B. It reduces registration fees for exam candidates
- C. GBCI predates USGBC and retained this role historically
- D. It protects the credibility of both processes from conflicts of interest

19. A plumbing contractor wants to know how many multiple-choice questions appear on the standard LEED Green Associate exam. What is the correct total?

- A. 100 questions
- B. 150 questions
- C. 75 questions
- D. 50 questions

20. An electrical estimator wants to know the standard time limit for the LEED Green Associate exam. What is the correct duration?

- A. 1 hour
- B. 2 hours
- C. 3 hours
- D. 90 minutes

21. A roofing contractor wants to know the minimum passing score required on the LEED Green Associate exam. What is the correct threshold?

- A. 170 out of 200
- B. 150 out of 200
- C. 180 out of 200
- D. 160 out of 200

22. An insulation installer holding a LEED Green Associate credential decides to let it lapse due to unreported CE hours, then completes the outstanding hours six months later. What happens to his credential status?

- A. It cannot ever be reactivated under any circumstance
- B. It requires a full exam retake regardless of hours completed
- C. It returns to active status upon completing the outstanding hours
- D. It automatically downgrades permanently to a lower tier

23. A window manufacturer's sales representative wants to claim LEED AP status on his business card without specifying a specialty. Is this an accurate professional representation?

- A. Yes, any abbreviation referencing LEED is always acceptable
- B. Yes, provided he intends to eventually earn a specialty
- C. Only if his employer approves the business card design
- D. No, the specific credential and specialty should be stated accurately

24. A drywall subcontractor wants to know whether a LEED AP with specialty credential requires a professional license to obtain. What is accurate?

- A. Yes, a state-issued professional license is always required
- B. No professional license is required; passing the specialty exam after Green Associate is required instead
- C. Only architects need a license; all other candidates are exempt
- D. A license substitutes entirely for passing any LEED exam

25. A flooring installer wants to know how many total LEED credential tiers exist in the standard credential ladder. What is the correct count?

- A. Two
- B. Five
- C. Four
- D. Three

26. A painting contractor wants to know whether LEED Fellow is earned through an exam or another evaluation method. What is accurate?

- A. Fellow is earned through peer nomination and portfolio review, not an exam
- B. Fellow requires passing three separate specialty exams
- C. Fellow is granted automatically after ten years as an AP
- D. Fellow requires retaking the Green Associate exam twice

27. A cabinetmaker wants to know how LEED AP with specialty credentials are organized. Are they organized around specific rating systems?

- A. No, a single generic AP credential covers every rating system
- B. Yes, specialties correspond to specific rating system tracks
- C. No, specialties are assigned randomly upon passing any exam
- D. Yes, but only one specialty track has ever existed

28. A glazing subcontractor wants to know what happens if he skips a LEED prerequisite while still earning 95 credit points on a project. What is the outcome?

- A. The project still certifies based on the 95 points earned
- B. The missed prerequisite simply subtracts 10 points from the total
- C. The project is disqualified from certification regardless of points earned
- D. The project automatically defaults to Certified level

29. A demolition contractor wants to know which of LEED's Minimum Program Requirements addresses a project's location on existing land. Which MPR is this?

- A. MPR 1: Must be located on a permanent location on existing land
- B. MPR 2: Must have reasonable LEED boundaries
- C. MPR 3: Must comply with project size requirements
- D. There is no MPR addressing site location

30. A masonry contractor wants to know whether achieving a specific certification level, like Gold, is itself one of LEED's three Minimum Program Requirements. Is this accurate?

- A. Yes, achieving at least Gold is MPR 2 specifically
- B. Yes, achieving at least Silver is MPR 3 specifically
- C. No, certification level is not one of the three MPRs
- D. Yes, but only for LEED ND projects specifically

31. A structural steel erector wants to know how a project's certification level, such as Gold or Platinum, is ultimately determined. What determines this?

- A. A subjective GBCI committee vote with no fixed thresholds
- B. The number of LEED APs employed by the general contractor
- C. A random drawing among qualifying projects
- D. Total scorecard points measured against fixed point-range thresholds

32. An excavation contractor wants to know the point range defining the Certified certification tier. What is the correct range?

- A. 50 to 59 points
- B. 40 to 49 points
- C. 60 to 79 points
- D. 80 to 110 points

33. A concrete finisher wants to know the point range defining the Gold certification tier. What is the correct range?

- A. 40 to 49 points
- B. 50 to 59 points
- C. 60 to 79 points
- D. 80 to 110 points

34. A crane operator wants to know the point range defining the Platinum certification tier, the highest available. What is the correct range?

- A. 60 to 79 points
- B. 80 to 110 points
- C. 50 to 59 points
- D. 40 to 49 points

35. A scaffolding rental company's safety officer wants to know the point range defining the Silver certification tier. What is the correct range?

- A. 50 to 59 points
- B. 40 to 49 points
- C. 60 to 79 points
- D. 80 to 110 points

36. A demolition safety inspector wants to know how many core LEED rating system adaptations exist. What is the correct count?

- A. Three
- B. Four
- C. Six
- D. Five

37. A tile setter wants to know which rating system adaptation would be most appropriate for a base-building shell project with future tenant fit-outs planned separately. Which is this?

- A. Core and Shell
- B. Interior Design + Construction
- C. Operations + Maintenance
- D. Homes

38. A commercial locksmith wants to know which rating system adaptation applies to an existing, already-occupied office building pursuing ongoing operational improvements. Which is this?

- A. Building Design + Construction
- B. Operations + Maintenance
- C. Neighborhood Development
- D. Core and Shell

39. A soil compaction technician wants to know which rating system adaptation addresses land-use planning at a community, multi-building scale. Which is this?

- A. Building Design + Construction
- B. Interior Design + Construction
- C. Neighborhood Development
- D. Operations + Maintenance

40. A fire suppression technician wants to know what platform LEED v5 projects use for registration and certification submission. Which is this?

- A. Prometric's exam portal
- B. GBCI's legacy paper filing system
- C. USGBC's membership directory
- D. Arc

41. A geotechnical engineer wants to know which platform legacy LEED v4 and v4.1 projects continue using for registration. Which is this?

- A. Arc exclusively, with no legacy option
- B. A discontinued platform no longer accessible
- C. USGBC's membership directory
- D. LEED Online

42. A stormwater management engineer wants to know what document captures an owner's stated goals, budget, and sustainability objectives for a project team to design toward. Which document is this?

