Virginia Commonwealth University

The following information was submitted through the STARS Reporting Tool.

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The information presented in this submission is self-reported and has not been verified by AASHE or a third party. If you believe any of this information is erroneous, please see the process for inquiring about the information reported by an institution.
Institutional Characteristics

The passthrough subcategory for the boundary

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Institutional Boundary

Criteria

This won't display

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Operational Characteristics

Criteria

n/a

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Academics and Demographics

Criteria

n/a

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Academics

Curriculum

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that have formal education programs and courses that address sustainability. One of the primary functions of colleges and universities is to educate students. By training and educating future leaders, scholars, workers, and professionals, higher education institutions are uniquely positioned to prepare students to understand and address sustainability challenges. Institutions that offer courses covering sustainability issues help equip their students to lead society to a sustainable future.

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**Academic Courses**

**Criteria**

**Part 1**

Institution offers sustainability courses and/or courses that include sustainability and makes an inventory of those courses publicly available.

**Part 2**

Institution’s academic departments (or the equivalent) offer sustainability courses and/or courses that include sustainability.

In order to report and earn points for this credit, the institution must conduct a course inventory. The inventory should consist of two parts:

1) An inventory of sustainability courses that includes, at minimum, the title, department (or equivalent), and level of each course (i.e. undergraduate or graduate), as well as a brief description if the sustainability focus of the course is not apparent from its title.

2) An inventory of other courses that include sustainability. The inventory includes, at minimum, the title, department (or the equivalent), and level of each course and a description of how sustainability is integrated into each course.

A course may be a sustainability course or it may include sustainability; no course should be identified as both:

- A sustainability course is a course in which the primary and explicit focus is on sustainability and/or on understanding or solving one or more major sustainability challenge (e.g. the course contributes toward achieving principles outlined in the Earth Charter).

- A course that includes sustainability is primarily focused on a topic other than sustainability, but incorporates a unit or module on sustainability or a sustainability challenge, includes one or more sustainability-focused activities, or integrates sustainability issues throughout the course.

For guidance on conducting a course inventory and distinguishing between sustainability courses and courses that include sustainability, see Standards and Terms and the Credit Example in the STARS Technical Manual. An institution that has developed a more refined approach to course classification may use that approach as long as it is consistent with the definitions and guidance provided.

Each institution is free to choose a methodology to identify sustainability courses that is most appropriate given its unique circumstances. Asking faculty and departments to self-identify sustainability courses and courses that include sustainability using the definitions outlined in Standards and Terms or looking at the stated learning outcomes and course objectives associated with each course may provide a richer view of sustainability course offerings than simply reviewing course descriptions, but it is not required.

This credit does not include continuing education and extension courses, which are covered by EN 11: Continuing Education.

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This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Learning Outcomes

Responsible Party

Clifford Fox
Assistant Director
Center for Environmental Studies

Criteria

Institution’s students graduate from degree programs that include sustainability as a learning outcome or include multiple sustainability learning outcomes. Sustainability learning outcomes (or the equivalent) may be specified at:

- Institution level (e.g. covering all students)
- Division level (e.g. covering one or more schools or colleges within the institution)
- Program level
- Course level

This credit includes graduate as well as undergraduate programs. For this credit, “degree programs” include majors, minors, concentrations, certificates, and other academic designations. Extension certificates and other certificates that are not part of academic degree programs do not count for this credit; they are covered in EN 11: Continuing Education. Programs that include co-curricular aspects may count as long as there is an academic component of the program. Learning outcomes at the course level count if the course is required to complete the program.

This credit is inclusive of learning outcomes, institutional learning goals, general education outcomes, and graduate profiles that are consistent with the definition of “sustainability learning outcomes” included in Standards and Terms.

Institutions that do not specify learning outcomes as a matter of policy or standard practice may report graduates from sustainability-focused programs (i.e. majors, minors, concentrations and the equivalent as reported for AC 3: Undergraduate Program and AC 4: Graduate Program) in lieu of the above criteria.

---

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Number of students who graduated from a program that has adopted at least one sustainability learning outcome: 63

Total number of graduates from degree programs: 6,744

A copy of the list or inventory of degree, diploma or certificate programs that have sustainability learning outcomes: ---

A list of degree, diploma or certificate programs that have sustainability learning outcomes:
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies  
Master of Science in Environmental Studies  
Master of Environmental Studies  

A list or sample of the sustainability learning outcomes associated with degree, diploma or certificate programs (if not included in an inventory above):  

1. The following sustainability learning objectives were approved in the fall 2011 meeting to guide the sustainability academics effort at VCU. Classes that meet three or more of these objectives will be considered sustainability focused:  
   a. The student will identify the linkages between human and natural systems across multiple scales.  
   b. The student will be able to do at least three of the following:  
      i. Gather, evaluate and process sustainability information.  
      ii. Use communication skills as a part of on-going dialogue on sustainability.  
      iii. Use problem-solving skills related to ethical sustainability questions.  
      iv. Use problem-solving skills related to environmental sustainability questions.  
      v. Use problem-solving skills related to economic sustainability questions.  
      vi. Use problem-solving skills related to social and political sustainability questions.  
      vii. Use problem-solving skills related to managerial sustainability questions.  

The website URL where information about the institution’s sustainability learning outcomes is available:  

---
Criteria

Institution offers at least one:

- Sustainability-focused program (major, degree program, or equivalent) for undergraduate students

And/or

- Undergraduate-level sustainability-focused minor or concentration (e.g. a concentration on sustainable business within a business major).

Extension certificates and other certificates that are not part of academic degree programs do not count for this credit; they are covered in EN 11: Continuing Education.

---

Does the institution offer at least one sustainability-focused major, degree program, or the equivalent for undergraduate students?:

Yes

The name of the sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program (1st program):

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies

A brief description of the undergraduate degree program (1st program):

---

The website URL for the undergraduate degree program (1st program):

http://www.vcu.edu/cesweb/ugrad_bses.html

The name of the sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program (2nd program):

Urban & Regional Studies

A brief description of the undergraduate degree program (2nd program):
The website URL for the undergraduate degree program (2nd program):
http://www.has.vcu.edu/usp/

The name of the sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program (3rd program):
---

A brief description of the undergraduate degree program (3rd program):
---

The website URL for the undergraduate degree program (3rd program):
---

The name and website URLs of all other sustainability-focused, undergraduate degree program(s):
---

Does the institution offer one or more sustainability-focused minors, concentrations or certificates for undergraduate students?:
---

The name of the sustainability-focused undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (1st program):
---

A brief description of the undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (1st program):
---

The website URL for the undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (1st program):
---

The name of the sustainability-focused undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (2nd program):
---

A brief description of the undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (2nd program):
---

The website URL for the undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (2nd program):
---
The name of the sustainability-focused undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (3rd program):
---

A brief description of the undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (3rd program):
---

The website URL for the undergraduate minor, concentration or certificate (3rd program):
---

The name, brief description and URL of all other undergraduate-level sustainability-focused minors, concentrations and certificates:
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Graduate Program

Responsible Party

Clifford Fox
Assistant Director
Center for Environmental Studies

Criteria

Institution offers at least one:

- Sustainability-focused program (major, degree program, or equivalent) for graduate students

And/or

- Graduate-level sustainability-focused minor, concentration or certificate (e.g. a concentration on sustainable business within an MBA program).

Extension certificates and other certificates that are not part of academic degree programs do not count for this credit; they are covered in EN 11: Continuing Education.

Does the institution offer at least one sustainability-focused major, degree program, or the equivalent for graduate students?:

Yes

The name of the sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program (1st program):

Master of Environmental Studies

A brief description of the graduate degree program (1st program):

---

The website URL for the graduate degree program (1st program):

http://www.vcu.edu/cesweb/grad_mev.html

The name of the sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program (2nd program):

Master of Science in Environmental Studies

A brief description of the graduate degree program (2nd program):

---
The name of the sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program (2nd program):
Master of Urban and Regional Planning

A brief description of the graduate degree program (3rd program):

The website URL for the graduate degree program (3rd program):
http://www.has.vcu.edu/usp/

The name and website URLs of all other sustainability-focused, graduate-level degree program(s):

Does the institution offer one or more graduate-level sustainability-focused minors, concentrations or certificates?:

The name of the graduate-level sustainability-focused minor, concentration or certificate (1st program):

A brief description of the graduate minor, concentration or certificate (1st program):

The website URL for the graduate minor, concentration or certificate (1st program):

The name of the graduate-level sustainability-focused minor, concentration or certificate (2nd program):

A brief description of the graduate minor, concentration or certificate (2nd program):

The website URL for the graduate minor, concentration or certificate (2nd program):
The name of the graduate-level sustainability-focused minor, concentration or certificate (3rd program):
---

A brief description of the graduate minor, concentration or certificate (3rd program):
---

The website URL for the graduate minor, concentration or certificate (3rd program):
---

The name and website URLs of all other graduate-level, sustainability-focused minors, concentrations and certificates:
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Immersive Experience

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution offers at least one immersive, sustainability-focused educational study program. The program is one week or more in length and may take place off-campus, overseas, or on-campus.

For this credit, the program must meet one or both of the following criteria:

• It concentrates on sustainability, including its social, economic, and environmental dimensions

And/or

• It examines an issue or topic using sustainability as a lens.

For-credit programs, non-credit programs and programs offered in partnership with outside entities may count for this credit. Programs offered exclusively by outside entities do not count for this credit.

See the Credit Example in the STARS Technical Manual for further guidance.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer at least one immersive, sustainability-focused educational study program that meets the criteria for this credit?:

Yes

A brief description of the sustainability-focused immersive program(s) offered by the institution:

The VCU Office of Sustainability offers internships (Campus Sustainability Internship) that serve to advance the student’s knowledge of sustainability practices and implementation.

The website URL where information about the immersive program(s) is available:

http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/
Sustainability Literacy Assessment

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution conducts an assessment of the sustainability literacy of its students. The sustainability literacy assessment focuses on knowledge of sustainability topics and may also address values, behaviors and/or beliefs. Assessments that focus exclusively on values, behaviors and/or beliefs are not sufficient to earn points for this credit.

Institution may conduct a follow-up assessment of the same cohort group(s) using the same instrument.

This credit includes graduate as well as undergraduate students.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The percentage of students assessed for sustainability literacy (directly or by representative sample) and for whom a follow-up assessment is conducted:
---

The percentage of students assessed for sustainability literacy (directly or by representative sample) without a follow-up assessment:
---

A copy of the questions included in the sustainability literacy assessment(s):
---

The questions included in the sustainability literacy assessment(s):
---

A brief description of how the assessment(s) were developed:
---

A brief description of how the assessment(s) were administered:
---
A brief summary of results from the assessment(s):

---

The website URL where information about the literacy assessment(s) is available:

---
Incentives for Developing Courses

Responsible Party

Clifford Fox
Assistant Director
Center for Environmental Studies

Criteria

Institution has an ongoing program or programs that offer incentives for faculty in multiple disciplines or departments to develop new sustainability courses and/or incorporate sustainability into existing courses or departments. The program specifically aims to increase student learning of sustainability.

Incentives may include release time, funding for professional development, and trainings offered by the institution.

Incentives for expanding sustainability offerings in academic, non-credit, and/or continuing education courses count for this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an ongoing incentives program or programs that meet the criteria for this credit?: No

A brief description of the program(s), including positive outcomes during the previous three years:

---

A brief description of the incentives that faculty members who participate in the program(s) receive:

---

The website URL where information about the incentive program(s) is available:

---
Campus as a Living Laboratory

Criteria

Institution is utilizing its infrastructure and operations for multidisciplinary student learning, applied research and practical work that advances sustainability on campus in at least one of the following areas:

- Air & Climate
- Buildings
- Dining Services/Food
- Energy
- Grounds
- Purchasing
- Transportation
- Waste
- Water
- Coordination, Planning & Governance
- Diversity & Affordability
- Health, Wellbeing & Work
- Investment
- Public Engagement
- Other

This credit includes substantive work by students and/or faculty (e.g. class projects, thesis projects, term papers, published papers) that involves active and experiential learning and contributes to positive sustainability outcomes on campus (see the Credit Example in the STARS Technical Manual). On-campus internships and non-credit work (e.g. that take place under supervision of sustainability staff or committees) may count as long as the work has a learning component.

This credit does not include immersive education programs, co-curricular activities, or community-based work, which are covered by AC 5: Immersive Experience, credits in the Campus Engagement subcategory, and credits in the Public Engagement subcategory, respectively.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Research

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are conducting research on sustainability topics. Conducting research is a major function of many colleges and universities. By researching sustainability issues and refining theories and concepts, higher education institutions can continue to help the world understand sustainability challenges and develop new technologies, strategies, and approaches to address those challenges.

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Academic Research

Criteria

Part 1

Institution’s faculty and/or staff conduct sustainability research and the institution makes an inventory of its sustainability research publicly available.

Part 2

Institution’s academic departments (or the equivalent) include faculty and staff who conduct sustainability research.

Any level of sustainability research is sufficient to be included for this credit. In other words, a researcher who conducts both sustainability research and other research may be included.

In order to report for this credit, the institution should conduct an inventory to identify its sustainability research activities and initiatives.

Each institution is free to choose a methodology to identify sustainability research that is most appropriate given its unique circumstances. For example, an institution may distribute a survey to all faculty members and ask them to self-identify as being engaged in sustainability research or ask the chairperson of each department to identify the sustainability research activities within his or her department. The research inventory should be based on the definition of “sustainability research” outlined in Standards and Terms and include, at minimum, all research centers, laboratories, departments, and faculty members whose research focuses on or is related to sustainability.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Support for Research

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution encourages and/or supports sustainability research through one or more of the following:

- An ongoing program to encourage students in multiple disciplines or academic programs to conduct research in sustainability. The program provides students with incentives to research sustainability. Such incentives may include, but are not limited to, fellowships, financial support, and mentorships. The program specifically aims to increase student sustainability research.

- An ongoing program to encourage faculty from multiple disciplines or academic programs to conduct research in sustainability topics. The program provides faculty with incentives to research sustainability. Such incentives may include, but are not limited to, fellowships, financial support, and faculty development workshops. The program specifically aims to increase faculty sustainability research.

- Formally adopted policies and procedures that give positive recognition to interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and multidisciplinary research during faculty promotion and/or tenure decisions.

- Ongoing library support for sustainability research and learning in the form of research guides, materials selection policies and practices, curriculum development efforts, sustainability literacy promotion, and e-learning objects focused on sustainability.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a program to encourage student sustainability research that meets the criteria for this credit?:
Yes

A brief description of the institution’s program(s) to encourage student research in sustainability:

Virginia Commonwealth University’s Council for Community Engagement awards one-year grants of up to $20,000 to university-community programs, which support interdisciplinary projects to enhance and increase university engagement with the greater Richmond community and will contribute to the research and teaching of VCU units. Community engagement grants create opportunities for VCU students to do research in sustainability. The grants are awarded based on criteria including community-identified need, strength of university-community partnership, and alignment with at least one VCU Quest for Distinction Theme, one being sustainability.

The website URL where information about the student research program is available:

http://www.community.vcu.edu/

Does the institution have a program to encourage faculty sustainability research that meets the criteria for this credit?:
No
A brief description of the institution’s program(s) to encourage faculty research in sustainability:

Virginia Commonwealth University’s Council for Community Engagement awards one-year grants of up to $20,000 to university-community programs, which support interdisciplinary projects to enhance and increase university engagement with the greater Richmond community and will contribute to the research and teaching of VCU units. Community engagement grants create opportunities for VCU faculty to do research in sustainability. The grants are awarded based on criteria including community-identified need, strength of university-community partnership, and alignment with at least one VCU Quest for Distinction Theme, one being sustainability.

The website URL where information about the faculty research program is available:

http://www.community.vcu.edu/

Has the institution formally adopted policies and procedures that give positive recognition to interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, and multidisciplinary research during faculty promotion and/or tenure decisions?:

Yes

A brief description or the text of the institution’s policy regarding interdisciplinary research:

Candidates for promotion and tenure must meet or exceed the basic standards for effective teaching. They must be competent classroom teachers and academic advisors. They must demonstrate mastery of their subject matter and be adept at communicating this understanding to their students. Most fundamentally, their students should learn. Their success in teaching should be documented by the following indicators including, specialized teaching: for example non-classroom based teaching, such as interdisciplinary teaching.

Candidates for promotion, tenure, or promotion and tenure should be continuously and productively engaged in scholarly activity. Through his or her scholarly activity, the candidate should make a substantive contribution to the discipline that reflects high standards of quality in creativity, scholarship, and professional competence. The quality and significance of scholarly activity will be affirmed by peer evaluations and letters of evaluation from experts, particularly those outside of the University.

The nature of a given candidate's contribution will vary in terms of experience, level of development, and the demands of particular fields and disciplines. Nevertheless, there are several general criteria for evaluating scholarly activity including educational research, including the development of innovative teaching methods incorporating technology into education and novel interdisciplinary courses.

VCU’s Strategic Plan, Quest for Distinction, has included increasing interdisciplinary collaborations that bring new perspectives to complex problems and mobilize creative energies that advance innovation and solve global challenges.

