



OHFA 2015 QAP: Enterprise Green Communities Certification

The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) requires that all projects successfully certify according to Enterprise Green Communities or the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED). Enterprise Green Communities offers a comprehensive set of building standards specifically designed to help affordable housing developers deliver healthy, efficient homes.

For the 2015 QAP, Ohio projects seeking Enterprise Green Communities Certification will use the 2011 Criteria and be reviewed in two stages: PreBuild and PostBuild. PreBuild approval by Enterprise Green Communities is submitted in the Final Application to OHFA. PostBuild approval and Certification from Enterprise Green Communities is required for issuance of Form 8609.

1. **November 2014 – February 2015:** Applicants familiarize with each green standard and understand what is required for Certification. In Ohio, project teams will follow the Enterprise Green Communities 2011 Criteria: <http://www.enterprisecommunity.com/solutions-and-innovation/enterprise-green-communities/criteria>.

At any time, project teams may contact Enterprise Green Communities with questions regarding the 2011 Criteria or other program requirements: certification@enterprisecommunity.org.

Note: In most instances, the engagement of an outside consultant with energy efficiency expertise is necessary. Refer to Enterprise Green Communities criterion 5.1 for information. Teams should understand this requirement and ideally include this consultant in early project planning stages.

2. **February 20, 2015:** Indicate to OHFA in proposal application which Certification (Enterprise Green or LEED) project will pursue.
3. **June 17, 2015-July 31, 2015:** If awarded Housing Tax Credits (HTCs), projects pursuing Enterprise Green Communities Certification enroll in the Enterprise portal and begin to seek PreBuild approval: <http://www.enterprisecommunity.com/solutions-and-innovation/enterprise-green-communities/certification>.

Note: Projects should submit their complete PreBuild application in the Enterprise portal as soon as possible after HTC awards are announced. Engagement of consultant with energy efficiency expertise should take place at this time if this has not already occurred.

4. **July 31, 2015:** The last day for projects to submit all materials to Enterprise Green Communities for PreBuild review. Green Communities reviews submissions, addresses questions with project teams, and issues approvals (or rejections) for each project within 30 days of application submittal.
5. **August 28, 2015:** Projects submit Enterprise Green Communities PreBuild approval to OHFA with Final Application submission.
6. **Construction Completion:** Project teams are required to submit a PostBuild application to Green Communities in the Enterprise portal within 60 days of project completion. Green Communities reviews submissions, addresses questions with project teams, and issues approvals (or rejections) within 30 days of when the application was submitted. PostBuild approval and Certification by Enterprise Green Communities is required for issuance of Form 8609.