- A. The Basis of Design
- B. The commissioning report
- C. The Owner's Project Requirements
- D. The Carbon Assessment

43. A value engineering consultant wants to know what document specifically records the design team's technical approach to meeting the owner's stated goals. Which document is this?

- A. The Basis of Design
- B. The Owner's Project Requirements
- C. The Human Impact Assessment
- D. The Carbon Assessment

44. A construction scheduler wants to know what an intensive, full-day collaborative design workshop held early in a project is called. What is this called?

- A. A commissioning review
- B. A charrette
- C. A punch-list walkthrough
- D. A final inspection

45. A change-order administrator wants to know what independent party verifies that a building's installed systems actually meet documented design intent. Who performs this role?

- A. The general contractor's own project manager exclusively
- B. A financial auditor reviewing construction costs
- C. A refrigerant compliance officer
- D. A commissioning authority

46. A punch-list coordinator wants to know the mandatory baseline requirements of Fundamental Commissioning. What does this prerequisite require at minimum?

- A. A financial audit of construction costs exclusively
- B. Verification of cosmetic finishes exclusively
- C. Reviewing the OPR and BOD and verifying energy-related system installation
- D. Deferring all verification until well after occupancy begins

47. A submittal reviewer wants to know how Enhanced Commissioning differs from Fundamental Commissioning. What is the accurate distinction?

- A. They are identical in scope, with Enhanced simply being a renamed version
- B. Enhanced extends verification considerably further, including earlier design engagement
- C. Enhanced replaces the mandatory Fundamental Commissioning prerequisite entirely
- D. Enhanced applies only to refrigerant systems specifically

48. A closeout documentation specialist wants to know what monitoring-based commissioning extends verification into. What is the accurate answer?

- A. A building's actual early operational period after occupancy begins
- B. Only the design phase, with no construction-phase component
- C. Only the demolition phase of a building's life cycle
- D. A period entirely before construction begins

49. A materials testing lab technician wants to know what a Type III Environmental Product Declaration specifically requires. What is this requirement?

- A. No verification requirement of any kind, by definition
- B. Independent third-party verification of the underlying life-cycle assessment
- C. Approval from a single named certifying body exclusively
- D. A minimum five-page document length

50. A recycling coordinator wants to know what a Health Product Declaration specifically discloses about a product. What is this?

- A. A product's chemical ingredients and associated health hazards
- B. A product's global warming potential exclusively
- C. A product's transportation-related emissions exclusively
- D. A product's recycled content percentage exclusively

51. A structural steel detailer wants to know what LEED v5's consolidated disclosure credit requires an EPD to demonstrate to count toward the credit. What is this requirement?

- A. Simple existence of the EPD regardless of performance shown
- B. Approval from a single named certifying body exclusively
- C. A 20% improvement over baseline or an Optimized designation
- D. A minimum product age of ten years

52. A rebar fabricator wants to know the minimum number of unique EPD-covered products required under the consolidated disclosure credit's pathway. How many products, from how many suppliers?

- A. Twenty products from five suppliers
- B. Five products from one supplier
- C. Fifty products from ten suppliers
- D. Ten products from three suppliers

53. A demolition waste hauler wants to know what Quantify and Assess Embodied Carbon requires teams to identify. What is this requirement?

- A. Hotspot materials contributing most to total embodied carbon
- B. A finalized Reduce Embodied Carbon score
- C. A refrigerant's global warming potential
- D. A site's peak stormwater discharge volume

54. A salvage yard operator wants to know what Building and Materials Reuse primarily rewards. What does this credit reward?

- A. Purchasing new materials with high recycled content exclusively
- B. Increasing a project's total structural safety factor
- C. Retaining existing structure or procuring salvaged materials
- D. Reducing a project's total site acreage

55. A curtain wall installer wants to know which of the two Reduce Embodied Carbon pathways is generally more accessible for a team without dedicated life-cycle assessment expertise. Which pathway is this?

- A. Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment exclusively
- B. Referenced Standard Compliance exclusively
- C. Neither pathway is genuinely accessible to any team
- D. EPD Analysis (Option 2)

56. A precast concrete supplier wants to know what Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment's scope spans. What is this scope?

- A. The construction phase exclusively, with no other scope
- B. Material production through end-of-life stages comprehensively
- C. End-of-life stages exclusively, with no other scope
- D. A single material category exclusively

57. A window film installer wants to know what Module D within a Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment specifically reports. What does this module capture?

- A. Benefits and impacts extending beyond the building's core system boundary
- B. Only construction-phase waste, with no other scope
- C. A refrigerant's leak rate exclusively
- D. A site's peak stormwater discharge exclusively

58. A weatherproofing contractor wants to know what a decarbonization roadmap's written plan is capped at, in terms of length, under the Operational Carbon Projection prerequisite. What is this limit?

- A. Ten pages maximum
- B. Two pages maximum
- C. Twenty-five pages, one per projection year
- D. No page limit exists

59. A HVAC balancing technician wants to know how many required steps exist within the Operational Carbon Projection and Decarbonization Plan prerequisite. What is this count?

- A. Two steps
- B. Six steps
- C. Three steps
- D. Four steps

60. A duct insulation installer wants to know what the design analysis step within the Operational Carbon Projection prerequisite requires. What does this step require?

- A. Final GBCI certification approval
- B. A professional engineer's licensure stamp
- C. Analyzing efficiency and peak load measures
- D. A structural review of seismic bracing

61. A refrigerant reclamation technician wants to know what Fundamental Refrigerant Management requires at minimum. What is this requirement?

- A. Unlimited use of any refrigerant without restriction
- B. Complete elimination of all mechanical cooling systems
- C. Restricting high-GWP refrigerants or requiring low-GWP alternatives with leak detection
- D. A requirement applying exclusively to LEED Homes projects

62. An HVAC controls technician wants to know what determines whether Enhanced Refrigerant Management's Option 1 or Option 2 applies to a given refrigerant. What determines this?

- A. Whether the refrigerant's ODP and GWP fall below defined thresholds
- B. The building's total floor area exclusively
- C. The number of LEED APs on the project team

D. The project's certification level target

63. A chiller service technician wants to know what Enhanced Refrigerant Management's Option 2 calculation incorporates. What factors does this calculation include?

