

Sustainable Building Policy

September 11, 2007

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville recognizes the importance of energy efficiency and sustainable design for campus buildings. Sustainable design considers human and environmental health along with economic and social concerns within the design, construction, and renovation process. As a member of the United States Green Building Council The University of Tennessee acknowledges the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) rating system as the nationally accepted sustainable building standard (<http://www.usgbc.com>).

Campus structures are designed with a long life expectancy. The lifetime maintenance of building materials and systems (life cycle costs) should be considered along with capital cost in new constructions and major renovations.

In accordance with the principles of the campus Environmental Policy The University of Tennessee, Knoxville shall use the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) rating system as the standard for the design and construction of new buildings costing more than \$5 million and major renovations. All such projects shall be designed to meet current LEED certification as a minimum requirement under the LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations (LEED-NC) standard.

Small scale renovations shall utilize the LEED for Commercial Interiors (LEED-CI) rating system as applicable.

Architects, contractors, engineers, and all others involved with the building design process are expected to follow this policy. In addition to following LEED criteria, building planning teams should provide a building operation life cycle cost as early as possible in the design process to the Chancellor's staff for review.