The website URL where information about the treatment of interdisciplinary research is available:

http://www.has.vcu.edu/research/tenure/index.html

Does the institution provide ongoing library support for sustainability research and learning that meets the criteria for this credit?:

---

A brief description of the institution's library support for sustainability research and learning:
The website URL where information about the institution's library support for sustainability is available:
Access to Research

Criteria

Institution has a formally adopted open access policy that ensures that versions of all future scholarly articles by faculty and staff and all future theses and dissertations are deposited in a designated open access repository.

The open access repository may be managed by the institution or the institution may participate in a consortium with a consortial and/or outsourced open access repository.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Engagement

Campus Engagement

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that provide their students with sustainability learning experiences outside the formal curriculum. Engaging in sustainability issues through co-curricular activities allows students to deepen and apply their understandings of sustainability principles. Institution-sponsored co-curricular sustainability offerings, often coordinated by student affairs offices, help integrate sustainability into the campus culture and set a positive tone for the institution.

In addition, this subcategory recognizes institutions that support faculty and staff engagement, training, and development programs in sustainability. Faculty and staff members’ daily decisions impact an institution’s sustainability performance. Equipping faculty and staff with the tools, knowledge, and motivation to adopt behavior changes that promote sustainability is an essential activity of a sustainable campus.

Credit

| Student Educators Program
| Student Orientation
| Student Life
| Outreach Materials and Publications
| Outreach Campaign
| Employee Educators Program
| Employee Orientation
| Staff Professional Development |
Student Educators Program

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution coordinates an ongoing peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program for degree-seeking students. The institution:

• Selects or appoints students to serve as educators and formally designates the students as educators (paid and/or volunteer),
• Provides formal training to the educators in how to conduct outreach, and
• Offers faculty or staff and/or other financial support to the program.

This credit focuses on programs for degree-seeking students enrolled in a for-credit program. Continuing education and/or non-credit students are excluded from this credit.

This credit recognizes ongoing student educator programs that engage students on a regular basis. For example, student educators may be responsible for serving (i.e. directly targeting) a particular subset of students, such as those living in residence halls or enrolled in certain academic subdivisions. Thus, a group of students may be served by a program even if not all of these students avail themselves of the outreach and education offerings.

Sustainability outreach campaigns, sustainability events, and student clubs or groups are not eligible for this credit unless the criteria outlined above are met. These programs are covered by EN 5: Outreach Campaign and EN 3: Student Life.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution coordinate one or more ongoing student, peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education programs that meet the criteria for this credit?:

---

Number of degree-seeking students enrolled at the institution:
31,899

Name of the student educators program (1st program):
Resident Assistants Program

Number of students served (i.e. directly targeted) by the program (1st program):
4,750
A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (1st program):

All Resident Assistants (RAs) receive sustainability training in addition to their regular RA training. RA's are responsible for being available to residents to serve as a resource, mediator, advisor, and crisis responder. Respond to student situations, policy violations, and emergencies. RA's are also responsible for planning and implementing social activities for residents.

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (1st program):

Resident assistants are selected based on the following criteria:
1. Sophomore standing (having earned at least 24 credit hours) by date of employment, junior/senior standing preferred.
2. Candidates should have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 to apply
   • Candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 to be hired.
   • If an RA’s cumulative GPA falls below 2.5 at any time, her/his RA position may be terminated.
3. Candidates may not be on University or Residence Hall disciplinary probation.
4. Candidates may not have outstanding debts to the university.
5. RA's may not hold a major office in a major student organization. (e.g., SGA, RHA, IFC).
6. The RA position is for one academic year at a time. Current staff member must re-apply. Re-hire is contingent upon a successful evaluation and re-application process.
7. In order to be considered for the RA position you must turn in an application and complete the entire interview process.

A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (1st program):

Resident assistants receive group training in the subjects of leadership, teamwork, conflict resolution, event planning, communication skills, and sustainability.

A brief description of the financial or other support the institution provides to the program (1st program):

Resident assistants receive financial and staff support from the VCU Office of Residential Life and Housing.

Name of the student educators program (2nd program):
---

Number of students served (i.e. directly targeted) by the program (2nd program):
---

A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (2nd program):
---

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (2nd program):
---
A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (2nd program):

---

A brief description of the financial or other support the institution provides to the program (2nd program):

---

Name of the student educators program (3rd program):

---

Number of students served (i.e. directly targeted) by the program (3rd program):

---

A brief description of the program, including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (3rd program):

---

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (3rd program):

---

A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (3rd program):

---

A brief description of the financial or other support the institution provides to the program (3rd program):

---

Name(s) of the student educator program(s) (all other programs):

---

Number of students served (i.e. directly targeted) by all other student educator programs:

---

A brief description of the program(s), including examples of peer-to-peer outreach activities (all other programs):

---

A brief description of how the student educators are selected (all other programs):
A brief description of the formal training that the student educators receive (all other programs):

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A brief description of the financial or other support the institution provides to the program (all other programs):

---

Total number of hours student educators are engaged in peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education activities annually:

---

The website URL for the peer-to-peer student outreach and education program(s):

---
Student Orientation

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution includes sustainability prominently in its student orientation activities and programming. Sustainability activities and programming are intended to educate about the principles and practices of sustainability. The topics covered include multiple dimensions of sustainability (i.e. social, environmental and economic).

Because orientation activities vary from one institution to another, prominent inclusion of sustainability may not take the same form on each campus. Prominent inclusion of sustainability may also take different forms for different types of students (e.g. undergraduate students, transfer students, graduate students). When reporting for this credit, each institution will determine what prominent inclusion of sustainability means given its particular context. (See the Credit Example in the STARS Technical Manual.)

As this credit is intended to recognize programming and student learning about sustainability, incorporating sustainability strategies into event planning (e.g. making recycling bins accessible or not serving bottled water) is not, in and of itself, sufficient for this credit. Such strategies may count if they are highlighted and are part of the educational offerings. For example, serving local food would not, in and of itself, be sufficient for this credit; however, serving local food and providing information about sustainable food systems during meals could contribute to earning this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The percentage of entering students that are provided an opportunity to participate in orientation activities and programming that prominently include sustainability:

---

A brief description of how sustainability is included prominently in new student orientation:

VCU's Think Green Guides were distributed to all students at Ram Resources Sessions during New Student Orientation.

The website URL where information about sustainability in student orientation is available:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/
Student Life

Criteria

Institution has co-curricular sustainability programs and initiatives. The programs and initiatives fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Active student groups focused on sustainability
- Gardens, farms, community supported agriculture (CSA) or fishery programs, and urban agriculture projects where students are able to gain experience in organic agriculture and sustainable food systems
- Sustainable enterprises that include sustainability as part of their mission statements or stated purposes (e.g. cafés through which students gain sustainable business skills)
- Sustainable investment funds, green revolving funds or sustainable microfinance initiatives through which students can develop socially, environmentally and fiscally responsible investment and financial skills
- Conferences, speaker series, symposia or similar events related to sustainability that have students as the intended audience
- Cultural arts events, installations or performances related to sustainability that have students as the intended audience
- Wilderness or outdoors programs (e.g. that organize hiking, backpacking, kayaking, or other outings for students and follow Leave No Trace principles)
- Sustainability-related themes chosen for themed semesters, years, or first-year experiences (e.g. choosing a sustainability-related book for common reading)
- Programs through which students can learn sustainable life skills (e.g. a series of sustainable living workshops, a model room in a residence hall that is open to students during regular visitation hours and demonstrates sustainable living principles, or sustainability-themed housing where residents and visitors learn about sustainability together)
- Sustainability-focused student employment opportunities offered by the institution
- Graduation pledges through which students pledge to consider social and environmental responsibility in future job and other decisions
- Other co-curricular sustainability programs and initiatives

Multiple programs and initiatives may be reported for each category and each category may include institution-governed and/or student-governed programs.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Outreach Materials and Publications

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution produces outreach materials and/or publications that foster sustainability learning and knowledge. The publications and outreach materials may include the following:

- A central sustainability website that consolidates information about the institution’s sustainability efforts
- A sustainability newsletter
- Social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, interactive blogs) that focus specifically on campus sustainability
- A vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability
- Building signage that highlights green building features
- Food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems
- Signage on the grounds about sustainable groundskeeping and/or landscaping strategies employed
- A sustainability walking map or tour
- A guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation
- Navigation and educational tools for bicyclists and pedestrians (e.g. covering routes, inter-modal connections, policies, services, and safety)
- A guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience
- Regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat
- Other

A single outreach material or publication that serves multiple purposes may be counted more than once. For example, a sustainability website that includes tools for bicyclists and pedestrians may be counted in both categories.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution produce the following outreach materials and/or publications that foster sustainability learning and knowledge? :

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A central sustainability website that consolidates information about the institution’s sustainability efforts</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A sustainability newsletter</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social media platforms that focus specifically on campus sustainability</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building signage that highlights green building features</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signage on the grounds about sustainable groundskeeping and/or landscaping strategies employed</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A sustainability walking map or tour</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigation and educational tools for bicyclists and pedestrians</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sustainability publications or outreach materials not covered above</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A brief description of the central sustainability website:**

The VCU Goes Green website is a centralized source to find information on sustainability in and around the university. The website highlights recent initiatives and upcoming events. The website is also a resource for sustainability information, links, and ways to get involved.

**The website URL for the central sustainability website:**
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/

A brief description of the sustainability newsletter:

---

The website URL for the sustainability newsletter:

---

A brief description of the social media platforms that focus specifically on campus sustainability:

---

The website URL of the primary social media platform that focuses on sustainability:

---

A brief description of the vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability:

Individual research departments have their own vehicles to disseminate student research. VCU News also picks up stories regarding student sustainability research.

The website URL for the vehicle to publish and disseminate student research on sustainability:

---

A brief description of building signage that highlights green building features:

There is signage at all LEED buildings that highlights individual green features as well as LEED rating. There are 27 signs alone at the Cary Street Gym that touch on everything from land preservation, to water efficiency, to recycled materials used in building construction.

The website URL for building signage that highlights green building features:
http://www.vcu.edu/rice/facilities/building.html

A brief description of food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems:

VCU Dining Services has come up with a brochure that highlights their sustainable food initiatives including buying local, serving all trayless meals, and using a solar powered trash compactor.

The website URL for food service area signage and/or brochures that include information about sustainable food systems:
A brief description of signage on the grounds about sustainable groundskeeping and/or landscaping strategies:

There is signage at the Harris Hall Rain Garden, xeriscaped (bayscaping) landscaping and Arbor Day tree plantings that highlight sustainable grounds-keeping strategies.

The website URL for signage on the grounds about sustainable groundskeeping and/or landscaping strategies:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/initiatives/buildings/index.html

A brief description of the sustainability walking map or tour:

The VCU Green Map is a Sustainability Walking Map that highlights sustainable assets, including buildings, food, and open space and surrounding commercial entities.

The website URL of the sustainability walking map or tour:
http://www.opengreenmap.org/greenmap/virginia-commonwealth-university-green-map

A brief description of the guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation:

Green Unity 4 VCU drafted an Alternate Transportation Guide. This guide highlights the alternative modes of transportation such as: bikes, busses, and walking. VCU also has two Mobility Hub Kiosks on each campus that have information on alternative transportation.

The website URL for the guide for commuters about how to use alternative methods of transportation:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/initiatives/transportation.html

A brief description of the navigation and educational tools for bicyclists and pedestrians:

---

The website URL for navigation and educational tools for bicyclists and pedestrians:
---

A brief description of the guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience:

The guide was created to provide the VCU community with resources that could aid in everyday life, from water consumption to waste reduction. Every action we take has a consequence that can easily be reduced. This guide provides easy tips for making small lifestyle adjustments that will lessen your personal ecological footprint, and therefore reduce the campus footprint as a whole.

The website URL for the guide for green living and incorporating sustainability into the residential experience:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/pdf/green_guide_to_living.pdf

A brief description of regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular
column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat:

Sustainability events and projects are highlighted in stories in the VCU student newspaper, Commonwealth Times (CT). In 2010 there were almost 40 stories featured on VCU Sustainability and almost every issue had some coverage.

The website URL for regular coverage of sustainability in the main student newspaper, either through a regular column or a reporter assigned to the sustainability beat:

---

A brief description of another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above (1st material):

VCU Sustainability also has a Facebook page to interact with students in real-time. Facebook facilitates an easy way to highlight VCU sustainable assets and detail the strides the university is making as well as connecting with students.

The website URL for this material (1st material):
https://www.facebook.com/vcugoesgreen

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (2nd material):
Yes

A brief description of this material (2nd material):

VCU Goes Green has a blog that is updated with events and news.

The website URL for this material (2nd material):
http://blog.vcu.edu/vcugoesgreen/

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (3rd material):
Yes

A brief description of this material (3rd material):

VCU produced a Move-Out Guide for students with information on what is recyclable and where to drop-off recycling when they move out at the end of an academic year.

The website URL for this material (3rd material):
---

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (4th material):
No

A brief description of this material (4th material):

---

The website URL for this material (4th material):
---

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (5th material):
No

A brief description of this material (5th material):

---

The website URL for this material (5th material):
---

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (6th material):
No

A brief description of this material (6th material):

---

The website URL for this material (6th material):
---

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (7th material):
No

A brief description of this material (7th material):

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The website URL for this material (7th material):
---

Does the institution produce another sustainability publication or outreach material not covered above? (8th material):
No
material):
No

A brief description of this material (8th material):
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The website URL for this material (8th material):
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Outreach Campaign

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution holds at least one sustainability-related outreach campaign directed at students that yields measurable, positive results in advancing sustainability. The sustainability-related outreach campaign may be conducted by the institution, a student organization, or students in a course.

Part 2

Institution holds at least one sustainability-related outreach campaign directed at employees that yields measurable, positive results in advancing sustainability. The sustainability-related outreach campaign may be conducted by the institution or an employee organization.

The campaign(s) reported for this credit could take the form of a competition (e.g. a residence hall conservation competition), a rating or certification program (e.g. a green labs or green office program), and/or a collective challenge (e.g. a campus-wide drive to achieve a specific sustainability target). A single campus-wide campaign may meet the criteria for both parts of this credit if educating students is a prime feature of the campaign and it is directed at both students and employees.

To measure if a campaign yields measurable, positive results, institutions should compare pre-campaign performance to performance during or after the campaign. The following impacts are not sufficient for this credit:

- Increased awareness
- Additional members of a mailing list or group

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution held at least one sustainability-related outreach campaign directed at students within the previous three years that has yielded measurable, positive results in advancing sustainability?:
Yes

Has the institution held at least one sustainability-related outreach campaign directed at employees within the previous three years that has yielded measurable, positive results in advancing sustainability?:
---

The name of the campaign (1st campaign):
RecycleMania
A brief description of the campaign (1st campaign):
RecycleMania is a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities. Over a 10-week period, schools report recycling and trash data which are then ranked according to who collects the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, or have the highest recycling rate. With each week’s reports and rankings, participating schools watch how their results fluctuate against other schools and use this to rally their campus communities to reduce and recycle more.

A brief description of the measured positive impact(s) of the campaign (1st campaign):
The recycling rate increased from 2010 in the corrugated cardboard and bottles and cans categories, showing a measured positive impact.

The website URL where information about the campaign is available (1st campaign):
http://www.recyclemaniacs.org/

The name of the campaign (2nd campaign):
---

A brief description of the campaign (2nd campaign):
---

A brief description of the measured positive impact(s) of the campaign (2nd campaign):
---

The website URL where information about the campaign is available (2nd campaign):
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A brief description of other outreach campaigns, including measured positive impacts:
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---

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Employee Educators Program

Criteria

Institution administers or oversees an ongoing faculty/staff peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program.

In the program, employee sustainability educators are formally designated and receive formal training or participate in an institution-sponsored orientation. The institution offers financial or other support to the program.

This credit recognizes ongoing programs that engage employees on a regular basis. For example, employee educators may represent or be responsible for engaging workers in certain departments or buildings. Thus, a group of employees may be served (i.e. directly targeted) by a program even if not all of these employees avail themselves of the outreach and education offerings.

Training and/or professional development opportunities in sustainability for staff are excluded from this credit. These activities are covered in EN 8: Staff Professional Development.

Submission Note:

Green Unity

https://www.facebook.com/greenunity?ref=ts

A link to all the ways VCU engages the campus community.

http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/initiatives/universityengage.html

Recycling and Reuse

http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/initiatives/recycling.html

Youtube videos

http://www.youtube.com/vcugoesgreen/

Sustainability Tips

http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/takeaction/tips.html

VCU Sustainable Purchasing
Does the institution administer or oversee an ongoing faculty/staff peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education program that meets the criteria for this credit?:
---

Total number of employees:
10,594

Name of the employee educators program (1st program):
Recycling, Green Works Team, Reuse, GovDeals, Green Purchasing

Number of employees served by the program (1st program):
10,594

A brief description of how the employee educators are selected (1st program):
Recycling is present in all VCU campus buildings, across all sectors of campus including Administration, Athletics, Auxiliary Services, Laboratories, and Student Affairs. Recycling is present in all student sectors such as residence halls, athletic facilities, classroom, research labs, dining halls, student center, and library. Academic Deans, Department heads, etc, select the building managers and make the responsibility a part of their employee work plan. Green Works team members were selected via a campus wide volunteer process

http://www.recycle.gatech.edu/recycling_services/Buildings/Buildings.php

A brief description of the formal training that the employee educators receive (1st program):
Recycling education is available through the building manager, campus coordinator, environmental conservation and the Office of Sustainability. Within each department, the building managers train employees on how to recycle their paper, printer cartridges, electronics, and batteries. They also coach on departmental practices on buying green supplies. Annually the building manager receives updated training in these areas as changes occur. Our student sustainability group, Green Unity provides opportunities for training for items from gardening to the use of rain barrels as well as other educational opportunities for staff, faculty and students. Green works team members received formal classroom training. VCU Green Purchasing programs are trained via a fiscal administrator newsletter and quarterly meetings.