- A. Only a refrigerant's color coding, with no other factor
- B. Refrigerant charge, expected leakage rate, and equipment life
- C. Only a building's total floor area
- D. Only a project's certification level target

64. An energy modeling consultant wants to know what a reference baseline building represents in energy modeling. What is this concept?

- A. A fixed dollar amount every project must budget for energy
- B. A refrigerant charge limit unrelated to energy modeling
- C. The completed building's actual final as-built performance
- D. A standardized comparison building matched in size, shape, and function

65. A building automation programmer wants to know what benchmarking specifically tracks, distinct from a design-phase energy model. What does benchmarking track?

- A. A one-time design-phase calculation exclusively
- B. The process of verifying installed system design intent
- C. A refrigerant classification method exclusively
- D. A building's actual measured performance over time

66. A solar installer wants to know whether on-site and off-site renewable energy strategies are always weighted identically under the Renewable Energy credit. What is accurate?

- A. On-site generation generally carries somewhat more certification weight
- B. Off-site procurement always earns more points than on-site

- C. Only on-site generation is recognized under current LEED v5
- D. Only off-site procurement is recognized under current LEED v5

67. An electrical distribution technician wants to know what a power purchase agreement represents. What is this arrangement?

- A. A one-time payment covering a building's total annual energy use
- B. A long-term contract to buy electricity from a specific renewable facility
- C. A government subsidy program for on-site solar installation
- D. A warranty covering mechanical equipment failure

68. A metering technician wants to know what a Renewable Energy Certificate represents. What is this instrument?

- A. A physical connection to a specific renewable generation facility
- B. A one-time tax credit for solar panel installation
- C. A tradable instrument representing renewable generation attributes
- D. A building permit for renewable energy systems

69. A demand response program coordinator wants to know what grid-interactive operation describes. What is this concept?

- A. A building actively coordinating operation with utility grid conditions
- B. A building disconnected entirely from the utility grid
- C. A building using only on-site renewable generation exclusively
- D. A building exempt from all electrical code requirements

70. A load-shedding equipment vendor wants to know what full electrification describes as a building strategy. What is this concept?

- A. Installing solar panels on 100% of a building's roof area

- B. Eliminating on-site fossil fuel combustion in favor of electric systems
- C. Connecting a building to a backup generator system
- D. Achieving a LEED Platinum certification level automatically

71. A site surveyor wants to know what a Preconstruction Site Assessment specifically identifies before construction begins. What does this assessment identify?

- A. A financial audit of projected construction costs
- B. A refrigerant inventory conducted during design
- C. Special-status vegetation, soils, and wildlife habitat
- D. A structural engineering review of foundation design

72. An erosion control specialist wants to know what standard governs a project's Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan regardless of local jurisdiction requirements. Which standard applies?

- A. Whichever local standard is least stringent
- B. No standard applies if local rules are silent
- C. The local jurisdiction's standard exclusively
- D. EPA 2022 Construction General Permit standards

73. A wetland delineation specialist wants to know what Minimized Site Disturbance requires alongside the Preconstruction Site Assessment. What else does this prerequisite require?

- A. A Carbon Assessment specifically
- B. A Human Impact Assessment specifically
- C. A Climate Resilience Assessment specifically
- D. An Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan

74. A habitat restoration ecologist wants to know what Biodiverse Habitat rewards. What does this credit reward?

- A. Maximum available surface parking capacity
- B. A structural foundation requirement for coastal buildings
- C. Protecting, restoring, or creating high-value habitat features on site
- D. A refrigerant's ozone depletion potential exclusively

75. A lighting designer wants to know what Light Pollution Reduction primarily addresses. What does this credit primarily address?

- A. Exterior lighting design limiting trespass and minimizing uplight
- B. A structural requirement for interior lighting fixture mounting
- C. A refrigerant management strategy unrelated to lighting
- D. A water quality metric unrelated to site temperature

76. A paving contractor wants to know what Heat Island Reduction addresses on a project site. What does this credit address?

- A. A refrigerant-related emissions concern exclusively
- B. Solar heat absorption from dark, impervious surfaces
- C. A structural foundation cooling requirement
- D. A water quality metric unrelated to site temperature

77. A drainage systems designer wants to know what Rainwater Management primarily controls. What does this credit primarily control?

- A. Peak stormwater discharge on site
- B. A building's total embodied carbon
- C. A refrigerant's global warming potential
- D. A building's daylighting performance

78. A cistern installer wants to know what Water Efficiency's rainwater harvesting credit primarily accomplishes, distinct from Sustainable Sites Rainwater Management. What does it accomplish?

- A. Controlling peak stormwater discharge exclusively
- B. Substituting captured water for potable indoor demand
- C. Reducing a building's embodied carbon
- D. Increasing a site's total impervious surface area

79. A hydrozoning consultant wants to know what pathway a landscape requiring zero permanent irrigation after establishment satisfies. Which pathway is this?

- A. Reduced Irrigation via the WaterSense Water Budget Tool
- B. Cooling Tower Water Use
- C. No Irrigation Required
- D. Water Metering and Reporting

80. A cooling tower service technician wants to know what increasing cycles of concentration accomplishes for water use. What does this accomplish?

- A. It increases the total blowdown volume required
- B. It has no effect on blowdown volume whatsoever
- C. It increases refrigerant charge requirements
- D. It reduces the total blowdown volume required

81. A water reclamation plant operator wants to know what graywater specifically includes as a water source. What does this term include?

- A. Toilet waste requiring extensive treatment
- B. Water from sinks, showers, and laundry
- C. Raw water from a natural stream
- D. Untreated groundwater from an on-site well

82. A submetering installer wants to know what submetering accomplishes, distinct from a single whole-building meter. What does submetering accomplish?

- A. Nothing beyond what a whole-building meter already provides
- B. Exemption from the base metering prerequisite entirely
- C. Tracking water use of distinct subsystems separately
- D. A single combined annual utility bill only

83. A water utility billing analyst wants to know the minimum multi-year data-sharing commitment required under Water Metering and Reporting. What is this minimum?

- A. Five years
- B. One year
- C. Two years
- D. Ten years

84. A transit planner wants to know what Access to Transit's point thresholds are primarily calibrated to. What are these thresholds based on?

- A. Total site acreage exclusively
- B. A refrigerant charge threshold unrelated to transit
- C. The number of LEED APs on the project team
- D. Actual weekday and weekend transit service frequency

85. A pedestrian infrastructure designer wants to know what Walkable Location rewards, distinct from Access to Transit. What does this pathway reward?

