

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING POLICY

PURPOSE

To establish the University standard for incorporation of sustainable practices into the capital project planning and design process, and to describe the process by which policy application decisions are made.

POLICY

University of Chicago is committed to managing its impact on the environment through strategic initiatives to reduce energy and resource consumption. One of the key means is to incorporate sustainable practices into the design of new buildings.

The certification guidelines developed by the US Green Building Council, LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – provide an appropriate basis for measurement. Using the LEED system, the University will:

- Require each project to incorporate a LEED checklist-compliant sustainable design review into the pre-schematic design process
- Seek a minimum standard of LEED certification for all applicable new construction. On a case-by-case basis, the University will determine where higher levels of certification are feasible and appropriate.

This policy will be effective 30 November 2010, and apply to new construction projects over \$5 million and that are in pre-schematic or schematic design as of that date.* The policy is not required to be applied retroactively.

PROCESS

AVP Facilities Services will make recommendations to the Provost Space Committee regarding the feasibility and benefits of higher levels of certification.

The Provost Space Committee will make exceptions for any projects that demonstrate an inappropriate burden on costs and/or project scope.

*This policy applies only to campus and medical center buildings. Commercial and global projects will be encouraged but not required to follow the policy.

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