A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program (1st program):
Financial support is in the form of salaries for all the personnel listed above along with operating expenses. Additionally at times one time funds have been received to be used to support these programs.

The website URL where information about the program is available (1st program):
http://www.vcu.edu/recycling/

Name of the employee educators program (2nd program):
---

Number of employees served by the program (2nd program):
---

A brief description of how the employee educators are selected (2nd program):
---

A brief description of the formal training that the employee educators receive (2nd program):
---

A brief description of the financial or other support the institution provides to the program (2nd program):
---

The website URL where information about the program is available (2nd program):
---

Name(s) of the employee educator program(s) (all other programs):
---

Number of employees served by all other programs:
---

A brief description of how the employee educators are selected (all other programs):
---

A brief description of the formal training that the employee educators receive (all other programs):
A brief description of the staff and/or other financial support the institution provides to the program(s) (all other programs):

---

The website URL where information about the program(s) is available (all other programs):

---
Employee Orientation

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution covers sustainability topics in new employee orientation and/or in outreach and guidance materials distributed to new employees, including faculty and staff. The topics covered include multiple dimensions of sustainability (i.e. social, environmental and economic).

Submission Note:

http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/pdf/Think%20green%20guide%202012-1.pdf

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

The percentage of new employees that are offered orientation and/or outreach and guidance materials that cover sustainability topics:

---

A brief description of how sustainability is included in new employee orientation:

Sustainability is covered in new employee orientation with an overview of the sustainability related programs and initiatives. The Think Green Guide VCU produces is also given out as additional information.

The website URL where information about sustainability in new employee orientation is available:

http://www.hr.vcu.edu/newemployees.html
Staff Professional Development

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution makes available training and/or other professional development opportunities in sustainability to all staff at least once per year.

Separate training opportunities for each department would count for this credit, as long as each staff member has an opportunity to learn about sustainability at least once per year. It is not necessary that each staff member attend such trainings; the credit is based on making training available to all staff.

This credit applies to staff members only; it does not include faculty members.

The following training opportunities are not sufficient for this credit:

- Specialized training for a small group of staff
- The opportunity to participate in an institutional sustainability committee or group

--- indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution make available training and/or other professional development opportunities in sustainability to all staff at least once per year?:
Yes

A brief description of the sustainability trainings and professional development opportunities available to staff:

LEED Lunches are held monthly throughout the semester and are open to all staff and faculty. They cover a variety of topics, including consultants coming to present projects they have designed, product representatives presenting the "green" aspects of their products and internal sharing amongst employees on what we have learned and are working on.

The percentage of staff that participated in training and/or other professional development opportunities in sustainability during the previous year:

---

The website URL where information about staff training opportunities in sustainability is available:

---
Public Engagement

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that help catalyze sustainable communities through public engagement, community partnerships and service. Engagement in community problem-solving is fundamental to sustainability. By engaging with community members and organizations in the governmental, non-profit and for-profit sectors, institutions can help solve sustainability challenges. Community engagement can help students develop leadership skills while deepening their understandings of practical, real-world problems and the process of creating solutions. Institutions can contribute to their communities by harnessing their financial and academic resources to address community needs and by engaging community members in institutional decisions that affect them. In addition, institutions can contribute toward sustainability broadly through inter-campus collaboration, engagement with external networks and organizations, and public policy advocacy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-Campus Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Stakeholder Engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trademark Licensing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Network</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Community Partnerships

### Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh  
Director of Sustainability  
VCU Sustainability

### Criteria

Institution has one or more formal partnership(s) with the local community, including school districts, government agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses and/or other entities, to work together to advance sustainability within the community.

Each partnership conforms to one of the following types:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Partnership</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Supportive</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
  - *Scope:* Addresses a sustainability topic or a specific aspect of sustainability (e.g. community garden, environmental remediation, community environmental health and education)  
  - *Duration:* May be time-limited (short-term projects and events), multi-year, or ongoing  
  - *Commitment:* Institutional involvement may include financial and/or staff support or may be limited to resource sharing and/or endorsement  
  - *Governance:* Campus and community leaders or representatives are engaged in program/project development |
| **B. Collaborative** |  
  - *Scope:* Addresses one or more sustainability challenge and may simultaneously support social equity and wellbeing, economic prosperity, and ecological health (e.g. a green jobs program in an economically disadvantaged neighborhood)  
  - *Duration:* May be time-limited, multi-year, or ongoing  
  - *Commitment:* Institution provides faculty/staff, financial, and/or material support  
  - *Governance:* Campus and local community members are both engaged in program/project development, from agenda setting and planning to decision-making, implementation and review |
| C.Transformative
<p>| |</p>
<table>
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<th></th>
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</table>
| **Scope**: Catalyzes community resiliency and local/regional sustainability by simultaneously supporting social equity and wellbeing, economic prosperity, and ecological health on a community or regional scale (e.g. “transition” projects and partnerships focused on community adaptation to climate change)
| **Duration**: Is multi-year or ongoing and proposes or plans for institutionalized and systemic change
| **Commitment**: Institution provides faculty/staff and financial or material support
| **Governance**: Partnership has adopted a stakeholder engagement framework through which community members, vulnerable populations, faculty, staff, students and other stakeholders are engaged in program/project development, from agenda setting and planning to decision-making, implementation and review |
An institution may have multiple partnerships of each type, however no single partnership may be both supportive and collaborative, collaborative and transformative, or supportive and transformative.

Recognizing the diversity of forms that community partnerships may take, it is not required that a partnership meet all of the criteria listed to be considered supportive or collaborative. A partnership must meet all of the criteria listed to be considered transformative, however. For further guidance in identifying community partnerships that meet the criteria for each type, see the Credit Example in the STARS Technical Manual.

This credit recognizes campus-community partnerships that advance sustainability in an explicit and participatory way. Participatory, community-based research and engaged scholarship around issues of sustainability may be included if it involves formal partnership(s). Although community service activities (e.g. academic service learning, co-curricular service learning and volunteer activities, Work-Study community service and paid community service internships) may involve local partnerships and contribute toward sustainability, they are not included in this credit. Community service is covered by EN 12: Community Service.

---

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have at least one formal sustainability partnership with the local community that meets the criteria as “supportive”?:

Yes

A brief description of the institution’s supportive sustainability partnership(s) with the local community:

VCU is a member of James River Green Building Council, Virginia Sustainable Business Network, AASHE, ACUPCC, USGBC and a stakeholder in Richmond Get Ready. VCU Sustainability is on the VCU Council for Community Engagement and the City of Richmond Sustainability Advisory Plan.

Does the institution have at least one formal sustainability partnership with the local community that meets the criteria as “collaborative”?:

---

A brief description of the institution's collaborative sustainability partnership(s):

---

Does the institution have at least one formal sustainability partnership with the local community that meets the criteria as “transformative”?:

---
A brief description of the institution's transformative sustainability partnership(s) with the local community:

---

A brief description of the institution’s sustainability partnerships with distant (i.e. non-local) communities:

---

The website URL where information about sustainability partnerships is available:

---
Inter-Campus Collaboration

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution collaborates with other colleges and universities to support and help build the campus sustainability community.

See the Credit Example in the STARS Technical Manual for guidance on identifying appropriate collaborations.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution collaborate with other colleges and universities to support and help build the campus sustainability community?:

Yes

A brief summary of papers, guides, presentations, and other resources the institution has developed to share their sustainability experience with other institutions:

University of British Columbia shared their experiences and insights in implementing their eco-reps program with VCU as it developed its Green Works Team. VCU has shared information on its RFP for its Climate Action Plan, VCU Sustainability Committee structure, Bike Share, Anaerobic Digester, and VCU Rice Center with other interested universities.

The names of local, state/provincial, regional, national, or international campus sustainability organizations or consortia in which the institution participates and/or is a member:

VCU is a member of James River Green Building Council, Virginia Sustainable Business Network, AASHE, ACUPCC, USGBC and a stakeholder in Richmond Get Ready. VCU Sustainability is on the VCU Council for Community Engagement and the City of Richmond Sustainability Advisory Plan.

A brief summary of additional ways the institution collaborates with other campuses to advance sustainability:

VCU is willing and does share information on its sustainability initiatives with any school or business that is seeking to advance their sustainability.

The website URL where information about cross-campus collaboration is available:

---
Continuing Education

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution offers continuing education courses that address sustainability.

Courses that address sustainability include continuing education sustainability courses and continuing education courses that include sustainability. Courses that can be taken for academic credit are not included in this credit. They are covered by the Curriculum subcategory.

Part 2

Institution has at least one sustainability-themed certificate program through its continuing education or extension department.

Degree-granting programs (e.g. programs that confer Baccalaureate, Masters, and Associates degrees) and certificates that are part of academic degree programs are not included in this credit. They are covered in the Curriculum subcategory.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution offer continuing education courses that address sustainability?:

Yes

Number of continuing education courses offered that address sustainability:

2

Total number of continuing education courses offered:

220

A copy of the list and brief descriptions of the continuing education courses that address sustainability:

---

A list and brief descriptions of the continuing education courses that address sustainability:

---
Does the institution have at least one sustainability-themed certificate program through its continuing education or extension department?:
Yes

A brief description of the certificate program:
The VCU School of Business Foundation – Center for Corporate Education Certificate in Sustainability Program (CSP) – 2010 will give participants a real understanding of sustainability as a significant force in business success in the 21st century. The program will provide a practical, broad-based view of what sustainability is, what being sustainable means and what the macro issues are, followed by an examination of how the issues will impact business, what challenges they present and what opportunities they create. The program will include an exploration of organizations that are changing to meet both the challenges and opportunities that arise. Participants will work on conceptualizing approaches that can benefit their businesses.

Year the certificate program was created:
2010

The website URL where information about sustainability in continuing education courses is available:
http://www.business.vcu.edu/ciba/1914.html
Community Service

Responsible Party
Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1
Institution engages its student body in community service, as measured by the percentage of students who participate in community service.

Part 2
Institution engages students in community service, as measured by the average hours contributed per full-time student per year.

Institutions may exclude non-credit, continuing education, and/or part-time students from this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Number of students engaged in community service:
14,653

Total number of students:
28,654

Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (community service hours)?:
---

Total number of student community service hours contributed during a one-year period:
408,642

Does the institution include community service achievements on student transcripts?:
Yes

A brief description of the practice of including community service on transcripts, if applicable:

VCU includes Service-Learning courses on transcripts, where each service learning course equates to a minimum of 20 community service hours.
Does the institution provide incentives for employees to participate in community service (on- or off-campus)?:
---

A brief description of the institution’s employee community service initiatives:
---

The website URL where information about the institution’s community service initiatives is available:
http://www.community.vcu.edu/
Community Stakeholder Engagement

Criteria

Institution has adopted a framework for community stakeholder engagement in governance, strategy and operations. The framework includes:

1) Policies and procedures that ensure community stakeholder engagement is applied systematically and regularly across the institution’s activities (e.g. planning and development efforts, capital investment projects, and/or other activities and decisions that affect the broader community)

And

2) Established practices to identify and engage relevant community stakeholders, including any vulnerable or underrepresented groups.

Frameworks adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

This credit does not include the engagement of internal campus stakeholders (e.g. students, faculty and staff); internal stakeholder engagement is covered in PA 3: Governance.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Participation in Public Policy

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution advocates for national, state/provincial, or local public policies that support campus sustainability or that otherwise advance sustainability.

The policy advocacy must be done by the institution, not by students or a student group. This credit acknowledges institutions that advocate for policy changes and legislation to advance sustainability broadly. Advocacy efforts that are made exclusively to advance the institution's interests or projects may not be counted. For example, advocating for government funding for campus sustainability may be counted, whereas lobbying for the institution to receive funds that have already been appropriated may not.

Does the institution advocate for national, state/provincial, or local public policies that support campus sustainability or that otherwise advance sustainability?:
Yes

A brief description of how the institution engages in public policy advocacy for sustainability, including the issues, legislation, and ordinances for or against which the institution has advocated:

VCU has participated in the City of Richmond Road Map to Sustainability and in Virginia Clean Cities development of model by-laws regarding EV charging stations in Virginia.

A brief description of other political positions the institution has taken during the previous three years:
---

A brief description of political donations the institution made during the previous three years (if applicable):
---

The website URL where information about the institution’s advocacy efforts is available:
---
Trademark Licensing

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution is a member of the Fair Labor Association (FLA) and/or the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC).

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Is the institution a member of the Worker Rights Consortium?:
No

Is the institution a member of the Fair Labor Association?:
No

Has the institution expressed an intention to participate in the WRC’s Designated Suppliers Program?:
No

The website URL where information about the institution’s participation in the WRC, FLA, and/or DSP is available:
---
Hospital Network

Criteria

Institution’s affiliated hospital or health system is a member of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Network, the Healthier Hospitals Initiative and/or Practice Greenhealth.

This credit includes hospitals and health systems that are formally affiliated with a higher education institution (sometimes called “university hospitals”). Other types of health care providers (e.g. insurers through which an institution obtains health care for its employees) are not included.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Operations

Air & Climate

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are measuring and reducing their greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions. Global climate change is having myriad negative impacts throughout the world, including increased frequency and potency of extreme weather events, sea level rise, species extinction, water shortages, declining agricultural production, and spread of diseases. The impacts are particularly pronounced for low-income communities and countries. In addition, institutions that inventory and take steps to reduce their air pollutant emissions can positively impact the health of the campus community, as well as the health of their local communities and regions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Air Quality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has conducted a publicly available greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory that includes, at minimum, Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions and may also include Scope 3 GHG emissions. The inventory may be validated internally by campus personnel who are independent of the GHG accounting and reporting process and/or verified by an independent, external third party.

Part 2

Institution reduced its adjusted net Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions per weighted campus user compared to a baseline.

Part 3

Institution’s annual adjusted net Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions are less than the minimum performance threshold of 0.02 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO2e) per gross square foot (0.002 MtCO2e per gross square metre) of floor area.

Performance for Part 3 of this credit is assessed using EUI-adjusted floor area, a figure that accounts for significant differences in energy use intensity (EUI) between types of building space.

For this credit, the following carbon offsets may be counted:

1. Institution-catalyzed carbon offsets (popularly known as “local offsets”)
2. Carbon sequestration due to land that the institution manages specifically for sequestration (as documented in policies, land management plans or the equivalent)
3. Carbon storage from on-site composting
4. Third-party verified purchased carbon offsets

Purchased Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) that are either Green-e Energy certified or meet Green-e Energy’s technical requirements and are verified as such by a third party may be counted as zero emissions energy for purposes of Scope 2 GHG accounting.

Purchased carbon offsets and RECs that have not been third-party verified do not count.

Institutions that have sold or transferred emissions reductions, e.g. in the form of verified emissions reductions (VERs), may not count those reductions toward this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field
Does the institution's GHG emissions inventory include all Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions?:
Yes

Does the institution's GHG emissions inventory include all Scope 3 GHG emissions from any of the following categories?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business travel</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commuting</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased goods and services</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital goods</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel- and energy-related activities not included in Scope 1 or Scope 2</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste generated in operations</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Does the institution's GHG emissions inventory include Scope 3 emissions from other categories?:
---

A brief description of the methodology and/or tool used to complete the GHG emissions inventory:
---

Has the GHG emissions inventory been validated internally by personnel who are independent of the GHG accounting and reporting process and/or verified by an independent, external third party?:
---

A brief description of the internal and/or external verification process:
---

Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Performance Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 1 GHG emissions from stationary combustion</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 1 GHG emissions from other sources</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 2 GHG emissions from purchased electricity</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope 2 GHG emissions from other sources</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figures needed to determine total carbon offsets:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institution-catalyzed carbon offsets generated</td>
<td>0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent</td>
<td>0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon sequestration due to land that the institution manages specifically for sequestration</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon storage from on-site composting</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-party verified carbon offsets purchased</td>
<td>0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent</td>
<td>0 Metric Tons of CO2 Equivalent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A brief description of the institution-catalyzed carbon offsets program:**

***

**A brief description of the carbon sequestration program and reporting protocol used:**

***

**A brief description of the composting and carbon storage program:**

***

**A brief description of the purchased carbon offsets, including third party verifier(s) and contract timeframes:**
Figures needed to determine “Weighted Campus Users”:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential students</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential employees</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of in-patient hospital beds</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent enrollment</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent of employees</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent of distance education students</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start and end dates of the performance year and baseline year (or three-year periods):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Year</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline Year</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of when and why the GHG emissions baseline was adopted:

---

Gross floor area of building space, performance year:

---

Floor area of energy intensive building space, performance year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Floor Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory space</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare space</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other energy intensive space</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope 3 GHG emissions, performance year::

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commuting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased goods and services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel- and energy-related activities not included in Scope 1 or Scope 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste generated in operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other categories (please specify below)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the sources included in Scope 3 GHG emissions from "other categories":

---

A copy of the most recent GHG emissions inventory:

---

The website URL where the GHG emissions inventory is posted:


A brief description of the institution’s GHG emissions reduction initiatives, including efforts made during the previous three years:

---
Outdoor Air Quality

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has adopted policies or guidelines to improve outdoor air quality and minimize air pollutant emissions from mobile sources. Policies and/or guidelines may include, but are not limited to, prohibiting vehicle idling, restrictions on the use of powered lawn care equipment, and other strategies for minimizing mobile emissions.