- A. Proximity to daily needs independent of transit service frequency
- B. A fixed parking ratio unrelated to walkability
- C. A refrigerant management requirement unrelated to transportation
- D. Total site acreage regardless of any pedestrian consideration

86. A zoning consultant wants to know what Diverse Uses rewards as a Location and Transportation pathway. What does this pathway reward?

- A. Exclusively residential land use within a project area
- B. Maximum available parking capacity on site
- C. A genuine mix of residential, commercial, civic, and recreational uses
- D. A single dominant commercial use covering an entire site

87. A density calculation specialist wants to know what Surrounding Density specifically measures. What does this pathway measure?

- A. A building's internal occupant density exclusively
- B. A refrigerant charge threshold unrelated to site context
- C. A measure of parking spaces per building occupant
- D. Combined units and floor area per acre within a defined radius

88. A parking structure engineer wants to know what Reduce Parking specifically rewards. What does this credit reward?

- A. Complete elimination of every on-site parking space
- B. Meaningfully reduced parking capacity relative to a baseline ratio
- C. A requirement with no defined baseline comparison
- D. Increasing parking capacity to accommodate any demand

89. A bicycle infrastructure planner wants to know what Active Travel Facilities treats cycling infrastructure as. What is this credit's approach?

- A. Bicycle storage alone, with no other consideration
- B. A complete system including storage, showers, and maintenance facilities
- C. A requirement unrelated to any transportation strategy
- D. A refrigerant management requirement unrelated to bicycles

90. A traffic impact analyst wants to know what Transportation Demand Management requires teams to compare. What comparison does this credit require?

- A. Site acreage against total parking acreage
- B. Daylighting performance against ASHRAE 55 standards
- C. Baseline-case VMT against proposed-case VMT
- D. Certification level against a competitor's certification level

91. A brownfield remediation contractor wants to know what site selection strategy the brownfield remediation pathway under Equitable Development rewards. What does this pathway reward?

- A. Locating on and actively remediating a contaminated site
- B. Avoiding any site with contamination history entirely
- C. A penalty applied to any project located near industrial sites
- D. No connection to contaminated land whatsoever

92. A community engagement facilitator wants to know what the Human Impact Assessment prerequisite specifically evaluates. What is this assessment's scope?

- A. A refrigerant's health impact on occupants specifically
- B. A structural seismic risk calculation exclusively
- C. A financial audit of construction labor costs
- D. Local demographic, infrastructure, and community health data

93. A hazard mitigation planner wants to know the minimum number of hazard categories a Climate Resilience Assessment must address. What is this minimum, out of how many total categories?

- A. Five of twenty total categories
- B. One of six total categories
- C. Two of twelve total categories
- D. Three of eight total categories

94. A carbon accounting analyst wants to know what the Carbon Assessment's 25-year projection must account for together. What must this assessment include?

- A. Only refrigerant-related emissions
- B. Only embodied carbon in isolation
- C. Only transportation-related emissions
- D. Energy use, refrigerants, embodied carbon, and transportation together

95. A tenant improvement coordinator wants to know what Tenant Guidelines under Core and Shell Integrative Process credits specifically provide. What do these guidelines provide?

- A. Documented sustainability requirements for future tenant fit-out teams
- B. A financial penalty clause for late tenant move-in
- C. A structural load requirement for tenant improvements exclusively
- D. A refrigerant management document unrelated to tenants

96. A commercial lease attorney wants to know what a Green Lease specifically aligns. What does this lease structure align?

- A. Only the landlord's own internal maintenance budget
- B. Landlord and tenant incentives around energy and water performance
- C. Only municipal zoning requirements for a leased space
- D. A refrigerant purchasing agreement between parties

97. A green building consultant wants to know how many sharpened impact areas LEED v5's framework organizes point allocation around. What is this count?

- A. Five
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four

98. A sustainability report writer wants to know which of the following is NOT one of LEED v5's three sharpened impact areas. Which is this?

- A. Decarbonization
- B. Regulatory compliance
- C. Ecological conservation and restoration
- D. Quality of life

99. A green workforce trainer wants to know what the triple bottom line framework evaluates together. What does this framework evaluate?

- A. Only financial performance, despite its name
- B. Only environmental performance in isolation
- C. Only social equity in isolation
- D. People, planet, and profit together

100. Across this exam's diverse trade and professional scenarios, which single overarching theme connects LEED Process, credentialing, and technical credit knowledge together?

- A. A shared, structured framework applies consistently across every professional role
- B. Each trade requires an entirely separate, unrelated body of knowledge
- C. Only design professionals need any familiarity with LEED concepts
- D. LEED Process has no genuine connection to technical credit content

Practice Exam 18: Answer Key and Explanations

1. C — LEED Green Associate has no prerequisites of any kind, including no required work experience, education level, or prior credential, making it immediately available to any candidate regardless of professional background. LEED AP with specialty and LEED Fellow both require prior credentialed standing this structural engineer could not possibly hold yet.

2. B — Having already passed the LEED Green Associate exam satisfies the firm, mandatory prerequisite required before attempting any LEED AP with specialty exam, regardless of a candidate's professional licensure status. A landscape architecture license, application fee waiver, or prior certified project experience are not substitutes for this required credentialing step. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

