

Miscellaneous Information
Energy- Efficient & Sustainable Buildings

Chapter 255.2575, F.S.

Energy-efficient and sustainable buildings.

(1) The Legislature declares that there is an important state interest in promoting the construction of energy-efficient and sustainable buildings. Government leadership in promoting these standards is vital to demonstrate the state's commitment to energy conservation, saving taxpayers money, and raising public awareness of energy rating systems.

(2) All county, municipal, school district, water management district, state university, community college, and Florida state court buildings shall be constructed to meet the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes rating system, the Florida Green Building Coalition standards, or a nationally recognized, high-performance green building rating system as approved by the Department of Management Services. This section shall apply to all county, municipal, school district, water management district, state university, community college, and Florida state court buildings the architectural plans of which are commenced after July 1, 2008.

(3) St. Petersburg College may work with the Florida Community College System and may consult with the University of Florida to provide training and educational opportunities that will ensure that green building rating system certifying agents (accredited professionals who possess a knowledge and understanding of green building processes, practices, and principles) are available to work with the entities specified in subsection (2) as they construct public buildings to meet green building rating system standards. St. Petersburg College may work with the construction industry to develop an online continuing education curriculum for use statewide by builders constructing energy-efficient and sustainable public sector buildings and students interested in the college's Green/Sustainability Track in its Management and Organization Leadership area of study. The curriculum developed may be offered by St. Petersburg College or in cooperation with other programs at other community colleges.