Policies adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or university system) may count for Part 1 of this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution has completed an inventory of significant air emissions from stationary sources on campus. Significant emissions include nitrogen oxides (NO\textsubscript{x}), sulfur oxides (SO\textsubscript{x}), and other standard categories of air emissions identified in environmental permits held by the institution, international conventions, and/or national laws or regulations.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Buildings

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are taking steps to improve the sustainability performance of their buildings. Buildings are generally the largest user of energy and the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions on campuses. Buildings also use significant amounts of potable water. Institutions can design, build, and maintain buildings in ways that provide a safe and healthy indoor environment for inhabitants while simultaneously mitigating the building’s impact on the outdoor environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Operations and Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Design and Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Air Quality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Building Operations and Maintenance

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution owns and operates buildings that are:

1) Certified under a green building rating system for existing buildings, e.g. LEED® for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance (O&M)

And/or

2) Operated and maintained in accordance with formally adopted sustainable operations and maintenance guidelines and policies that cover all of the following:

- Impacts on the surrounding site
- Energy consumption
- Building-level energy metering
- Usage of environmentally preferable materials
- Indoor environmental quality
- Water consumption
- Building-level water metering

Building space that meets multiple criteria listed above should not be double-counted.

---

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have any building space certified under the following green building rating systems for existing buildings?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEED for Existing Buildings or another 4-tier rating system used by an Established Green Building Council (GBC)</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The DGNB system, Green Star Performance, or another 3-tier GBC rating system</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---
### BREEAM-In Use, CASBEE for Existing Building, or another 5-tier GBC rating system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BREEAM-In Use, CASBEE for Existing Building, or another 5-tier GBC rating system</th>
<th>---</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Other non-GBC rating systems (e.g. BOMA BESt, Green Globes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other non-GBC rating systems (e.g. BOMA BESt, Green Globes)</th>
<th>---</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

A brief description of the green building rating system(s) used and/or a list or sample of certified buildings and ratings:

---

Total floor area of eligible building space (operations and maintenance):

10,363,815 *Square Feet*

---

Floor area of building space that is certified at each level under a 4-tier rating system for existing buildings used by an Established Green Building Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified Floor Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Level (e.g. LEED Certified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Highest Level (e.g. LEED Silver)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Highest Level (e.g. LEED Gold)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Achievable Level (e.g. LEED Platinum)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Floor area of building space that is certified at each level under a 3-tier rating system for existing buildings used by an Established Green Building Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified Floor Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Achievable Level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Floor area of building space that is certified at each level under a 5-tier rating system for existing buildings used by an Established Green Building Council:
| Minimum Level | --- |
| 4th Highest Level | --- |
| Mid-Level | --- |
| 2nd Highest Level | --- |
| Highest Achievable Level | --- |

Floor area of building space that is certified at any level under other green building rating systems for existing buildings:
---

Floor area of building space that is maintained in accordance with formally adopted sustainable building operations and maintenance guidelines or policies, but not certified:
922,104 Square Feet

A copy of the sustainable building operations and maintenance guidelines or policies:
IEQp3 Green cleaning policy VCU 5-25.pdf

The date the guidelines or policies were formally adopted:
---

A brief description of the sustainable building operations and maintenance program and/or a list or sample of buildings covered:
Walter L. Rice Education Building
W.J. Baxter Perkinson, Jr. School of Dentistry Building
Jonah L. Larrick Student Center
Molecular Medicine Research Building
Monroe Park Campus Cary Street Recreation Center
School of Engineering - Health and Life Sciences Laboratory Institute for Engineering and Medicine
Robert Blackwell Smith Building
Snead Hall - School of Business
School of Engineering East Hall
Cary and Belvidere Residential College

A brief description of how the institution ensures compliance with sustainable building operation and maintenance guidelines and policies:
Physical Plant Department staff received LEED Green Associates Training plus a module in LEED GBOM. VCU’s inaugural LEED EBOM project will be the Walter L. Rice Education Building with buildings to be selected on both campuses to follow. The Green Building Services Manager position was created and filled in July 2010 to oversee LEED EBOM projects as well as further LEED GBOM training of PPD staff. All occupants at the VCU Rice Center must adhere to the policies and plans for LEED EBOM.

The website URL where information about the institution’s certified buildings and/or sustainable operations and maintenance guidelines or policies is available:

---
Building Design and Construction

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution-owned buildings that were constructed or underwent major renovations in the previous five years are:

1) Certified under a green building rating system for new construction and major renovations (e.g. the LEED® for New Construction and Major Renovations, LEED for Commercial Interiors, LEED for Healthcare, and/or LEED for Core and Shell Green Building Rating Systems)

2) Certified Living under the Living Building Challenge (LBC)

And/or

3) Designed and built in accordance with formally adopted green building guidelines and policies that cover all of the following topics:

- Impacts on the surrounding site
- Energy consumption
- Building-level energy metering
- Usage of environmentally preferable materials
- Indoor environmental quality
- Water consumption
- Building-level water metering

Building space that meets multiple criteria listed above should not be double-counted.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have any building space certified under the following green building rating systems for new construction and major renovations?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEED or another 4-tier rating system used by an Established Green Building Council (GBC)</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The DGNB system, Green Star, or another 3-tier GBC rating system</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BREEAM, CASBEE, or another 5-tier GBC rating system
The Living Building Challenge
Other non-GBC rating systems (e.g. BOMA BESt, Green Globes)

A brief description of the green building rating system(s) used and/or a list of certified buildings and ratings:

---

Total floor area of eligible building space (design and construction):
439,018 Square Feet

Floor area of building space that is certified at each level under a 4-tier rating system for new construction and major renovations used by an Established Green Building Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified Floor Area</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Level (e.g. LEED Certified)</td>
<td>24,728 Square Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Highest Level (e.g. LEED Silver)</td>
<td>231,309 Square Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Highest Level (e.g. LEED Gold)</td>
<td>178,205 Square Feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Achievable Level (e.g. LEED Platinum)</td>
<td>4,776 Square Feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Floor area of building space that is certified at each level under a 3-tier rating system for new construction and major renovations used by an Established Green Building Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified Floor Area</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Achievable Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Floor area of building space that is certified at each level under a 5-tier rating system for new construction and major renovations used by an Established Green Building Council:
renovations used by an Established Green Building Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Level</th>
<th>Certified Floor Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th Highest Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Highest Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest Achievable Level</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Floor area of building space certified Living under the Living Building Challenge:
---

Floor area of building space that is certified at any level under other green building rating systems for new construction and major renovations:
---

Floor area of building space that was designed and constructed in accordance with green building policies or guidelines but NOT certified:
0 Square Feet

A copy of the guidelines or policies:
---

The date the guidelines or policies were adopted:
---

A brief description of the green building guidelines or policies and/or a list or sample of buildings covered:
---

A brief description of how the institution ensures compliance with green building design and construction guidelines and policies:

All public universities in Virginia must comply with Executive Order 19, which states that, “All new or renovated buildings described above, should conform to LEED silver or Green Globes two-globe standards, unless special circumstances, including significant additional cost, support exemption from such standards and the Director of the DGS finds that construction to the standards would be impracticable.”
The website URL where information about the institution’s certified buildings and/or green building design and construction guidelines or policies is available:

Indoor Air Quality

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has an indoor air quality (IAQ) management program that includes regular auditing or monitoring, a mechanism for occupants to register complaints, and action plans to implement any corrective measures required in response to audits, monitoring or complaints.

Policies and plans adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Submission Note:

VCU has a very extensive Asbestos control program with specific procedures.
http://www.vcu.edu/oehs/chemical/abplan.pdf

https://quikfm.vcu.edu/

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Floor area of building space covered by an indoor air quality (IAQ) management program that meets the criteria for this credit:
10,802,833 Square Feet

Gross floor area of building space:
10,802,833 Square Feet

A brief description of the institution’s indoor air quality program(s):

Indoor air quality is managed at VCU by a coordinated effort among building occupants, facility coordinators for each building, physical plant workers and Environmental Health and Safety staff. Preventative Maintenance of HVAC equipment is part of the ongoing facility maintenance program, with specific buildings 24/7 monitoring of HVAC system parameters. The PM system provides a proactive and measurable way to ensure systems are kept in top working condition. Along with HVAC system, items that can help cause IAQ issues such as moisture are tracked, i.e. roofs, windows, doors, drains, etc. A work order system that is available to all VCU constituents is used to accept, schedule plan and respond it IAQ and other HVAC system related issues. The system allows for tracking of issues and allows VCU to have a record of issues and problems in specific areas so problems can be addressed in the most appropriate manner. At the
request of concerned occupants, Environmental Health and Safety staff take the lead on responding to specific complaints, in close coordination with physical Plant and occupants and produce a written report, take appropriate samples, etc. Smoking is not allowed within 25 feet of university buildings.

The website URL where information about the institution’s indoor air quality program(s) is available:

http://www.vcu.edu/oehs/
Dining Services

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are supporting a sustainable food system. Modern industrial food production often has deleterious environmental and social impacts. Pesticides and fertilizers used in agriculture can contaminate ground and surface water and soil, which in turn have potentially dangerous impacts on wildlife and human health. The production of animal-derived foods often subjects animals to inhumane treatment and animal products have a higher per-calorie environmental intensity than plant-based foods. Additionally, farm workers are often directly exposed to dangerous pesticides, subjected to harsh working conditions, and paid substandard wages. Furthermore, food is often transported long distance to institutions, producing greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution, as well as undermining the resiliency of local communities.

Institutions can use their purchasing power to require transparency from their distributors and find out where the food comes from, how it was produced, and how far it traveled. Institutions can use their food purchases to support their local economies; encourage safe, environmentally-friendly and humane farming methods; and help eliminate unsafe working conditions and alleviate poverty for farmers. These actions help reduce environmental impacts, preserve regional farmland, improve local food security, and support fair and resilient food systems.

Please note that while dining services can also play an important role in conserving energy and water, reducing waste, and purchasing environmentally preferable materials other than food, STARS measures these impacts across the institution instead of by department; therefore, the benefits of these actions are captured in the Energy, Water, Waste, and Purchasing subcategories, respectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food and Beverage Purchasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Impact Dining</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food and Beverage Purchasing

Responsibility Party

Tamara Highsmith
Dining Sales & Services Manager
Business Services

Criteria

Part 1

Institution’s dining services purchase food and beverages that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Local and community-based
- And/or
- Third party verified to be ecologically sound, fair and/or humane

Food and beverage purchases that meet both criteria listed above (e.g. local community-based products that are Certified Organic) should not be double-counted.

Local community-based products:

- Are sourced from local community-based producers (directly or through distributors)
- Contain raw ingredients (excluding water) that are third party verified and/or locally harvested and produced (e.g. bread made with Organic flour or local honey) and
- Exclude products from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), products that have minimal nutritional value (e.g. soda, chewing gum, candies made predominantly from sweeteners), and products from producers that have been convicted of one or more labor law violations within the previous three years

Products that are not local and community-based must be third party verified to count. Recognized third party standards and certifications for food and beverages are outlined in the STARS Technical Manual. Institutions located outside the U.S. and Canada may use additional third party certifications to identify ecologically sound, fair and humane products, provided the certifications are reported in “Notes about this submission”.

Part 1 of this credit includes food and beverage purchases for on-campus dining operations and catering services operated by the institution or the institution’s primary dining services contractor (e.g. Aramark, Bon Appétit Management Company, Chartwells, Sodexo). On-site franchises, convenience stores, vending services, and concessions are excluded from Part 1.

Part 2

Institution’s on-site franchises, convenience stores, vending services, and/or concessions purchase food and beverages that are third party verified and/or locally sourced (i.e. meet the criteria outlined in Part 1).
Percentage of dining services food and beverage expenditures that are local and community-based and/or third party verified:

---

A copy of an inventory, list or sample of sustainable food and beverage purchases:

---

An inventory, list or sample of sustainable food and beverage purchases:

---

Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (food and beverage expenditures for on-site franchises, convenience stores, vending services, or concessions)?:

---

Percentage of on-site franchise, convenience store, vending services, and concessions food and beverage purchases that are local and community-based and/or third party verified:

---

A copy of an inventory, list or sample of on-site franchise, convenience store, vending machine, and/or concessions food and beverage purchases that are sustainably produced:

---

An inventory, list or sample of on-site franchise, convenience store, vending machine, and/or concessions food and beverage purchases that are sustainably produced:

---

A brief description of the sustainable food and beverage purchasing program:

“At ARAMARK, we are committed to protecting and improving the environment. We work to reduce our environmental footprint while offering expertise and practical solutions to thousands of client locations to help them reduce their environmental impacts. Throughout our company, we develop and implement programs that promote sustainability through environmental friendly products and practices, sustainable food and local purchasing options, energy and water conservation efforts, and waste management. Aramark strives to offer clients and customers fresh whole foods that are raised, grown, harvested, and produced locally and in a sustainable manner whenever possible. And they partner with suppliers to increase the availability of such foods. ARAMARK buys only seafood that is on the Monterey Bay Aquarium list and has literature about sustainable food systems in Market 810. Last year 85% of VCU’s produce came from within 250 miles.”

A brief description of the methodology used to track/inventory sustainable food and beverage purchases:

---
Total annual food and beverage expenditures:

---

Which of the following food service providers are present on campus and included in the total food and beverage expenditure figures?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provider</th>
<th>Present?</th>
<th>Included?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dining operations and catering services operated by the institution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dining operations and catering services operated by a contractor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franchises</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convenience stores</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vending services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concessions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Has the institution achieved the following?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainability Standard</th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fair Trade Campus, College or University status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification under the Green Seal Standard for Restaurants and Food Services (GS-46)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signatory of the Real Food Campus Commitment (U.S.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of other sustainable restaurant and food service standards that the institution’s dining services operations are certified under:

---

The website URL where information about the institution's sustainable food and beverage purchasing efforts is
available:
http://www.aramark.com/SocialResponsibility/EnvironmentalStewardship/
Low Impact Dining

Criteria

Part 1

Conventionally produced animal products comprise less than 30 percent of the institution’s total dining services food purchases.

Conventionally produced animal products include all food products that contain animal derived (i.e. meat, fish, egg, dairy) ingredients that have not been verified to be sustainably produced. Sustainably produced animal products have been either:

• Third party verified to be ecologically sound and/or humane (see OP 6: Food and Beverage Purchasing)

  Or

• Verified by the institution to be both ecologically sound and humane (e.g. “Pasture Raised”, “Grass Fed” or “Humanely Raised”) through a relationship with a local producer

Part 2

Institution:

• Offers diverse, complete-protein vegan options at all meals in at least one dining facility on campus

  And

• Provides labels and/or signage that distinguishes between vegan, vegetarian (not vegan), and other items

This credit includes on-campus dining operations and catering services operated by the institution or the institution’s primary dining services contractor. On-site franchises, convenience stores, vending machines, and concessions should be excluded to the extent feasible.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Energy

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are reducing their energy consumption through conservation and efficiency, and switching to cleaner and renewable sources of energy such as solar, wind, geothermal, and low-impact hydropower. For most institutions, energy consumption is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, which cause global climate change. Global climate change is having myriad negative impacts throughout the world, including increased frequency and potency of extreme weather events, sea level rise, species extinction, water shortages, declining agricultural production, ocean acidification, and spread of diseases. The impacts are particularly pronounced for vulnerable and poor communities and countries. In addition to causing global climate change, energy generation from fossil fuels, especially coal, produces air pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, mercury, dioxins, arsenic, cadmium and lead. These pollutants contribute to acid rain as well as health problems such as heart and respiratory diseases and cancer. Coal mining and oil and gas drilling can also damage environmentally and/or culturally significant ecosystems. Nuclear power creates highly toxic and long-lasting radioactive waste. Large-scale hydropower projects flood habitats and disrupt fish migration and can involve the relocation of entire communities.

Implementing conservation measures and switching to renewable sources of energy can help institutions save money and protect them from utility rate volatility. Renewable energy may be generated locally and allow campuses to support local economic development. Furthermore, institutions can help shape markets by creating demand for cleaner, renewable sources of energy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Energy Consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean and Renewable Energy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Building Energy Consumption

#### Responsible Party

**Jacek Ghosh**  
Director of Sustainability  
VCU Sustainability

#### Criteria

**Part 1**

Institution has reduced its total building energy consumption per gross square foot/metre of floor area compared to a baseline.

**Part 2**

Institution’s annual building energy consumption is less than the minimum performance threshold of 28 Btu per gross square foot (2.6 Btu per gross square metre) of floor area per degree day.

Performance for Part 2 of this credit is assessed using EUI-adjusted floor area, a figure that accounts for significant differences in energy use intensity (EUI) between types of building space.