- 3. A** — After registration payment is processed, the candidate receives an Eligibility ID valid for 12 months, during which he must schedule and complete the exam. No score, credential, or automatic exam waiver occurs at this early stage of the registration sequence, well before the actual exam attempt itself takes place. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.
- 4. D** — LEED Fellow eligibility requires holding a LEED AP with specialty credential in good standing for a minimum of eight years, a firm threshold seven years falls short of regardless of other qualifications. A separate Green Associate credential or a Fellow-specific exam are not part of this eligibility requirement. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.
- 5. C** — Candidates who fail the exam may retake it, paying the full exam fee for each subsequent attempt, with no discount offered regardless of how many prior attempts have already occurred. A single failure does not result in permanent disqualification, and more than two total attempts are genuinely permitted under GBCI's policy.
- 6. B** — After three unsuccessful exam attempts, GBCI requires a mandatory 90-day waiting period before a candidate may submit a new registration. This fixed waiting period applies specifically after the third failed attempt, encouraging meaningful additional preparation rather than immediate repeated attempts on unchanged knowledge gaps or weaknesses. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.
- 7. A** — GBCI independently administers LEED professional exams, operating separately from USGBC's rating-system development role specifically to avoid conflicts of interest between writing the rules and grading compliance with them. USGBC develops the rating system itself, while Prometric only delivers the exam session under GBCI's oversight. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.
- 8. C** — USGBC develops and continuously updates LEED's credits and prerequisites through committees of building industry volunteers spanning architecture, engineering, construction, and academia. GBCI instead administers exams and certification review, Prometric merely delivers exam sessions, and the EPA is an unrelated external federal agency entirely. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.
- 9. D** — A candidate unable to test within the standard 12-month Eligibility ID window may request a single available extension before that window fully expires, rather than facing an automatic year-long wait or having no options at all. This single-extension policy provides reasonable flexibility for genuine scheduling conflicts. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.
- 10. A** — Remote proctored online exams and in-person Prometric testing center exams share identical scoring, content, time limits, and proctoring rigor under GBCI's exam administration structure. Neither delivery format uses a smaller question pool, awards bonus points, or applies a shortened time limit relative to the other option. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.
- 11. D** — A successful exam content appeal offers the candidate an opportunity to retest, not a direct change to their original recorded score under any circumstance, since GBCI does not modify exam

scores regardless of appeal outcome. This policy protects scoring integrity while still providing a genuine path forward for the candidate.

12. B — A LEED AP with specialty owes 30 continuing education hours per two-year reporting period, exactly double the 15-hour requirement for a LEED Green Associate, reflecting the more advanced nature of the AP credential. Holding multiple specialties simultaneously adds further additional required hours beyond this base 30-hour figure. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

13. C — A LEED Green Associate owes 15 continuing education hours per two-year reporting period, half the 30-hour requirement for a LEED AP with specialty, reflecting the entry-level nature of this credential relative to the more advanced specialty tier within the broader LEED credential ladder's overall structure. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

14. A — Failing to report required CE hours produces an administrative lapse to inactive status, correctable simply by completing the outstanding hours, rather than permanent revocation or an automatic credential downgrade. This is meaningfully different from failing the original exam, which carries its own separate retake policy entirely. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

15. B — LEED Fellow endorsers provide credentialed peer verification of the nominee's claimed impact through independent professional judgment, adding a genuine, external check to the evaluation process. This requirement neither reduces application fees nor grants the endorsers themselves any automatic Fellow status through their participation in the process. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

16. D — A LEED Fellow application requires at least two endorsers who hold a LEED AP with specialty, satisfying a firm structural requirement built into the credential's evaluation process. This minimum threshold ensures the nominee's claimed impact receives credentialed peer verification from professionals within the same broader field. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

17. C — GBCI handles certification review status for specific LEED projects, since this organization independently reviews submitted documentation and renders final certification decisions separate from USGBC's rating-system development role. Prometric only delivers professional exams, and the EPA has no role in LEED certification review whatsoever. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

18. D — USGBC and GBCI operate separately specifically to protect the credibility of both rating-system development and exam and certification review from potential conflicts of interest. If one organization both wrote the rules and graded compliance with them, both processes would be open to reasonable, legitimate question. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

19. A — The standard LEED Green Associate exam contains 100 multiple-choice questions, a fixed total candidates should plan their pacing strategy around during the actual testing session. This total remains consistent regardless of whether a candidate tests remotely or in person at a physical Prometric testing center location. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

20. B — The standard LEED Green Associate exam carries a 2-hour time limit for its full 100 questions, requiring candidates to average roughly 72 seconds per question if working at a perfectly even pace throughout the entire testing session from start to finish. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

21. A — The LEED Green Associate exam requires a minimum score of 170 out of 200 to pass, a specific numeric threshold worth committing to memory precisely. This passing score applies consistently regardless of exam delivery format, whether a candidate tests remotely or at an in-person Prometric testing center. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

22. C — A lapsed credential due to unreported CE hours returns to active status upon completing the outstanding required hours, without requiring a full exam retake or resulting in permanent, irreversible disqualification. This correctable administrative lapse reflects CMP's design as a maintenance mechanism rather than a punitive one. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

23. D — The specific credential and specialty should be stated accurately on professional materials, since informal abbreviations like 'LEED AP' without the specialty can misrepresent the actual credential held. Accurate, specific credential representation matters both for professional credibility and for compliance with USGBC's branding guidance. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

24. B — LEED AP with specialty carries one firm prerequisite: passing the LEED Green Associate exam first, with no professional license requirement of any kind built into the credentialing structure itself. A license does not substitute for this required exam, though hands-on professional experience often supports exam success. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

25. D — The standard LEED credential ladder consists of three tiers: LEED Green Associate, LEED AP with specialty, and LEED Fellow, each with its own distinct eligibility requirements and progression sequence. No provisional or intermediate tier exists between these three genuinely recognized credential levels within the current structure. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

26. A — LEED Fellow is earned through peer nomination and a rigorous portfolio review evaluating sustained impact across mastery elements, not through passing any written exam. This fundamentally distinguishes it from both Green Associate and AP with specialty, which are earned by passing a standardized written exam instead. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

27. B — LEED AP with specialty credentials are genuinely organized around specific rating system tracks, letting candidates pursue a specialty aligned with their actual professional focus area. This differs from a single generic credential covering every rating system, or any randomly assigned specialty unrelated to actual exam content. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

28. C — Skipping even one prerequisite disqualifies a project from certification entirely, regardless of how many credit points it earns elsewhere, since prerequisites function as absolute eligibility gates rather than point-earning opportunities. A strong 95-point total cannot substitute for a missed prerequisite under LEED's certification structure. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

29. A — MPR 1 requires a project to be located on a permanent location on existing land, one of LEED's three Minimum Program Requirements establishing baseline eligibility for certification. MPR 2 addresses reasonable LEED boundaries, and MPR 3 addresses project size requirements, each serving a distinct eligibility screening purpose. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

30. C — Achieving a specific certification level like Gold or Silver is not one of LEED's three Minimum Program Requirements; MPRs instead concern permanent location, reasonable boundaries, and project size, none of which reference any target certification tier. Certification level is determined separately, later, by total earned points. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

31. D — A project's certification level is determined by comparing its total scorecard points against fixed point-range thresholds defining Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum tiers consistently across every project. No subjective committee vote, employed credential count, or random drawing plays any role in this objective determination. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

