



An International Vision for Community-Driven Transformation

Pre-Registration Project Success Guide

The [Living Building Challenge](#) and [Core Green Building Certification](#) require a non-traditional approach to project design, development, and construction. Deep collaboration, communication, and commitment are required from all project team members for a project to successfully achieve LBC or Core certification. Project teams considering pursuing Core or LBC Living or Petal Certification are highly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the [LBC](#) and [Core](#) Standards and Handbooks and other program [resources](#). Program Standards are available for free, while the Early Project Guidebook, Handbooks, and many other resources are available to [Living Future Members](#).

How to use this Chart

This guide is intended for project teams considering registering for Core or LBC at the Living or Petal level. It is a guide to understanding critical project milestones required for successful certification. The guide only includes the Core requirements, and those specific requirements within each Core Imperative identified by ILFI as critical path items for project teams to consider. Project teams should not rely solely on this guide for determining if their project will be able to successfully certify under an ILFI program, but should also refer to the Standards and Handbooks for specific requirements for their preferred certification pathway.

What if I don't meet these requirements?

For those projects nearing construction or already complete it is critical to understand the requirements of each imperative, as many imperatives require commitment and effort early in the design process to ensure success. If a project has passed a critical milestone and does not believe they can achieve their preferred certification, additional certification pathways such as Zero Energy or Zero Carbon may still be feasible. ILFI can also provide [Technical Assistance](#) to project teams who desire a deeper understanding of our program requirements. A variety of options are available including Feasibility Studies, Design Development Reviews, In-House Workshops, or custom services tailored to your project needs.

I am ready to register my project! Now what?

ILFI's [Project Registration Details](#) page outlines the program fees, benefits, and registration process. Project registration is available to all members. When a project team is ready to register, they can begin the application process from the Member Dashboard. For questions about registration or additional support, email sales@living-future.org or [schedule a virtual meeting](#). ILFI's Sales team will then guide the project team through the registration process.

Critical Path Core Imperatives			Project Phase						
Y/N	LBC #	Core Imperative # + Name	Site Acquisition	Schematic Design	Design Development	Construction Documents	Bid Docs	Construction	Construction Complete
	I01	C1- Ecology of Place							
		Project Location + Site Restrictions	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
		Social & Cultural Clarifications		Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
		Site Design		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Red
	I04	C2- Human-Scaled Living							
		Human Scale		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
		Surface Parking		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
	I05	C3- Responsible Water Use							
		Irrigation		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Red
		Stormwater		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
	I07	C4- Energy + Carbon Reduction							
		No Combustion		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
	I09	C5- Healthy Interior Environment							
		Daylight + Views		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
	I12	C6- Responsible Materials		Green	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Red
	I17	C7- Universal Access							
		ADA, ABA & Universal Design		Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red	Red
		Shading		Green	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Red	Red
	I18	C8- Inclusion*		Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Orange
	I19	C9- Beauty + Biophilia		Green	Green	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Red
	I20	C10-Education + Inspiration		Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
*donation required if hiring requirements are not met earlier in process			Achievable but requires attention at this stage	May require (re)design	May require significant (re)design and/or hard costs		Not feasible if not already addressed earlier in process		

Specific Core Requirements with Critical Path Milestones

Specific requirements referenced in the table are not inclusive of all LBC, Petal, or Core requirements, but provide a baseline of the Core Imperative requirements ILFI has identified as having critical milestones.

C1-Ecology of Place

- Projects must not be located on pristine greenfields, wilderness, prime farmland or in a floodplain unless they meet an exception.
- Social and Cultural Clarifications - From the outset of the design process, community needs and assets should inform both the design process and the design of the project itself.
- Site Design- Projects must document site and community conditions prior to the start of work and demonstrate positive contribution to the ecology of the place.

C2- Human-Scaled Living

- Human Scale- projects must be built to a human scale that is appropriate for the neighborhood.
- Surface Parking - total allowable area of impervious surface parking is dependent on a project's Transect and project area.

C3-Responsible Water Use

- Irrigation - potable water is not allowed to be used for irrigation.
- Stormwater Clarifications-All projects must treat and manage all stormwater on site using green stormwater infrastructure where feasible and meet the hydrologic performance standards shown in Table 5-4 of the Handbook as determined by a qualified professional.

C4- Energy + Carbon Reduction

- Specific Energy Use Reduction Requirements based on building typology.
- Combustion- not allowed unless the project meets an existing exception.

C5- Healthy Interior Environment

- Daylight and Views- 75% of regularly occupied spaces must have access to views outside and daylight. A regularly occupied space is a space used by a

full-time employee, part-time employee, resident, extended period visitor, or any other person for 4 or more hours per day for 2 or more days in a week.

C6- Responsible Materials

- All Requirements must be incorporated into final construction documents before the project goes to bid.

C8-Inclusion

- Include diverse stakeholders from vulnerable or disadvantaged populations in the design construction, operation and maintenance phases. Specific inclusion requirements apply to different phases of the project. OR, donate 0.1% of total project cost to a regional, community based nonprofit focused on equity and inclusion.

C7- Universal Access

- Projects (except private residences) must comply with current ADA and ABA Standards. Project teams must also incorporate the seven Principles of Universal Design.
- Projects must demonstrate that shading of adjacent buildings will not result in significant negative impacts to a majority of the occupants of those buildings.

C9- Beauty + Biophilia

- Project teams should hold an 8-hour biophilic exploration early in the design phase, if the project is already late in design or into construction they will need to show how the project is meeting the intent of this imperative, or make changes to meet the intent.

C10-Education + Inspiration

- Projects must provide a Living Building Challenge Case Study, an annual open day for the public, and a copy of the Operations and Maintenance Manual. Additional requirements included a brochure, interpretive signage, an educational website, and an LFA professional on the project team.

For more details about these requirements, review the Core Green Building [Standard](#) and Handbook (available to ILFI Members), and visit support.living-future.org.