#### Submission Note:

Upon reviewing our submission and the methodology for calculating the scores found in OP Credit 7, Building Energy Consumption, I found what I would consider two inadequacies. First, there is no methodology for normalizing the score based on either monthly or annual temperature changes (heating degree days and cooling degree days). In our case the swing of cooling degree days between the base year of 2005 and the performance year 2011 was significant; rising from 1571 CDD in 2005 to 2047 CDD in 2011, an increase of 23%. This directly affects the energy consumed to cool our facilities.

Second, there is no means to normalize for student population. In our case as a growing University student growth has outpaced the growth of our facilities meaning that our buildings are being used more intensely raising our BTU per square foot.

If either of these two normalizations had been applied to our energy consumption, our reduction in energy consumption would be better represented.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

### Building energy consumption:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total building energy consumption, all sources</strong></td>
<td>1,124,953 MMBtu</td>
<td>774,818.79 MMBtu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource</td>
<td>Performance Year</td>
<td>Baseline Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Grid-purchased electricity for buildings</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- District steam/hot water for buildings</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gross floor area of building space:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross floor area</td>
<td>10,572,966 Gross Square Feet</td>
<td>9,022,822 Gross Square Feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Floor area of energy intensive space, performance year:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space Type</th>
<th>Floor Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory space</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare space</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other energy intensive space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Degree days, performance year:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Degree Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heating degree days</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooling degree days</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source-site ratios:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Source-Site Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grid-purchased electricity</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District steam/hot water</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Start and end dates of the performance year and baseline year (or 3-year periods):**
A brief description of when and why the building energy consumption baseline was adopted:

---

A brief description of any building temperature standards employed by the institution:

We have timers for hot water and HVAC in most buildings.

A brief description of any light emitting diode (LED) lighting employed by the institution:

There is LED lighting in the Virginia Mechanics Institute Building renovation, Cary & Belvidere Residence Hall and all LED lighting in the PPD Administration Building.

A brief description of any occupancy and/or vacancy sensors employed by the institution:

There are more than 200 occupancy sensors that turn off office lights when areas are unoccupied.

A brief description of any passive solar heating employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any ground-source heat pumps employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any cogeneration technologies employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any building recommissioning or retrofit program employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any energy metering and management systems employed by the institution:
VCU uses EnergyCAP Energy Management System. This system helps to track interval data and meter readings, calculate cost avoidance, eliminate billing errors, pinpoint wasteful facilities, streamline energy accounting, budgeting, accruals, and bill payment, generate analysis reports, graphs, and benchmarks and track greenhouse gas emissions.

A brief description of the institution's program to replace energy-consuming appliances, equipment and systems with high efficiency alternatives:

---

A brief description of any energy-efficient landscape design initiatives employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any vending machine sensors, lightless machines, or LED-lit machines employed by the institution:

Vending machine sensors have been installed in the School of Engineering West and all new vending machines installed will also have sensors.

A brief description of other energy conservation and efficiency initiatives employed by the institution:

---

The website URL where information about the institution’s energy conservation and efficiency initiatives is available:

---
Clean and Renewable Energy

Responsibility Party

Carl Beckelheimer
Energy Engineer
Physical Plant

Criteria

Institution supports the development and use of clean and renewable energy sources, using any one or combination of the following options.

Option 1:
Generating electricity from clean and renewable energy sources on campus and retaining or retiring the rights to the environmental attributes of such electricity. (In other words, if the institution has sold Renewable Energy Credits for the clean and renewable energy it generated, it may not claim such energy here.) The on-site renewable energy generating devices may be owned and/or maintained by another party as long as the institution has contractual rights to the associated environmental attributes.

Option 2:
Using renewable sources for non-electric, on-site energy generation, such as biomass for heating.

Option 3:
Catalyzing the development of off-site clean and renewable energy sources (e.g. an off-campus wind farm that was designed and built to supply electricity to the institution) and retaining the environmental attributes of that energy.

Option 4:
Purchasing the environmental attributes of electricity in the form of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) or other similar renewable energy products that are either Green-e Energy certified or meet Green-e Energy’s technical requirements and are verified as such by a third party, or purchasing renewable electricity through the institution’s electric utility through a certified green power purchasing option.

Since this credit is intended to recognize institutions that are actively supporting the development and use of clean and renewable energy, neither the electric grid mix for the region in which the institution is located nor the grid mix reported by the electric utility that serves the institution count for this credit.

The following renewable systems are eligible for this credit:

- Concentrated solar thermal
- Geothermal systems that generate electricity
- Low-impact hydroelectric power
- Solar photovoltaic
- Wave and tidal power
Wind

Biofuels from the following sources are eligible:

- Agricultural crops
- Agricultural waste
- Animal waste
- Landfill gas
- Untreated wood waste
- Other organic waste

Technologies that reduce the amount of energy used but do not generate renewable energy do not count for this credit. For example, daylighting, passive solar design, and ground-source heat pumps are not counted in this credit. The benefits of such strategies, as well as improved efficiencies achieved through using cogeneration technologies, are captured by OP 1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions and OP 8: Building Energy Consumption.

Transportation fuels, which are covered by OP 1: Greenhouse Gas Emissions and OP 18: Campus Fleet, are not included in this credit.

---

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

### Clean and renewable energy from the following sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1: Clean and renewable electricity generated on-site during the performance year and for which the institution retains or has retired the associated environmental attributes</td>
<td>1,399 MMBtu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2: Non-electric renewable energy generated on-site</td>
<td>0.11 MMBtu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3: Clean and renewable electricity generated by off-site projects that the institution catalyzed and for which the institution retains or has retired the associated environmental attributes</td>
<td>0 MMBtu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 4: Purchased third-party certified RECs and similar renewable energy products (including renewable electricity purchased through a certified green power purchasing option)</td>
<td>0 MMBtu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total energy consumption, performance year:**

1,124,953 MMBtu
A brief description of on-site renewable electricity generating devices:

The MCV Campus Steam Plant has a 6.6 kW solar panel array on the south-facing side of the plant’s stack.
A 163 kW solar array on the N Parking Deck.
A 179 kW solar array on the West Broad St Parking Deck.
A 1.2 kW solar array at the PPD Admin Building.
A 2.4 kW solar array at the School of Engineering West.
A 2.4 kW solar array at Larrick Student Center.
A 1 kW wind turbine at the Pollak Building.

A brief description of on-site renewable non-electric energy devices:

A 50 gallon Solar Thermal hot water heater supplies water to Ginter House and a 750 gallon Solar Thermal hot water heater supplies 40% of the water to Shafer Court Dining Center, the main dining hall for the Monroe Park Campus. There is an evacuated glass tube solar thermal installation at Grace St Housing.

A brief description of off-site, institution-catalyzed, renewable electricity generating devices:

---

A brief description of the RECs and/or similar renewable energy products:

We are purchasing clean energy from Dominion for the PPD Admin Building totalling 86,000 kWh annually.

The website URL where information about the institution's renewable energy sources is available:

http://www.energy.vcu.edu/
Grounds

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that plan and maintain their grounds with sustainability in mind. Beautiful and welcoming campus grounds can be planned, planted, and maintained in any region while minimizing the use of toxic chemicals, protecting wildlife habitat, and conserving water and resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Landscape Management

Responsible Party

Paul Thrift
Superintendent of Grounds
Grounds

Criteria

Institution’s grounds include areas that are managed at one or more of the following levels:

1) Managed in accordance with an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan

2) Managed in accordance with a sustainable landscape management program

And/or

3) Organic, certified and/or protected

The level at which an area of grounds is managed may be determined as outlined in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Level</th>
<th>Standards and/or Certifications Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) IPM Plan</td>
<td>IPM plan calls for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Using least-toxic chemical pesticides,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Minimum use of chemicals, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Use of chemicals only in targeted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>locations and only for targeted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2) Sustainable Landscape Management Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The program includes formally adopted guidelines, policies and/or practices that cover all of the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Integrated pest management (see above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Plant stewardship - protecting and using existing vegetation (e.g. through the use of a tree care plan), using native and ecologically appropriate plants, and controlling and managing invasive species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Soil stewardship - organic soils management practices that restore and/or maintain a natural nutrient cycle and limit the use of inorganic fertilizers and chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Use of environmentally preferable materials - utilizing reused, recycled and local and sustainably produced landscape materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hydrology and water use - restoring and/or maintaining the integrity of the natural hydrology by promoting water infiltration, minimizing or eliminating the use of potable water for irrigation, and protecting/restoring riparian, wetland, and shoreline habitats and lost streams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Materials management and waste minimization - composting and/or mulching waste from groundskeeping, including grass trimmings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Snow and ice management (if applicable) - implementing technologies or strategies to reduce the environmental impacts of snow and ice removal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Organic, Certified and/or Protected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protected areas and land that is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Maintained in accordance with an organic land care standard or sustainable landscape management program that has eliminated the use of inorganic fertilizers and chemical pesticides, fungicides and herbicides in favor of ecologically preferable materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Certified Organic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Certified under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Forest Management standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Certified under the Sustainable Sites Initiative™ (SITES™) and/or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Managed specifically for carbon sequestration (as documented in policies, land management plans or the equivalent)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Land that meets multiple criteria should not be double-counted. An area of grounds that does not meet the standards specified for a particular management level should be reported at the next appropriate level for which it does meet the standards. For example, a landscape management program that includes an IPM plan and meets some, but not all, of the other standards listed for a sustainable landscape management plan should be reported at level 1 (IPM Plan).

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field
**Figures required to calculate the total area of managed grounds:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total campus area</strong></td>
<td>719 Acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Footprint of the institution's buildings</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Area of undeveloped land, excluding any protected areas</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area of managed grounds that is:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed in accordance with an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan</strong></td>
<td>493 Acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed in accordance with a sustainable landscape management program that includes an IPM plan and otherwise meets the criteria outlined</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed organically, third party certified and/or protected</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A copy of the IPM plan:**

---

**The IPM plan:**

The Exterior Integrated Pest Management Plan is used at the Walter L. Rice Education Building located on the Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Use of this plan is limited to the Walter L. Rice Education Building and the surrounding landscape area within the designated LEED boundary. The objective of this plan is to minimize the impact of site management practices on the local ecosystem.

**A brief summary of the institution’s approach to sustainable landscape management:**

---

**A brief description of how the institution protects and uses existing vegetation, uses native and ecologically appropriate plants, and controls and manages invasive species:**
VCU chooses plants whose cultural requirements are matched to site conditions. This includes native plants when possible. VCU avoids planting non-native invasive species. VCU strives to increase biodiversity. Many factors influence plant selection including aesthetics, maintenance requirements, space availability, susceptibility to disease, etc.

A brief description of the institution’s landscape materials management and waste minimization policies and practices:

VCU composts leaves and woody debris. VCU does not compost grass clippings because lawn mowers mulch the clippings. The grounds crew picks up the composting materials and transports them back to the recycling center drop-off location. The composting materials are then picked up by ACE Recycling and transported to the City’s composting center.

A brief description of the institution’s organic soils management practices:

---

A brief description of the institution’s use of environmentally preferable materials in landscaping and grounds management:

---

A brief description of how the institution restores and/or maintains the integrity of the natural hydrology of the campus:

---

A brief description of how the institution reduces the environmental impacts of snow and ice removal (if applicable):

The VCU Rice Center uses environmentally friendly options for snow and ice removal. VCU is also exploring alternative options for the main campus.

A brief description of any certified and/or protected areas:

---

Is the institution recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation’s Tree Campus USA program (if applicable)?:

No

The website URL where information about the institution’s sustainable landscape management programs and practices is available:

---
Biodiversity

Criteria

The institution conducts one or both of the following:

• An assessment to identify endangered and vulnerable species (including migratory species) with habitats on institution-owned or -managed land
  
  And/or

• An assessment to identify environmentally sensitive areas on institution-owned or -managed land

The institution has plans or programs in place to protect or positively affect the species, habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas identified.

Assessments conducted and programs adopted by other entities (e.g. government, university system, NGO) may count for this credit as long as the assessments and programs apply to and are followed by the institution.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Purchasing

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are using their purchasing power to help build a sustainable economy. Collectively, colleges and universities spend many billions of dollars on goods and services annually. Each purchasing decision represents an opportunity for institutions to choose environmentally and socially preferable products and services and support companies with strong commitments to sustainability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronics Purchasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning Products Purchasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Paper Purchasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive and Local Purchasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Cycle Cost Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines for Business Partners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Electronics Purchasing

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase computers and/or other electronic products that are EPEAT registered or meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for electronic products. This can take the form of purchasing policies, guidelines, or directives.

Policies and directives adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution purchases EPEAT registered products for desktop and notebook/laptop computers, displays, thin clients, televisions and imaging equipment.

This credit does not include servers, mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones, or specialized equipment for which no EPEAT certified products are available.

"---” indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an institution-wide stated preference to purchase computers and/or other electronic products that are EPEAT registered or meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for electronic products?:
Yes

A copy of the electronics purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines:
---

The electronics purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines:
---

A brief description of steps the institution has taken to ensure that the purchasing policy, directives, or guidelines are followed:
All computers purchased at the university must be purchased through procurement. VCU Procurement states that Contractors are required to ensure that equipment offered for sale meets the latest EPEAT registration requirements before it is delivered.

**Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on EPEAT registered electronics)?:**  
No

**Expenditures on EPEAT registered desktop and laptop computers, displays, thin clients, televisions, and imaging equipment:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Expenditure Per Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPEAT Bronze</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPEAT Silver</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPEAT Gold</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total expenditures on desktop and laptop computers, displays, thin clients, televisions, and imaging equipment:**  
---

**The website URL where information about the institution's electronics purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines is available:**

Cleaning Products Purchasing

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase cleaning and janitorial products that are Green Seal™ or UL Environment (EcoLogo)™ certified and/or meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for cleaning and janitorial products. This can take the form of purchasing policies, guidelines, or directives.

Policies and directives adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution’s main cleaning or housekeeping department(s) and/or contractor(s) purchase Green Seal or UL Environment (EcoLogo) certified cleaning and janitorial products.

Cleaning and janitorial products include, at minimum:

- Cleaning/degreasing agents
- General-purpose, bathroom, glass, and carpet cleaners
- Biologically-active cleaning products (enzymatic and microbial products)
- Floor-care products, e.g. floor finish and floor finish strippers
- Hand cleaners
- Sanitary paper products, e.g. toilet tissue, facial tissue, paper towels, napkins, and placemats
- Plastic film products (e.g. garbage bags/liners)
- Laundry care products including powder, liquid or pre-measured dosage laundry detergents, stain removers and dryer sheets
- Specialty surface cleaning products and odor removers, including but not limited to: boat cleaning products; deck and outdoor furniture cleaning products; graffiti removers; metal cleaning products; motor vehicle (automotive/tire/wheel) cleaning products; motor vehicle windshield washing fluid; optical lens cleaning products; oven cleaning products; upholstery cleaning products; and other cleaning products sold for specific specialty uses

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an institution-wide stated preference to purchase third party certified cleaning and janitorial products?:

Yes
A copy of the green cleaning product purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines:
---

The green cleaning product purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines:
---

A brief description of steps the institution has taken to ensure that the purchasing policy, directives, or guidelines are followed:

The guidelines are in the Custodial Service Agreement that both of housekeeping service providers are required to adhere to. The guidelines state that if Green Seal or EcoLogo products are available, they must be used.

Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on cleaning and janitorial products)?: Yes

Expenditures on Green Seal and/or UL Environment (EcoLogo) certified cleaning and janitorial products:
268,920.92 US/Canadian $

Total expenditures on cleaning and janitorial products:
268,920.92 US/Canadian $

Has the institution's main cleaning or housekeeping department(s) and/or contractor(s) adopted a Green Seal or ISSA certified low-impact, ecological (“green”) cleaning program?:
---

A brief description of the institution’s low-impact, ecological cleaning program:
---

A copy of the sections of the cleaning contract(s) that reference certified green products:
Green cleaning reference.pdf

The sections of the cleaning contract(s) that reference certified green products:
---

The website URL where information about the institution’s green cleaning initiatives is available:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/
Office Paper Purchasing

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase office paper that has recycled content, is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and/or is certified to meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for paper. This can take the form of purchasing policies, guidelines, or directives.

Policies and directives adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or the university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

Part 2

Institution purchases office paper with post-consumer recycled, agricultural residue, and/or FSC certified content.

"---” indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have an institution-wide stated preference to purchase office paper that has recycled content and/or is certified to meet multi-criteria sustainability standards for paper?:

Yes

A copy of the paper purchasing policy, directive or guidelines:

---

The paper purchasing policy, directive or guidelines:

---

A brief description of steps the institution has taken to ensure that the purchasing policy, directives, or guidelines are followed:

Recycled paper must be purchased except where equipment limitations preclude such use.

Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on office paper)?:

Yes
Expenditures on office paper with the following levels of post-consumer recycled, agricultural residue, and/or FSC certified content:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Expenditure Per Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-29 percent</td>
<td>18,279 US/Canadian $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-49 percent</td>
<td>112,907 US/Canadian $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-69 percent</td>
<td>7,417 US/Canadian $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-89 percent (or FSC Mix label)</td>
<td>0 US/Canadian $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-100 percent (or FSC Recycled label)</td>
<td>6,099 US/Canadian $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total expenditures on office paper: 169,027 US/Canadian $

The website URL where information about the paper purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines is available:

Inclusive and Local Purchasing

Criteria

**Part 1**

Institution has an institution-wide stated intent to support disadvantaged businesses, social enterprises, and/or local community-based businesses.