32. B — The Certified certification tier spans 40 to 49 points, the entry-level tier a project reaches once it clears all three Minimum Program Requirements and accumulates at least this minimum point threshold. Silver, Gold, and Platinum each require progressively higher point totals beyond this specific entry-level range. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

33. C — The Gold certification tier spans 60 to 79 points, the widest of the four point ranges at twenty total points, reflecting that many competitive projects land within this particular tier. Certified, Silver, and Platinum each occupy narrower or higher point ranges relative to this specific twenty-point span. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

34. B — The Platinum certification tier spans 80 to 110 points, the highest of the four available certification levels a project can achieve under the current LEED scorecard structure. Certified, Silver, and Gold each occupy progressively lower point ranges below this highest, most ambitious achievable tier. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

35. A — The Silver certification tier spans 50 to 59 points, positioned between the entry-level Certified tier and the wider Gold tier within the overall four-tier LEED certification structure. Gold, Certified, and Platinum each occupy different point ranges relative to this specific ten-point Silver span. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

36. D — Five core LEED rating system adaptations genuinely exist: Building Design + Construction, Interior Design + Construction, Operations + Maintenance, Neighborhood Development, and Homes, each tailored to a different project type and ownership structure. No sixth adaptation or reduced count of three or four accurately describes this structure. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

37. A — Core and Shell is the appropriate rating system adaptation for a base-building shell project with future tenant fit-outs planned separately, since this adaptation specifically addresses base-building systems while anticipating later, separate tenant improvement work. Interior Design + Construction instead applies to the tenant fit-out phase itself. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

38. B — Operations + Maintenance applies to an existing, already-occupied building pursuing ongoing operational improvements, distinct from Building Design + Construction, which addresses new construction or major renovation projects instead. This adaptation specifically evaluates a building's actual operating performance rather than its original design and construction phase. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

39. C — Neighborhood Development addresses land-use planning at a community, multi-building scale, distinct from the other adaptations that each address a single building or interior space specifically. This broader scope makes Neighborhood Development uniquely suited to evaluating community-level design decisions spanning multiple structures and public spaces together. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

40. D — Arc is specifically the platform for LEED v5 project registration and certification submission, replacing LEED Online for v5 projects while legacy v4 and v4.1 projects continue using LEED Online instead. This is the current, actively used registration platform for projects pursuing the current rating system version. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

41. D — LEED Online continues serving projects still pursuing certification under the legacy LEED v4 or v4.1 rating system versions, while Arc serves projects pursuing the current LEED v5 version instead. LEED Online has not been discontinued; it remains actively available for these specific legacy project types. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

42. C — The Owner's Project Requirements specifically captures the owner's goals, budget constraints, and sustainability objectives in a single reference document the whole project team designs toward throughout the entire project. This differs from the Basis of Design, commissioning report, or Carbon Assessment, each serving a distinct, separate purpose. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

43. A — The Basis of Design specifically documents the design team's technical approach to meeting the Owner's Project Requirements, translating the owner's stated goals into concrete technical strategies and system selections. This differs from the OPR itself, the Human Impact Assessment, or the Carbon Assessment, each addressing separate concerns. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

44. B — A charrette is an intensive, collaborative design workshop, often lasting a full day or more, held early in a project's design process where the full team explores design challenges together in real time. This occurs well before construction, distinct from later-stage commissioning reviews or final inspections entirely. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

45. D — A commissioning authority is an independent party verifying that installed building systems actually meet documented design intent, reviewing the OPR and BOD alongside verifying system installation and performance. This differs from a financial auditor, the general contractor's own project manager, or a refrigerant-specific compliance officer role. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

46. C — Fundamental Commissioning requires, at minimum, reviewing the Owner's Project Requirements and Basis of Design alongside verifying installation of energy-related systems, satisfying this prerequisite's actual mandatory baseline requirements. Skipping document review, verifying only cosmetic finishes, or deferring verification past occupancy all fail this genuine standard. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

47. B — Enhanced Commissioning extends verification considerably further than Fundamental Commissioning's mandatory baseline, including earlier authority engagement during design and broader system verification. It does not replace the mandatory prerequisite; both exist as genuinely distinct requirements under current LEED v5, addressing different depths of verification scope. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

48. A — Monitoring-based commissioning extends verification into a building's actual early operational period after occupancy begins, continuing performance verification well beyond design-phase or handoff verification alone. This advanced pathway within Enhanced Commissioning directly reinforces the design-to-operation feedback loop found across other LEED v5 credit categories. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

49. B — A Type III EPD specifically requires independent third-party verification of the underlying life-cycle assessment, distinguishing it from a manufacturer's unverified self-declared environmental claim regardless of how detailed that claim appears. No specific page length or single named certifying body defines this particular EPD classification standard. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

50. A — A Health Product Declaration discloses a product's chemical ingredient content and associated health hazard information, letting project teams avoid materials containing substances of concern for occupant health. This differs from an EPD, which instead discloses environmental life-cycle impacts,

not a product's underlying chemical makeup or health profile. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

51. C — LEED v5's consolidated disclosure credit requires an EPD to demonstrate a 20% improvement over its industry baseline or carry an ISO 21930 Optimized designation to count toward the credit. Simply existing, receiving manufacturer approval alone, or meeting a minimum age threshold do not satisfy this tightened specific requirement. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

52. D — LEED v5's consolidated disclosure credit can be satisfied with as few as ten unique EPD-covered products from at least three different suppliers, provided each declaration meets the required 20% improvement or Optimized threshold. This specific minimum pathway is fewer products than v4.1's previous roughly twenty-product requirement. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

53. A — Quantify and Assess Embodied Carbon requires identifying hotspot materials contributing most to a project's total embodied carbon, an intentionally baseline-only documentation step preceding any actual reduction strategy. This differs from a finalized reduction score, refrigerant GWP data, or a site's peak stormwater discharge volume entirely. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

54. C — Building and Materials Reuse primarily rewards retaining existing structure or procuring salvaged materials from another source, avoiding the embodied carbon a fully new replacement would otherwise require. This differs from purchasing new recycled-content materials, which falls under a separate Materials and Resources pathway addressing manufacturing processes instead. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

55. D — EPD Analysis, Option 2 under Reduce Embodied Carbon, is generally the more accessible pathway for a team without dedicated life-cycle assessment expertise, offering a prescriptive alternative rewarding procurement of specific verified low-carbon products rather than requiring a full Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment their capacity genuinely cannot support. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

