



Middle School Level

Essay Challenge:

Recent efforts toward greening within engineering have focused on energy saving within buildings. Newly constructed buildings are often built to be LEED certified, meaning they are designed in such a way as to conserve energy.

Your team has been tasked to identify the most important characteristics of LEED certification for a hypothetical new, 10-story office building to be built within your community. You should document components of LEED certification that highlight important characteristic(s) based on your community, its location, any relevant characteristics of the population, etc. Finally, identify the advantages and disadvantages to implementing your plan.

Regulations:

1. Essays must be no longer than 1,000 words (not including bibliography).
2. Essays must be typed and double spaced. They may not be handwritten.
3. Acceptable fonts are 12 point Times New Roman or 12 point Arial.
4. Essays should be formatted according to APA guidelines, including bibliography. A short abstract must be included. The abstract is not part of the word count.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>

Submission Procedure:

Essays must be submitted electronically no later than the day before the team's scheduled competition date.

Please note the following before uploading the essay:

- The adult coach of the team must submit the entry.
- Coaches with only one team submitting an entry should click on "Team A" for the entry.
- Coaches with multiple teams in a grade level must submit a separate entry for each team and assign each entry a different team letter (ie: if you have two 9/10 teams, one will be Team A and one will be Team B. These team letter assignments must remain the same for the multiple choice and design/build components on competition day.)

NOTE: The submitting coach will receive an automatic email verifying that the submission has been received. If you do not receive a verifying email within an hour of submitting the essay, please contact Sandy Honour (shonour@tsaweb.org) or Cindy Donahue (cdonahue@tsaweb.org) or call 1/888/860-9010.