Support could take the form of giving preference during RFP processes, conducting targeted outreach to these businesses about opportunities to work with the institution, and/or other efforts to increase purchases made from such businesses.

**Part 2**

Institution makes purchases from companies that include disadvantaged businesses, social enterprises and/or local community-based businesses.

Purchases that meet multiple criteria listed above should not be double counted. Food and beverage purchases, which are covered by *OP 6: Food and Beverage Purchasing* and *OP 7: Low Impact Dining*, are not included in this credit.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Life Cycle Cost Analysis

Criteria

Institution employs Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA) as a matter of policy and practice when evaluating energy- and water-using products and systems. Practices may include structuring RFPs so that vendors compete on the basis of lowest total cost of ownership (TCO) in addition to (or instead of) purchase price.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Guidelines for Business Partners

Criteria

Institution has and acts on policies, guidelines and/or agreements that set expectations about the social and environmental responsibility of its business partners. The policies, guidelines and/or agreements require new and/or existing vendors and contractors and/or franchisees to adhere to:

1) Minimum environmental standards and practices defined by the institution, for example as outlined by the institution’s sustainability policies

And/or

2) Minimum standards and practices governing employee wages, benefits, working conditions and rights that are consistent with fundamental International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions.

All enterprises with employees on-site as part of regular campus operations (e.g. contractors and franchisees) and other standing and/or formal business relationships (e.g. regular vendors and contracted services) are included.

Businesses that produce and/or sell licensed articles bearing the institution’s trademarked logo (“licensees”) are not included. They are covered in EN 15: Trademark Licensing.

The credit acknowledges institutional engagement in selecting its business partners and guiding them toward sustainability. Policies, guidelines or practices of the businesses themselves do not count for this credit in the absence of institutional selection criteria and/or guidance. Requiring compliance with existing legislation does not count on its own, but may be included as part of broader requirements that meet the criteria outlined above.

Policies adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or university system) may count for this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Transportation

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are moving toward sustainable transportation systems. Transportation is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants that contribute to health problems such as heart and respiratory diseases and cancer. Due to disproportionate exposure, these health impacts are frequently more pronounced in low-income communities next to major transportation corridors. In addition, the extraction, production, and global distribution of fuels for transportation can damage environmentally and/or culturally significant ecosystems and may financially benefit hostile and/or oppressive governments.

At the same time, campuses can reap benefits from modeling sustainable transportation systems. Bicycling and walking provide human health benefits and mitigate the need for large areas of paved surface, which can help campuses to better manage storm water. Institutions may realize cost savings and help support local economies by reducing their dependency on petroleum-based fuels for transportation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campus Fleet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Commute Modal Split</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Commute Modal Split</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for Sustainable Transportation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Campus Fleet

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution supports alternative fuel and power technology by including in its motorized vehicle fleet vehicles that are:

A. Gasoline-electric hybrid
B. Diesel-electric hybrid
C. Plug-in hybrid
D. 100 percent electric
E. Fueled with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)
F. Hydrogen fueled
G. Fueled with B20 or higher biofuel for more than 4 months of the year

And/or

H. Fueled with locally produced, low-level (e.g. B5) biofuel for more than 4 months of the year (e.g. fuel contains cooking oil recovered and recycled on campus or in the local community)

For this credit, the institution’s motorized fleet includes all cars, carts, trucks, tractors, buses and similar vehicles used for transporting people and/or goods, including both leased vehicles and vehicles that are institution-owned and operated. Heavy construction equipment (e.g. excavators and pavers), maintenance equipment (e.g. lawn-mowers and leaf blowers), and demonstration/test vehicles used for educational purposes are not included in this credit.

Vehicles that meet multiple criteria (e.g. hybrid vehicles fueled with biofuel) should not be double-counted.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total number of vehicles in the institution’s fleet:
251

Number of vehicles in the institution's fleet that are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Vehicles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Fuel Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasoline-electric, non-plug-in hybrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diesel-electric, non-plug-in hybrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plug-in hybrid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 percent electric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogen fueled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fueled with B20 or higher biofuel for more than 4 months of the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fueled with locally produced, low-level (e.g. B5) biofuel for more than 4 months of the year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the institution’s efforts to support alternative fuel and power technology in its motorized fleet:
---

The website URL where information about the institution's support for alternative fuel and power technology is available:
---
Student Commute Modal Split

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution's students commute to and from campus using more sustainable commuting options such as walking, bicycling, vanpooling or carpooling, taking public transportation, riding motorcycles or scooters, riding a campus shuttle, or a combination of these options.

Students who live on campus should be included in the calculation based on how they get to and from their classes.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Total percentage of students that use more sustainable commuting options:

53

The percentage of students that use each of the following modes as their primary means of transportation to get to and from campus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Percentage (0-100)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commute with only the driver in the vehicle (excluding motorcycles and scooters)</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk, bicycle, or use other non-motorized means</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanpool or carpool</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take a campus shuttle or public transportation</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use a motorcycle, scooter or moped</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the method(s) used to gather data about student commuting:

---

The website URL where information about sustainable transportation for students is available:
## Employee Commute Modal Split

### Responsible Party

**Jacek Ghosh**  
Director of Sustainability  
VCU Sustainability

### Criteria

Institution's employees (faculty, staff, and administrators) get to and from campus using more sustainable commuting options such as walking, bicycling, vanpooling or carpooling, taking public transportation, riding motorcycles or scooters, riding a campus shuttle, telecommuting, or a combination of these options.

Employees who live on campus should be included in the calculation based on how they get to and from their workplace.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

### Total percentage of the institution’s employees that use more sustainable commuting options:

17

### The percentage of the institution's employees that use each of the following modes as their primary means of transportation to and from campus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Percentage (0-100)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commute with only the driver in the vehicle (excluding motorcycles and scooters)</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk, bicycle, or use other non-motorized means</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanpool or carpool</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take a campus shuttle or public transportation</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use a motorcycle, scooter or moped</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecommute for 50 percent or more of their regular work hours</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A brief description of the method(s) used to gather data about employee commuting:
---

The website URL where information about sustainable transportation for employees is available:
---
Support for Sustainable Transportation

Criteria

Part 1

The institution demonstrates its support for active (i.e. non-motorized) transportation on campus in one or more of the following ways:

Option A: Institution:

• Provides secure bicycle storage (not including office space), shower facilities, and lockers for bicycle commuters. The storage, shower facilities and lockers are co-located in at least one building/location that is accessible to all commuters.

• Provides short-term bicycle parking (e.g. racks) within 50 ft (15 m) of all occupied, non-residential buildings and makes long-term bicycle storage available within 330 ft (100 m) of all residence halls (if applicable).

• Has a “complete streets” or bicycle accommodation policy (or adheres to a local community policy) and/or has a continuous network of dedicated bicycle and pedestrian paths and lanes that connects all occupied buildings and at least one inter-modal transportation node (i.e. transit stop or station)

And/or

• Has a bicycle-sharing program or participates in a local bicycle-sharing program

Option B: Institution is certified as a Bicycle Friendly University (at any level) by the League of American Bicyclists (U.S.) or under a similar third party certification for non-motorized transportation.

Part 2

Institution has implemented one or more of the following strategies to encourage more sustainable modes of transportation and reduce the impact of student and employee commuting. The institution:

• Offers free or reduced price transit passes and/or operates a free campus shuttle for commuters. The transit passes may be offered by the institution itself, through the larger university system of which the institution is a part, or through a regional program provided by a government agency.

• Offers a guaranteed return trip (GRT) program to regular users of alternative modes of transportation

• Participates in a car/vanpool or ride sharing program and/or offers reduced parking fees or preferential parking for car/vanpoolers

• Participates in a car sharing program, such as a commercial car-sharing program, one administered by the institution, or one administered by a regional organization

• Has one or more Level 2 or Level 3 electric vehicle recharging stations that are accessible to student and employee commuters

• Offers a telecommuting program for employees, either as a matter of policy or as standard practice

• Offers a condensed work week option for employees, either as a matter of policy or as standard practice

• Has incentives or programs to encourage employees to live close to campus

• Other strategies

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
**Waste**

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are moving toward zero waste by reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting. These actions mitigate the need to extract virgin materials, such as trees and metals. It generally takes less energy and water to make a product with recycled material than with virgin resources. Reducing waste generation also reduces the flow of waste to incinerators and landfills which produce greenhouse gas emissions, can contaminate air and groundwater supplies, and tend to have disproportionate negative impacts on low-income communities. Waste reduction and diversion also save institutions costly landfill and hauling service fees. In addition, waste reduction campaigns can engage the entire campus community in contributing to a tangible sustainability goal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waste Minimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Diversion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Waste Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Waste Minimization

**Responsible Party**

Steve Heinitz  
Recycling Manager  
Physical Plant

**Criteria**

**Part 1**

Institution has implemented source reduction strategies to reduce the total amount of waste generated (materials diverted + materials disposed) per weighted campus user compared to a baseline.

**Part 2**

Institution’s total annual waste generation (materials diverted and disposed) is less than the minimum performance threshold of 0.45 tons (0.41 tonnes) per weighted campus user.

This credit includes on-campus dining services operated by the institution or the institution’s primary on-site contractor.

Total waste generation includes all materials that the institution discards, intends to discard or is required to discard (e.g. materials recycled, composted, donated, re-sold and disposed of as trash) except construction, demolition, electronic, hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal and non-regulated chemical waste, which are covered in *OP 24: Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion* and *OP 25: Hazardous Waste Management*.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

**Waste generated:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Materials recycled</td>
<td>1,170.46 Tons</td>
<td>793.25 Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials composted</td>
<td>62.78 Tons</td>
<td>0 Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials reused, donated or re-sold</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials disposed in a solid waste landfill or incinerator</td>
<td>2,798.84 Tons</td>
<td>3,418.29 Tons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figures needed to determine "Weighted Campus Users":

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential students</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential employees</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of in-patient hospital beds</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent enrollment</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent of employees</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent of distance</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>education students</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start and end dates of the performance year and baseline year (or three-year periods):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Year</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline Year</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of when and why the waste generation baseline was adopted:

---

A brief description of any (non-food) waste audits employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any institutional procurement policies designed to prevent waste:

---

A brief description of any surplus department or formal office supplies exchange program that facilitates reuse of materials:
VCU Surplus Property is responsible for evaluating University property that is excess to the needs of faculty and staff to determine if it has potential resale value or should be scrapped. The Surplus Property Manager will then make arrangements with the requester to properly dispose of the excess/surplus property.

**A brief description of the institution's efforts to make materials available online by default rather than printing them:**

The course catalogs, course schedules, and directories are all available online.

**A brief description of any limits on paper and ink consumption employed by the institution:**

There is no free printing program. Students have to pay to print or they can email files to themselves for free or save their files to a disk.

**A brief description of any programs employed by the institution to reduce residence hall move-in/move-out waste:**

The recyclables, including clothing, shoes, furniture, microwaves, TV’s, are donated to CARITAS (a local organization serving the homeless). The non-perishable food is donated to the Central Virginia Food Bank.

**A brief description of any other (non-food) waste minimization strategies employed by the institution:**

---

**A brief description of any food waste audits employed by the institution:**

---

**A brief description of any programs and/or practices to track and reduce pre-consumer food waste in the form of kitchen food waste, prep waste and spoilage:**

---

**A brief description of programs and/or practices to track and reduce post-consumer food waste:**

100% of meals served on campus are trayless since 2008.

**A brief description of the institution's provision of reusable and/or third party certified compostable to-go containers for to-go food and beverage items (in conjunction with a composting program):**

---

**A brief description of the institution's provision of reusable service ware for “dine in” meals and reusable and/or third party certified compostable service ware for to-go meals (in conjunction with a composting program):**
A brief description of any discounts offered to customers who use reusable containers (e.g. mugs) instead of disposable or compostable containers in to-go food service operations:

Upon opening a new location, Dining Services gave all residential students a reusable mug with a discount privilege. Also used is a mug designed by students and when used, this mug is provided with a discount.

A brief description of other dining services waste minimization programs and initiatives:

---

The website URL where information about the institution’s waste minimization initiatives is available:

http://www.vcu.edu/recycling/
Waste Diversion

Responsible Party

Steve Heinitz
Recycling Manager
Physical Plant

Criteria

Institution diverts materials from the landfill or incinerator by recycling, composting, reusing, donating, or re-selling.

This credit includes on-campus dining services operated by the institution or the institution's primary on-site contractor.

This credit does not include construction, demolition, electronic, hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal and non-regulated chemical waste, which are covered in OP 24: Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion and OP 25: Hazardous Waste Management.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Materials diverted from the solid waste landfill or incinerator:
2,067.92 Tons

Materials disposed in a solid waste landfill or incinerator:
2,992.27 Tons

A brief description of programs, policies, infrastructure investments, outreach efforts, and/or other factors that contributed to the diversion rate, including efforts made during the previous three years:

VCU has recycling bins placed around campus, Big Belly Solar Trash Compactors and a larger recycling center for students to drop off. VCU promotes recycling through special events such as: America Recycles Day, November 15th each year, RecycleMania 8-week event from the end of January the end of March. Earth Day, April 22nd, (Earth Week at VCU). Recycling posters and bins are placed in the Residence Halls. Recycling Guidelines are distributed to Faculty and Staff offices. Our website for general information.

www.vcu.edu/recycling

A brief description of any food donation programs employed by the institution:

ARAMARK donates prior to major academic breaks and at the end of every semester as well as ~ 500 pounds each semester as part of a student waste education initiative.
A brief description of any pre-consumer food waste composting program employed by the institution:

VCU started composting on the Monroe Park Campus’s main dining center, Shafer Court Dining Center. Approximately 3,000 pounds of compost per week will be picked up and transported to an off-site composting facility.

A brief description of any post-consumer food waste composting program employed by the institution:

ARAMARK has contracted with Natural Organic Process Enterprises, LLC (NOPE) to pick up organic waste generated at Shafer Court Dining Center twice weekly – approximately 3,000 pounds per week. The organic waste will be delivered to the McGill composting facility located in Waverly, VA. McGill specializes in composting biodegradable materials from industrial, municipal and agribusiness sources. McGill has been selling premium compost products for over 20 years. ARAMARK has contracted with NOPE until June, 2013.

Does the institution include the following materials in its waste diversion efforts?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper, plastics, glass, metals, and other recyclable containers</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food donations</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food for animals</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food composting</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking oil</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant materials composting</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal bedding composting</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batteries</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light bulbs</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toner/ink-jet cartridges</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White goods (i.e. appliances)</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory equipment</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence hall move-in/move-out waste</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrap metal</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pallets</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor oil</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other materials that the institution includes in its waste diversion efforts:

---
Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion

Responsible Party

Steve Heinitz
Recycling Manager
Physical Plant

Criteria

Institution diverts non-hazardous construction and demolition waste from the landfill and/or incinerator.

Soil and organic debris from excavating or clearing the site do not count for this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Construction and demolition materials recycled, donated, or otherwise recovered:
2,373.42 Tons

Construction and demolition materials landfilled or incinerated:
170.36 Tons

A brief description of programs, policies, infrastructure investments, outreach efforts, and/or other factors that contributed to the diversion rate for construction and demolition waste:

Construction contracts specify that they must recycle all applicable materials through a qualified construction and demolition recycling facility. The contractors handle all of the construction and demolition recycling and report the weights to VCU.
Hazardous Waste Management

Responsible Party

Steve Heinitz
Recycling Manager
Physical Plant

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has strategies in place to safely dispose of all hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal, and non-regulated chemical waste and seeks to minimize the presence of these materials on campus.

Part 2

Institution has a program in place to recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish electronic waste generated by the institution and/or its students. Institution takes measures to ensure that the electronic waste is recycled responsibly, for example by using a recycler certified under the e-Stewards and/or R2 standards.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have strategies in place to safely dispose of all hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal, and non-regulated chemical waste and seek to minimize the presence of these materials on campus?:
Yes

A brief description of steps taken to reduce hazardous, special (e.g. coal ash), universal, and non-regulated chemical waste:
Reduce the amount of chemicals ordered to decrease chemical waste. Label all chemical waste containers appropriately. Consolidate compatible chemical waste. Do not let wastes accumulate. Do not abandon labs with chemical wastes left behind. Consult OHES if a new research project is going to begin that will generate large quantities of waste.

A brief description of how the institution safely disposes of hazardous, universal, and non-regulated chemical waste:
Protocols have been developed which instruct, in a step-by-step process, how chemical waste is to be disposed of on both campuses of the university. These protocols are listed in Section XIV (Medical Campus) and Section XV (Academic Campus) of the Environmental Health & Safety Program for Chemical Waste Management.

A brief description of any significant hazardous material release incidents during the previous three years, including volume, impact and response/remediation:
A brief description of any inventory system employed by the institution to facilitate the reuse or redistribution of laboratory chemicals:

---

Does the institution have or participate in a program to responsibly recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish all electronic waste generated by the institution?:
Yes

Does the institution have or participate in a program to responsibly recycle, reuse, and/or refurbish electronic waste generated by students?:
Yes

A brief description of the electronic waste recycling program(s):
Computers, hard drives, keyboards, monitors, fax machines, printers, scanners and microwaves can all be recycled through the E-Waste recycling program. Departments need to surplus these items prior to them be accepted for recycling and the recycling team will come and pick up the materials.