56. B — Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment's scope spans material production through end-of-life stages comprehensively, capturing a material's full environmental impact across its complete life cycle rather than any single isolated stage or category. This comprehensive scope distinguishes it from Option 2's more narrowly focused EPD Analysis pathway instead. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

57. A — Module D within Whole-Building Life-Cycle Assessment reports benefits and impacts extending beyond a building's immediate core system boundary, such as reuse, recovery, and recycling potential at end-of-life. This extends the life-cycle framework's scope beyond the building's own operational boundary into broader downstream effects and outcomes. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

58. B — The Operational Carbon Projection prerequisite's decarbonization plan is capped at a concise two-page maximum, keeping the documentation focused and genuinely actionable despite the underlying projection spanning a full 25-year emissions horizon. This specific page limit is a frequently tested numeric detail worth memorizing precisely. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

59. D — The Operational Carbon Projection and Decarbonization Plan prerequisite requires exactly four steps: design analysis, site energy prediction, carbon projection, and a documented decarbonization plan or Electrification credit points. Each step builds directly on the previous one within this required sequential four-step documentation structure entirely. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

60. C — The design analysis step requires analyzing efficiency and peak load reduction measures early in design, using simplified energy modeling, comparable-project analysis, or published data, as the first of four required steps. This step feeds directly into the subsequent site energy prediction step required afterward within this sequence. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

61. C — Fundamental Refrigerant Management requires either restricting high-global-warming-potential refrigerants or specifying low-GWP alternatives paired with adequate leak detection, not unlimited refrigerant use without restriction. This mandatory prerequisite exists specifically to accelerate the phase-out of high-impact refrigerants across new HVAC and refrigeration equipment types. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

62. A — Whether Enhanced Refrigerant Management's Option 1 or Option 2 applies depends on whether the refrigerant's ozone depletion potential and global warming potential fall below defined low thresholds; qualifying refrigerants use Option 1 automatically, while others require Option 2's more detailed compliance calculation instead of this simpler pathway. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

63. B — Enhanced Refrigerant Management's Option 2 calculation incorporates refrigerant charge, expected leakage rate, and equipment life together, demonstrating an acceptable overall lifecycle climate impact for refrigerants that don't automatically qualify under Option 1's simpler, automatic threshold. This provides higher-GWP refrigerants a genuine, real compliance pathway available. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

64. D — A reference baseline building is a standardized comparison building, matched in size, shape, and function, used to evaluate how a proposed design's predicted energy consumption compares in relative, percentage-improvement terms. This differs entirely from a fixed budget figure or the completed building's actual final as-built performance measured separately. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

65. D — Benchmarking specifically tracks a building's actual measured energy or water performance over time, commonly through tools like ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, verifying whether design-phase predictions are actually being met in practice. This differs from a one-time design-phase

calculation or system verification during commissioning specifically. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

66. A — On-site renewable energy generation generally carries somewhat more certification weight than an equivalent amount of off-site procurement, reflecting LEED's preference for direct, verifiable on-site strategies wherever genuinely feasible for a given project's actual site conditions. This real, though modest, weighting distinction is worth remembering precisely. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

67. B — A power purchase agreement is a long-term contractual commitment to purchase electricity from a specific off-site renewable facility, often financing that facility's development directly through the agreement itself. This differs from a one-time payment, a government subsidy, or a mechanical equipment warranty, none of which describe a PPA. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

68. C — A Renewable Energy Certificate is a tradable instrument representing the environmental attributes of renewable electricity generation, purchased separately from the physical electricity itself, letting a project claim credit for supporting renewable generation without direct on-site installation or a specific facility-tied power purchase agreement arrangement instead. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

69. A — Grid-interactive operation describes a building actively communicating and coordinating its operation with utility grid conditions, participating in demand response programs and shifting flexible loads based on real-time grid signals. This is distinct from a building simply relying on on-site generation alone or being entirely disconnected from the grid. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

70. B — Full electrification describes eliminating on-site fossil fuel combustion entirely in favor of electric systems, particularly heat pump-based heating rather than simple electric resistance heating, for space heating, water heating, and cooking loads throughout a building. This is distinct from solar coverage percentage or backup generator connectivity specifically. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

71. C — A Preconstruction Site Assessment specifically identifies special-status vegetation, soils, and wildlife habitat before a single shovel breaks ground, feeding directly into later habitat and open space credit decisions the project team makes. This differs entirely from a financial audit or a structural foundation engineering review instead. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

72. D — The Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan must conform to EPA 2022 Construction General Permit standards regardless of the project's actual location or local regulatory requirements. This ensures a consistent federal-level floor applies even in jurisdictions where local erosion control rules might otherwise be considerably weaker than this standard. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

73. D — Minimized Site Disturbance requires both a Preconstruction Site Assessment and an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan together, establishing the mandatory baseline every subsequent Sustainable Sites credit builds upon throughout the project. The Carbon Assessment, Human Impact Assessment, and Climate Resilience Assessment address entirely separate Integrative Process prerequisites. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

74. C — Biodiverse Habitat rewards protecting, restoring, or creating high-value habitat features on a project site, connecting directly to documented wildlife survey findings from the Preconstruction Site Assessment. Maximum parking capacity, structural foundation requirements, and refrigerant metrics address entirely unrelated concerns from different credit categories instead. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

75. A — Light Pollution Reduction primarily addresses exterior lighting design limiting trespass beyond a site's boundary and minimizing uplight escaping into the night sky, typically achieved through shielded fixtures and lighting calibrated to genuine functional need. This credit has no meaningful connection to interior fixture mounting requirements specifically. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

76. B — Heat Island Reduction addresses solar heat absorption from dark, impervious surfaces like conventional roofing and paving, which raises local air temperatures relative to surrounding vegetated areas through this radiated heat effect. This credit is unrelated to refrigerant emissions, structural foundation cooling, or any unrelated water quality metric. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

77. A — Rainwater Management primarily controls peak stormwater discharge on site through strategies like infiltration and retention, regardless of whether captured water is ever put to further beneficial reuse. This differs from Water Efficiency's rainwater harvesting, which instead substitutes captured water for potable indoor demand specifically. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

78. B — Water Efficiency's rainwater harvesting credit primarily substitutes captured rainwater for potable indoor water demand, distinct from Sustainable Sites Rainwater Management, which instead focuses on controlling peak stormwater discharge regardless of the water's ultimate fate. This distinguishing purpose separates these two credits despite potentially shared physical infrastructure. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