A brief description of steps taken to ensure that e-waste is recycled responsibly, workers’ basic safety is protected, and environmental standards are met:
All of the E-Waste on campus is collected by the recycling team. The E-Waste is stored in the surplus property warehouse until the certified E-Waste recycling company picks it up.

The website URL where information about the institution’s hazardous and electronic-waste recycling programs is available:
---
This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are conserving water, making efforts to protect water quality and treating water as a resource rather than a waste product. Pumping, delivering, and treating water is a major driver of energy consumption, so institutions can help reduce energy use and the greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy generation by conserving water. Likewise, conservation, water recycling and reuse, and effective rainwater management practices are important in maintaining and protecting finite groundwater supplies. Water conservation and effective rainwater and wastewater management also reduce the need for effluent discharge into local surface water supplies, which helps improve the health of local water ecosystems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wastewater Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Water Use

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has reduced its potable water use per weighted campus user compared to a baseline.

Part 2

Institution has reduced its potable water use per gross square foot/metre of floor area compared to a baseline.

Part 3

Institution has reduced its total water use (potable + non-potable) per acre/hectare of vegetated grounds compared to a baseline.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Level of water risk for the institution’s main campus:

---

Total water use:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total water use</td>
<td>280,831,000 Gallons</td>
<td>403,614,000 Gallons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Potable water use:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potable water use</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures needed to determine "Weighted Campus Users":

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential students</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential employees</td>
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<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of in-patient hospital beds</td>
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<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent enrollment</td>
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<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent of employees</td>
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<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalent of distance education students</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gross floor area of building space:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross floor area</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area of vegetated grounds:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Performance Year</th>
<th>Baseline Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vegetated grounds</td>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Start and end dates of the performance year and baseline year (or three-year periods):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Year</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline Year</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A brief description of when and why the water use baseline was adopted:**

---

**Water recycled/reused on campus, performance year:**

---
Recycled/reused water withdrawn from off-campus sources, performance year:

---

A brief description of any water recovery and reuse systems employed by the institution:

Rainwater is collected and stored in a 12,000 gallon cistern and is used for landscape irrigation at the Cary Street Gym on the Monroe Park Campus. Rainwater is also captured for irrigation at the VCU Rice Center.

A brief description of any water metering and management systems employed by the institution:

There are water consumption meters for most of the buildings owned and operated by VCU.

A brief description of any building retrofit practices employed by the institution, e.g. to install high efficiency plumbing fixtures and fittings:

---

A brief description of any policies or programs employed by the institution to replace appliances, equipment and systems with water-efficient alternatives:

---

A brief description of any water-efficient landscape design practices employed by the institution (e.g. xeriscaping):

Green Unity completed a two phase stormwater awareness and management project called "Gardens 4 Life". The first phase involved replacing existing evergreen vegetation in beds at the Trani Center for Life Sciences with indigenous plants (xeriscaping or “bayscaping” aka landscaping for the Chesapeake Bay). The second phase was the creation of a “rain garden,” in the courtyard of the Grace E Harris Building. The rain garden is a landscaped depression surrounded by berms and filled with native plants. The plants filter and clean rainwater runoff from walkways and roofs, reducing pollution going into the Chesapeake Bay.

A brief description of any weather-informed irrigation technologies employed by the institution:

VCU has rain-sensors installed in some of the irrigation systems on campus.

A brief description of other water conservation and efficiency strategies employed by the institution:

---

The website URL where information about the institution’s water conservation and efficiency initiatives is available:

http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/initiatives/water.html
Rainwater Management

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution uses Low Impact Development (LID) practices as a matter of policy or standard practice to reduce rainwater/stormwater runoff volume and improve outgoing water quality for new construction, major renovation, and other projects that increase paved surface area on campus or otherwise significantly change the campus grounds.

The policy, plan, and/or strategies cover the entire campus. While the specific strategies or practices adopted may vary depending on project type and location, this credit is reserved for institutions that mitigate rainwater runoff impacts consistently during new construction. Implementing a strategy or strategies for only one new development project is not sufficient for Part 1 of this credit.

Part 2

Institution has adopted a rainwater/stormwater management policy, plan, and/or strategies that mitigate the rainwater runoff impacts of ongoing campus operations and treat rainwater as a resource rather than as a waste product.

The policy, plan, and/or strategies address both the quantity and quality (or contamination level) of rainwater runoff through the use of green infrastructure. Though specific practices adopted may vary across the campus, the policy, plan, and/or strategies cover the entire institution. Implementing strategies for only one building or area of campus is not sufficient for Part 2 of this credit.

Policies adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. state government or the university system) may count for both parts of this credit as long as the policies apply to and are followed by the institution.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution use Low Impact Development (LID) practices as a matter of policy or standard practice to reduce rainwater/stormwater runoff volume and improve outgoing water quality for new construction, major renovation, and other projects?:

Yes

A brief description of the institution’s Low Impact Development (LID) practices:

VCU has installed vegetated roofs, porous pavement, retention ponds, bayscaping, a rain garden, and a 2,500-square-foot bioretention area to control the quality and quantity of stormwater on campus.
Has the institution adopted a rainwater/stormwater management policy, plan, or strategies that mitigate the rainwater runoff impacts of ongoing campus operations through the use of green infrastructure? : 
Yes

A brief description of the institution’s rainwater/stormwater management policy, plan, and/or strategies for ongoing campus operations:

---

A brief description of any rainwater harvesting employed by the institution:

---

Rainwater harvested directly and stored/used by the institution, performance year:

---

A brief description of any rainwater filtering systems employed by the institution to treat water prior to release:

---

A brief description of any living or vegetated roofs on campus:

The Molecular Medicine Research Building has a vegetated roof that captures rain water and is also an exterior sitting space. The VCU Rice Center has a vegetated roof that captures rain water and filters it before it is captured in cisterns. The Pollak Building on the Monroe Park Campus has a vegetated roof that is accessible to students.

A brief description of any porous (i.e. permeable) paving employed by the institution:

At the VCU Rice Center, plastic honeycomb grid, stoned topped has been installed.

A brief description of any downspout disconnection employed by the institution:

---

A brief description of any rain gardens on campus:

---

A brief description of any stormwater retention and/or detention ponds employed by the institution:

There are two retention ponds at the VCU Rice Center. The vegetated bio-retention cells clean the water before it percolates into the soil.
A brief description of any bioswales on campus (vegetated, compost or stone):

---

A brief description of any other rainwater management technologies or strategies employed by the institution:

Rain water cisterns to collect and store roof rainwater for landscape irrigation, a 2,500-square-foot bio-retention area, a prefabricated retention basin to trap solid debris at peak stormwater runoff, and oversized manholes and storm sewer lines to slow peak stormwater runoff.

The website URL where information about the institution’s rainwater management initiatives, plan or policy is available:

http://blogs.vcu.edu/vcugoesgreen/environmental-quality/
Wastewater Management

Criteria

Institution’s wastewater is handled naturally on campus or in the local community. Natural wastewater systems include, but are not limited to, constructed treatment wetlands and Living Machines. To count, wastewater must be treated to secondary or tertiary standards prior to release to water bodies.

This credit recognizes natural handling of the water discharged by the institution. On-site recycling/reuse of greywater and/or blackwater is recognized in OP 26: Water Use.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Planning & Administration

Coordination, Planning & Governance

This subcategory seeks to recognize colleges and universities that are institutionalizing sustainability by dedicating resources to sustainability coordination, developing plans to move toward sustainability, and engaging students, staff and faculty in governance. Staff and other resources help an institution organize, implement, and publicize sustainability initiatives. These resources provide the infrastructure that fosters sustainability within an institution. Sustainability planning affords an institution the opportunity to clarify its vision of a sustainable future, establish priorities and help guide budgeting and decision making. Strategic planning and internal stakeholder engagement in governance are important steps in making sustainability a campus priority and may help advocates implement changes to achieve sustainability goals.

Credit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainability Coordination</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sustainability Coordination

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has at least one sustainability committee, office, and/or officer tasked by the administration or board of trustees to advise on and implement policies and programs related to sustainability on campus. The committee, office, and/or officer focus on sustainability broadly (i.e. not just one sustainability issue, such as climate change) and cover the entire institution.

An institution that has multiple committees, offices and/or staff with responsibility for subsets of the institution (e.g. schools or departments) may earn points for this credit if it has a mechanism for broad sustainability coordination for the entire campus (e.g. a coordinating committee or the equivalent). A committee, office, and/or officer that focuses on just one department or school within the institution does not count for this credit in the absence of institution-wide coordination.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have at least one sustainability committee, office, and/or officer that focuses on sustainability broadly and covers the entire institution?:

---

A brief description of the activities and substantive accomplishments of the committee(s), office(s), and/or officer(s) during the previous three years:

---

Does the institution have at least one sustainability committee?:

Yes

The charter or mission statement of the committee(s) or a brief description of each committee’s purview and activities:

Sustainability is the goal of maintaining a good quality of life for those who presently experience it, while expanding that quality of life to those who lack it; understanding and respecting the needs of future generations and the limits of natural systems within which quality human lives are necessarily embedded and dependent.

Sustainability includes, but is not limited to:

* The recognition of threats to the climate system inherent within the continued introduction of carbon into the atmosphere by human activity, especially through carbon-based energy production and consumption, necessitating action to reduce human carbon footprints, both at the individual, community and institutional levels.
* The identification and reduction of negative impacts from human activity upon human health (e.g., air and water pollution, other exposures to hazardous substances — both long-term and immediate, stress impacts, etc.).
* The identification and reduction of negative impacts from human activity upon ecosystem health (e.g., lost habitat, biodiversity, ecosystem function, etc.).
* The recognition of the finite nature of our resource base; necessitating the reduction, reuse and recycling of materials, the identification and development of renewable resources, and increased efficiency in our use of all resources.
* On-going dialogue among experts, lay-people, leaders and citizens for the purpose of learning more about the nature of these challenges, both from a technical and a human value-based perspective.

Adopted by VCU Sustainability Committee, July 22, 2009

Members of each committee, including affiliations and role (e.g. staff, student, or faculty):

Chair 1 Dr. Beverly Warren - Interim Provost & VP for Academic Affairs
Chair 2 Dr. David Hanson - VP for Finance & Administration
Ms. Barbara Judy - Degree Audit & Edit Administrator
Dr. Catherine Howard - ViceProvost Psychology, Assoc Prof
Dr. Lynn Pelco - Dir of Service-Learning Program Education, Prof
Mr. Camden Whitehead - Interior Design, Associate Professor
Dr. Van Wood - Marketing, Professor
Dr. Jacqueline McDonnough - Teaching and Learning, Assistant Prof
Dr. Jody Davis - Social Psychology, Associate Professor
Dr. Meghan Gough - Urban Studies & Regional Planning, Assistant Prof
Dr. Jason Levy - Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness, Assoc Prof
Dr. Clifford Fox - Assistant Director of Center for Environmental Studies
Ms. Nicole Anderson Ellis - Focused Inquiry, Assistant Prof
Ms. Katharine Rosemond - Exec Dir of Health Sciences Resources & Planning
Dr. Mark Cooper - Chair of Dept of Patient Counseling
Ms. Leyla Peachy - Dept of Human & Molecular Genetics Lab/Research Spec
Mr. John Nantz - VCUHS Sustainability Manager/Stericycle
Ms. Katia Sears - Event Management Assist
Mr. Tom Diehl - Director of Recreational Sports
Mr. Paul Jez - Associate VP for Business Services and Treasurer
Ms. Diane Reynolds -Director of VCU Business Services
Ms. Tamara Highsmith - Manager of VCU Dining Sales & Services
Mr. Paul Walker - Manager of VCU Parking and Transportation
Mr. Brian Ohlinger - Associate VP for Facilities Management
Ms. Joyce Foster - Interior Design Project Manager
Mr. Carl Purdin - Assistant Director of Design Services
Mr. Russell Uzzle - University Planner
Mr. Ed Bennett - Executive Director of PPD/Deputy for FM
Mr. Carl Beckelheimer - Energy Manager
Mr. Jerry Helton - Director of Support Shop & Special Projects
Mr. Steve Heinitz - Recycling & Reuse Coordinator
Mr. Paul Thrift - Superintendent of Grounds
Mr. Jacek Ghosh - Director of Sustainability
Mr. Fayez Dajani - Green Building Services Manager
Ms. Parker Long - Sustainability Assistant
Ms. Jordan Starbuck - Sustainability Coordinator
Mr. Brantley Tyndall - Sustainability Assistant
Ms. Cynthia Andrews - Executive Director for Human Resources
Mr. Ed Gibbs - Director of Procurement & Payment
Ms. Betty Lowther (Alt) - Director of University Purchasing
Mr. Mark Willis - Chief Information Officer
Mr. Samuel Kennedy (Alt) - Assistant Director
Dr. Napoleon Peoples - Assoc Dean of Student Affairs/Dean, Student Affairs MCV
Ms. Allison Patel - Housing Manager
Ms. Leila Ungincius - Public Relations Specialist/Social Media Manager
Ms. Pamela Mason - Center for Environmental Studies, Program Support Tech
Mr. Michael Newsome - Assistant VP for Research
Mr. Benjamin Marshall Brown - Student, MCV Campus
Mr. Wyatt Carpenter - Student, MP Campus
Ms. Kaelyn Considine - Student, MP Campus
Ms. Rachel Elves - Student, MCV Campus
Mr. Mark Hill - Student, MP Campus
Ms. Melissa Lesh - Student, MP Campus
Ms. Alex Little - Student, MP Campus
Ms. Melanie Savia - Student, MP Campus

The website URL where information about the sustainability committee(s) is available:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/about/committee/members.html

Does the institution have at least one sustainability office that includes more than 1 full-time equivalent (FTE) employee?:
Yes

A brief description of each sustainability office:

VCU recognizes the importance of sustainability for our quality of life today and for future generations, and protecting the limits of natural systems. In April 2008, VCU’s president Emeritus Eugene P. Trani, Ph.D., signed the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment, joining more than 600 college and university presidents in a commitment to neutralize greenhouse gases emitted on their campuses. As a signatory, VCU is working to reduce emissions in all areas of campus life — from educational programs and facilities to dining and residential life — as part of its plan to become climate-neutral by 2050.

Full-time equivalent (FTE) of people employed in the sustainability office(s):
7

The website URL where information about the sustainability office(s) is available:
http://www.vcugoesgreen.vcu.edu/index.html

Does the institution have at least one sustainability officer?:

Yes

Name and title of each sustainability officer:
Jacek Ghosh

A brief description of each sustainability officer position:
Staff VCU Sustainability Committee; lead campus efforts to meet requirements of ACUPCC; develop and maintain VCU Sustainability website; work with VCU Recycling to improve recycling; work with VCU Energy Manager and VCU Steam Plant Manager to reduce energy usage across the campuses; participate in Recyclemania and Earth Day; act as advisor and resource to students groups and other VCU departments on sustainability efforts; lead effort to develop and monitor VCU Climate Action Plan; review all construction projects to ensure that the project is being designed to LEED Silver standards; develop signage/information package for all LEED certified buildings; engage organizations external to VCU to encourage their participation in sustainability activities; grantsmanship

The website URL where information about the sustainability officer(s) is available:
---
Sustainability Planning

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has current and formal plans to advance sustainability. The plan(s) cover one or more of the following areas:

- Curriculum
- Research (or other scholarship appropriate for the institution)
- Campus Engagement
- Public Engagement
- Air & Climate
- Buildings
- Dining Services/Food
- Energy
- Grounds
- Purchasing
- Transportation
- Waste
- Water
- Diversity & Affordability
- Health, Wellbeing & Work
- Investment
- Other

The plan(s) may include measurable objectives with corresponding strategies and timeframes to achieve the objectives.

The criteria may be met by any combination of formally adopted plans, for example:

- Strategic plan or equivalent guiding document
- Campus master plan or physical campus plan
- Sustainability plan
- Climate action plan
- Human resources strategic plan
- Diversity plan

For institutions that are a part of a larger system, plans developed at the system level are eligible for this credit.

Submission Note:
This plan is included in as the Climate Plan and as the Sustainability Plan because it does not focus solely on climate change and greenhouse gas reductions, but also focuses on educational opportunities, sustainability research, and sustainability related community engagement opportunities.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have current and formal plans to advance sustainability in the following areas? Do the plans include measurable objectives?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Current and Formal Plans (Yes or No)</th>
<th>Measurable Objectives (Yes or No)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research (or other scholarship)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Engagement</td>
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<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air and Climate</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dining Services/Food</td>
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<td>Energy</td>
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<td>Grounds</td>
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<td>Purchasing</td>
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<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>Waste</td>
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<td>Water</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversity and Affordability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health, Wellbeing and Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Curriculum:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Curriculum plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Curriculum plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Research (or other scholarship):
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Research plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Research plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance Campus Engagement around sustainability:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Campus Engagement plan:
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Campus Engagement plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance Public Engagement around sustainability:
The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Public Engagement plan(s):

---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Public Engagement plan(s):

---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Air and Climate:

---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Air and Climate plan(s):

---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Air and Climate plan(s):

---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Buildings:

---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Buildings plan(s):

---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Buildings plan(s):

---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Dining Services/Food:

---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Dining Services/Food plan(s):

---
Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Dining Services/Food plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Energy:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Energy plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Energy plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Grounds:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Grounds plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Grounds plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Purchasing:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Purchasing plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Purchasing plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Transportation:
The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Transportation plan(s):

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Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Transportation plan(s):

---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Waste:

---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Waste plan(s):

---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Waste plan(s):

---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Water:

---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Water plan(s):

---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Water plan(s):

---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance Diversity and Affordability:

---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Diversity and Affordability plan(s):

---
Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Diversity and Affordability plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Health, Wellbeing and Work:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Health, Wellbeing and Work plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Health, Wellbeing and Work plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in Investment:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the Investment plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the Investment plan(s):
---

A brief description of the plan(s) to advance sustainability in other areas:
---

The measurable objectives, strategies and timeframes included in the other plan(s):
---

Accountable parties, offices or departments for the other plan(s):
---

The institution’s definition of sustainability:
Does the institution’s strategic plan or equivalent guiding document include sustainability at a high level?