79. C — A landscape requiring zero permanent irrigation after establishment specifically satisfies No Irrigation Required, the more ambitious Outdoor Water Use Reduction pathway achieved through native, drought-tolerant, climate-appropriate species selection. Reduced Irrigation instead applies where some permanent irrigation genuinely remains necessary rather than being eliminated entirely. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

80. D — Increasing cycles of concentration allows water to recirculate through the cooling tower more times before being discharged as blowdown, directly decreasing the total blowdown volume required for a given amount of makeup water. This reduction is the primary mechanism behind Cooling Tower

Water Use's demonstrated water savings. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

81. B — Graywater specifically includes water from sinks, showers, and laundry, distinguishing it from toilet waste, which is classified separately as blackwater requiring more extensive treatment before any reuse. Raw stream water and untreated groundwater are both explicitly ineligible sources under LEED's water efficiency framework entirely. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

82. C — Submetering tracks water use of distinct subsystems, such as irrigation or indoor plumbing, separately from a single combined whole-building total figure, providing granular diagnostic detail a combined meter cannot achieve. This lets facilities operators identify exactly where inefficiency or leaks are occurring at a subsystem-specific level. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

83. A — Water Metering and Reporting requires a minimum five-year commitment to sharing water usage data annually with GBCI, a genuine multi-year ongoing commitment rather than a single measurement satisfying the prerequisite at the moment of certification. This extended commitment reflects LEED v5's broader shift toward ongoing performance verification. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

84. D — Access to Transit point thresholds are calibrated to actual weekday and weekend transit service frequency at nearby stops, not merely physical distance from a stop regardless of how often service actually runs. A stop served infrequently provides materially less real transportation value than one with frequent all-day service. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

85. A — Walkable Location rewards proximity to daily needs like groceries and pharmacies independent of transit service frequency specifically, distinguishing it from Access to Transit, which instead requires documented nearby transit service. This pathway does not depend on any fixed parking ratio or unrelated refrigerant management requirement whatsoever. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

86. C — Diverse Uses rewards a genuine mix of residential, commercial, civic, and recreational uses within walking distance of a project, reducing the need to drive between every daily destination throughout a typical routine. This differs from exclusively residential zoning, maximum parking capacity, or a single dominant commercial use covering a site.

87. D — Surrounding Density specifically measures combined residential units and non-residential building floor area per acre within a defined radius of a project, rewarding locations with meaningful existing density. This differs from internal occupant density, parking-to-occupant ratios, or refrigerant charge thresholds, entirely unrelated metrics used elsewhere in the rating system. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

88. B — Reduce Parking specifically rewards meaningfully reduced parking capacity relative to a defined baseline ratio, not the complete elimination of every single on-site parking space, making this

credit achievable for a wide range of realistic project types and contexts. Assuming total elimination is required overstates its actual threshold. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

89. B — Active Travel Facilities treats cycling infrastructure as a complete supportive system, including secure storage, showers, and changing facilities together, rather than bicycle storage alone with no other consideration. This comprehensive approach recognizes that arriving sweaty with nowhere to freshen up discourages longer commutes by bike. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

90. C — Transportation Demand Management requires comparing baseline-case VMT against proposed-case VMT to demonstrate real transportation impact reduction, not a comparison against site acreage, daylighting performance, or a competitor's certification level, none of which are part of this credit's documented compliance methodology or requirements. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

91. A — The brownfield remediation pathway under Equitable Development specifically rewards locating on and actively remediating a contaminated site under authority-mandated requirements, turning the LEED project into the mechanism addressing genuine environmental contamination directly. This is the opposite of avoiding contaminated sites entirely, which this pathway does not reward. This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

92. D — The Human Impact Assessment specifically evaluates local demographic, infrastructure, and community health data, incorporating this information into early design decisions to ensure a project's benefits and burdens are evaluated within genuine community context. This is unrelated to seismic risk calculations or refrigerant health effects specifically. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.

93. C — The Climate Resilience Assessment prerequisite requires addressing a minimum of two of the twelve defined hazard categories through documented design strategies. This represents a genuine floor rather than a comprehensive requirement to address every possible category, a frequently tested specific numeric detail worth memorizing precisely. This distinction is frequently tested across the LEED Process domain.

94. D — The Carbon Assessment's 25-year projection must account for energy use, refrigerants, embodied carbon, and transportation together, spanning the full range of relevant emission sources rather than any single category alone. This comprehensive scope is a required element of the assessment's documented sequence and overall structure. This connects directly to the broader credentialing structure's underlying intent.

95. A — Tenant Guidelines provide documented sustainability requirements and design guidance the base building team offers to future tenant fit-out teams, extending the integrative process philosophy forward to occupants not part of the original project team. This is one of the credits generating Core and Shell's higher IP point total. This shared logic runs consistently across several related requirements.

96. B — A Green Lease specifically aligns landlord and tenant incentives around energy and water performance, directly addressing the common real-world problem where a landlord funds upgrades but the tenant alone captures resulting utility savings. This lease structure extends Core and Shell Integrative Process points forward to future tenants. This is a frequently tested structural detail worth remembering precisely.

97. C — LEED v5's framework organizes point allocation around three sharpened impact areas: decarbonization, quality of life, and ecological conservation and restoration, guiding credit design and weighting across the entire rating system. This three-area organizing structure is a foundational concept worth understanding before studying individual credits. No comparable evidence exists through any of the alternative options.

98. B — Regulatory compliance is not one of LEED v5's three sharpened impact areas; those three are decarbonization, quality of life, and ecological conservation and restoration specifically. Compliance with applicable codes remains a baseline expectation separate from this specific organizing framework guiding point allocation across the rating system. Recognizing this connection strengthens overall exam preparation significantly.

99. D — The triple bottom line evaluates people, planet, and profit together as three equally weighted dimensions, rather than optimizing for financial performance alone despite how the framework's name might be casually misread. This framework was coined by sustainability consultant John Elkington and is sometimes called the '3 Ps.' This principle applies consistently regardless of professional background or trade.

100. A — A shared, structured framework applies consistently across every professional role represented in this exam, from structural engineers pursuing credentials to lighting designers understanding specific credits, since LEED's underlying concepts apply broadly regardless of trade or specialty. This consistent applicability is precisely why comprehensive study benefits every candidate. This holds true across every credential tier and rating system adaptation.