A brief description of how the institution’s strategic plan or equivalent guiding document addresses sustainability:

The website URL where information about the institution’s sustainability planning is available:
http://acupcc.aashe.org/cap/627
Governance

Criteria

Part 1

Institution’s students participate in governance in one or more of the following ways:

A. All enrolled students, regardless of type or status, have an avenue to participate in one or more governance bodies (through direct participation or the election of representatives)

B. There is at least one student representative on the institution’s governing body. To count, student representatives must be elected by their peers or appointed by a representative student body or organization.

And/or

C. Students have a formal role in decision-making in regard to one or more of the following:

• Establishing organizational mission, vision, and/or goals
• Establishing new policies, programs, or initiatives
• Strategic and long-term planning
• Existing or prospective physical resources
• Budgeting, staffing and financial planning
• Communications processes and transparency practices
• Prioritization of programs and projects

Part 2

Institution’s staff participate in governance in one or more of the following ways:

A. All staff members, regardless of type or status, have an avenue to participate in one or more governance bodies (through direct participation or the election of representatives)

B. There is at least one non-supervisory staff representative on the institution’s governing body. To count, staff representatives must be elected by their peers or appointed by a representative staff body or organization.

And/or

C. Non-supervisory staff have a formal role in decision-making in regard to one or more of the areas outlined in Part 1.

Part 3

Institution’s faculty participate in governance in one or more of the following ways:

A. All faculty members, regardless of type or status, have an avenue to participate in one or more governance bodies (through direct participation or the election of representatives)

B. There is at least one teaching or research faculty representative on the institution’s governing body. To count, faculty representatives must be elected by their peers or appointed by a representative faculty body or organization.
C. Faculty have a formal role in decision-making in regard to one or more of the areas outlined in Part 1.

Participatory or shared governance bodies, structures and/or mechanisms may be managed by the institution (e.g. committees, councils, senates), by stakeholder groups (e.g. student, faculty and staff committees/organizations), or jointly (e.g. union/management structures).

Structures or mechanisms adopted by entities of which the institution is part (e.g. government or university system) may count for this credit as long as they apply and are adhered to by the institution.

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Diversity & Affordability

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that are working to advance diversity and affordability on campus. In order to build a sustainable society, diverse groups will need to be able to come together and work collaboratively to address sustainability challenges. Members of racial and ethnic minority groups and immigrant, indigenous and low-income communities tend to suffer disproportionate exposure to environmental problems. This environmental injustice happens as a result of unequal and segregated or isolated communities. To achieve environmental and social justice, society must work to address discrimination and promote equality. The historical legacy and persistence of discrimination based on racial, gender, religious, and other differences makes a proactive approach to promoting a culture of inclusiveness an important component of creating an equitable society. Higher education opens doors to opportunities that can help create a more equitable world, and those doors must be open through affordable programs accessible to all regardless of race, gender, religion, socio-economic status and other differences. In addition, a diverse student body, faculty, and staff provide rich resources for learning and collaboration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diversity and Equity Coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessing Diversity and Equity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for Underrepresented Groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for Future Faculty Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordability and Access</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Diversity and Equity Coordination

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has a diversity and equity committee, office and/or officer tasked by the administration or governing body to advise on and implement policies, programs, and trainings related to diversity and equity on campus. The committee, office and/or officer focuses on student and/or employee diversity and equity.

Part 2

Institution makes cultural competence trainings and activities available to all members of one or more of the following groups:

- Students
- Staff
- Faculty
- Administrators

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a diversity and equity committee, office, and/or officer tasked by the administration or governing body to advise on and implement policies, programs, and trainings related to diversity and equity on campus?:

Yes

Does the committee, office and/or officer focus on one or both of the following?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes or No</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student diversity and equity</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee diversity and equity</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the diversity and equity committee, office and/or officer, including purview and activities:
The University Equity and Diversity Committee, which is advisory in nature, is charged with monitoring, reviewing, and recommending to the Provost changes to policies and practices that affect the University's ability to provide equal opportunity and treatment, and to provide a supportive, non-hostile environment for its diverse populations of students, staff, and faculty. An additional role of the UEDC is to provide advice and feedback on the implementation of the Five Year Diversity Plan.

The full-time equivalent of people employed in the diversity and equity office:

5

The website URL where information about the diversity and equity committee, office and/or officer is available:

http://www.diversity.vcu.edu/committee/

Does the institution make cultural competence trainings and activities available to all members of the following groups?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrators</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the cultural competence trainings and activities:

VCU’s Division of Community Engagement and School of World Studies have designed courses to address communication and cultural competency needs. The courses are tailored to address profession-specific needs, i.e., Spanish for medical professionals, Spanish for law enforcement professionals and understanding the Spanish culture.

The website URL where information about the cultural competence trainings is available:

http://www.community.vcu.edu/programs/studies/listing.html
Assessing Diversity and Equity

Criteria

Institution assesses diversity and equity on campus and uses the results to guide policy, programs, and initiatives. The assessment(s) address one or more of the following areas:

1. **Campus climate**, e.g. through a survey or series of surveys to gather information about the attitudes, perceptions and experiences of campus stakeholders and underrepresented groups

2. **Student diversity and educational equity**, e.g. through analysis of institutional data on diversity and equity by program and level, comparisons between graduation and retention rates for diverse groups, and comparisons of student diversity to the diversity of the communities being served by the institution

3. **Employee diversity and employment equity**, e.g. through analysis of institutional data on diversity and equity by job level and classification, and comparisons between broad workforce diversity, faculty diversity, management diversity and the diversity of the communities being served by the institution

4. **Governance and public engagement**, e.g. by assessing access to and participation in governance on the part of underrepresented groups and women, the centrality of diversity and equity in planning and mission statements, and diversity and equity in public engagement efforts

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

**Has the institution assessed diversity and equity in terms of campus climate?:**

Yes

**A brief description of the campus climate assessment(s):**

The report was prepared for the Qualitative Analysis of the Climate Survey Subcommittee of the VCU Equity and Diversity Committee. The Campus Climate Survey included three open-ended questions. A subcommittee of the Equity and Diversity Committee hired a qualitative research consultant who assisted with analysis of responses to these questions.

**Has the institution assessed student diversity and educational equity?:**

---

**A brief description of the student diversity and educational equity assessment(s):**

---

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability
Has the institution assessed employee diversity and employment equity?:
---

A brief description of the employee diversity and employment equity assessment(s):
---

Has the institution assessed diversity and equity in terms of governance and public engagement?:
---

A brief description of the governance and public engagement assessment(s):
---

The website URL where information about the assessment(s) is available:
http://www.diversity.vcu.edu/diversityplan/climatesurvey.html
Support for Underrepresented Groups

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has mentoring, counseling, peer support, academic support, or other programs in place to support underrepresented groups on campus.

This credit excludes programs to help build a diverse faculty throughout higher education, which are covered in PA 7: Support for Future Faculty Diversity.

Part 2

Institution has a discrimination response policy, program and/or team (or the equivalent) to respond to and support those who have experienced or witnessed a bias incident, act of discrimination or hate crime.

Submission Note:

http://www.vcu.edu/eeoaa/pdfs/recruitstrat.pdf

http://www.vcu.edu/eeoaa/index.html

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have mentoring, counseling, peer support, academic support, or other programs to support underrepresented groups on campus?:

Yes

A brief description of the programs sponsored by the institution to support underrepresented groups:

OMSA sponsors two mentoring programs designed to support the academic, professional and cultural needs of VCU’s freshmen and first year transfer students of color to increase retention and graduation rates. OMSA also offers students who need counseling, career and academic advising, and financial assistance direction to appropriate university services.
The website URL where more information about the support programs for underrepresented groups is available:
http://www.omsa.vcu.edu/programs.html

Does the institution have a discrimination response policy and/or team (or the equivalent) to respond to and support those who have experienced or witnessed a bias incident, act of discrimination or hate crime?:

---

A brief description of the institution’s discrimination response policy, program and/or team:

---

The website URL where more information about the institution’s discrimination response policy, program and/or team is available:

---

Does the institution offer housing options to accommodate the special needs of transgender and transitioning students?:

Yes

Does the institution produce a publicly accessible inventory of gender neutral bathrooms on campus?:

---
Support for Future Faculty Diversity

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution administers and/or participates in a program or programs to help build a diverse faculty throughout higher education.

Such programs could take any of the following forms:

- Teaching fellowships or other programs to support terminal degree students from underrepresented groups in gaining teaching experience. (The terminal degree students may be enrolled at another institution.)
- Mentoring, financial, and/or other support programs to prepare and encourage undergraduate or other non-terminal degree students from underrepresented groups to pursue further education and careers as faculty members.
- Mentoring, financial, and/or other support programs for doctoral and post-doctoral students from underrepresented groups.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution administer and/or participate in a program or programs to help build a diverse faculty that meet the criteria for this credit?:

Yes

A brief description of the institution’s programs that help increase the diversity of higher education faculty:

The PFF Program at VCU offers a series of short courses and professional development opportunities for graduate students interested in pursuing careers in higher education. The series is modeled on the national Preparing Future Faculty Program created by the Association of American Colleges and Universities. PFF courses introduce graduate students to the roles and responsibilities of higher education; address teaching, learning and technology issues in the college classroom; and incorporate material on the academic job search and continued professional development. For those students who complete all course requirements, the capstone course is an internship/externship experience during which the student is mentored by a senior faculty member.

The website URL where more information about the faculty diversity program(s) is available:

http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/programs/pff/
Affordability and Access

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has policies and programs in place to make it accessible and affordable to low-income students and/or to support non-traditional students. Such policies and programs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Policies and programs to minimize the cost of attendance for low-income students
- Programs to equip the institution’s faculty and staff to better serve students from low-income backgrounds
- Programs to prepare students from low-income backgrounds for higher education (e.g. U.S. federal TRIO programs)
- Scholarships provided specifically for low-income students
- Programs to guide parents of low-income students through the higher education experience
- Targeted outreach to recruit students from low-income backgrounds
- Scholarships provided specifically for part-time students
- An on-site child care facility, a partnership with a local facility, and/or subsidies or financial support to help meet the child care needs of students

Part 2

Institution is accessible and affordable to low-income students as demonstrated by one or more of the following indicators:

A. The percentage of entering students that are low-income
B. The graduation/success rate for low-income students
C. The percentage of student financial need met, on average
D. The percentage of students graduating with no interest-bearing student loan debt

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have policies and programs in place to make it accessible and affordable to low-income students?:

Yes

A brief description of any policies and programs to minimize the cost of attendance for low-income students:

VCU offers work-study jobs, grants, installment payment plans, loans, scholarships, and veteran benefits for low-income students.
A brief description of any programs to equip the institution’s faculty and staff to better serve students from low-income backgrounds:

VCU human resources offers diversity training to all faculty and staff. This training includes topics of age, class, race, ethnicity, gender, and more.

A brief description of any programs to prepare students from low-income backgrounds for higher education:

Students that demonstrate need are chosen for the work-study program which allows students to work during the semester for funds.

A brief description of the institution's scholarships for low-income students:

Many of the departments offer need-based scholarships including Clinical Laboratory Sciences, School of Medicine, Nursing, Social Work, and Study Abroad, as well as others.

A brief description of any programs to guide parents of low-income students through the higher education experience:

VCU admissions has a website dedicated to helping parents understand and learn how to finance college.

A brief description of any targeted outreach to recruit students from low-income backgrounds:

Our Pathways to Success program is a college preparation series designed to share information with Richmond public high school students about the college selection process that will help them gain a better understanding of the opportunities available at VCU and other institutions of higher education. The program is held twice during an academic year, once in the fall and again in the spring.

We also host a program for Latino high school students and their families entitled Primeros Pasos or First Steps. It is a one-day program designed to motivate and encourage Latino high school students to attend college.

In addition to these programs we also host and welcome campus visit by various outreach organizations, including Project Discovery, AVID and Gear Up. Furthermore, we have established a partnership with the Center for Student Opportunity (CSO), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting higher education opportunities for first-generation and other undeserved college-bound students.

A brief description of other admissions policies or programs to make the institution accessible and affordable to low-income students:

---

A brief description of other financial aid policies or programs to make the institution accessible and affordable to low-income students:
VCU financial aid makes information to students available on grants, scholarships, work-study, veterans benefits and an installment payment plan.

A brief description of other policies and programs to make the institution accessible and affordable to low-income students not covered above:

---

Does the institution have policies and programs in place to support non-traditional students?:

---

A brief description of any scholarships provided specifically for part-time students:

---

A brief description of any onsite child care facilities, partnerships with local facilities, and/or subsidies or financial support to help meet the child care needs of students:

---

A brief description of other policies and programs to support non-traditional students:

---

Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (accessibility and affordability indicators)?:

---

Indicators that the institution is accessible and affordable to low-income students::

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Percentage (0-100)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The percentage of entering students that are low-income</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The graduation/success rate for low-income students</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The percentage of student financial need met, on average</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The percentage of students graduating with no interest-bearing student loan debt</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The percentage of students that participate in or directly benefit from the institution’s policies and programs to support low-income and non-traditional students:
The website URL where information about the institution's affordability and access programs is available:

http://www.enrollment.vcu.edu/
Health, Wellbeing & Work

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that have incorporated sustainability into their human resources programs and policies. An institution’s people define its character and capacity to perform; and so, an institution’s achievements can only be as strong as its community. An institution can bolster the strength of its community by making fair and responsible investments in its human capital. Such investments include offering benefits, wages, and other assistance that serve to respectfully and ethically compensate workers and acting to protect and positively affect the health, safety and wellbeing of the campus community. Investment in human resources is integral to the achievement of a healthy and sustainable balance between human capital, natural capital, and financial capital.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
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<td>Employee Compensation</td>
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<td>Assessing Employee Satisfaction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellness Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace Health and Safety</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Employee Compensation

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Part 1

Institution’s employees and/or the employees of its on-site contractors are covered by sustainable compensation standards, guidelines, or policies and/or collective bargaining agreements.

A sustainable compensation (or “living wage”) standard, guideline or policy is one that addresses wages and benefits in terms of the ability of employees to meet basic needs. For example, a sustainable compensation policy may index hourly wages to a poverty guideline or to local cost-of-living indicators. A labor market survey, salary survey or similar assessment may be used in conjunction with a basic needs/cost-of-living approach, but is not sufficient on its own to count as a sustainable compensation policy.

Part 2

Institution’s employees and/or the employees of its on-site contractors receive sustainable compensation.

To earn points for Part 2 of this credit, an institution must assess employee compensation against one or more of the following:

1. A sustainable compensation standard developed or adopted by a committee with multi-stakeholder representation (i.e. its membership includes faculty, staff, and students and may include Human Resources administrators or other parties). The standard need not be formally adopted by the institution.

2. A sustainable compensation standard that is in use in the institution’s locality. The standard may be formal (e.g. a “living wage” ordinance covering public employees) or informal (e.g. a standard adopted by a local, regional or national campaign).

3. An appropriate poverty guideline, threshold or low-income cut-off for a family of four.

For institutions that elect to assess compensation against a poverty guideline, threshold or low-income cut-off, sustainable compensation is defined as wages equivalent to 120 percent of the poverty guideline for a family of four. An institution may offset up to 20 percent of the wage criteria with employer-paid benefits that address basic needs (e.g. healthcare and retirement contributions).

Both parts of this credit are based on the total number of employees working on campus as part of regular and ongoing campus operations, which includes:

- Staff and faculty, i.e. all regular full-time, regular part-time and temporary (or non-regular) employees, including adjunct faculty and graduate student employees (e.g. teaching and research assistants). Institutions may choose to include or omit undergraduate student workers.

- Employees of contractors that work on-site as part of regular and ongoing campus operations. Such contractors may include, but are not limited to, providers of dining/catering, cleaning/janitorial, maintenance, groundskeeping, transportation, and retail services.

Construction and demolition crews and other temporary contracted employees may be excluded.
"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Number of employees:
---

Number of staff and faculty covered by sustainable compensation standards, guidelines, or policies; and/or collective bargaining agreements:
---

Does the institution have employees of contractors working on-site as part of regular and ongoing campus operations?:
---

Number of employees of contractors working on campus:
---

Number of employees of contractors covered by sustainable compensation standards, guidelines, or policies and/or collective bargaining agreements:
---

A brief description of the sustainable compensation standards, guidelines, or policies; and/or collective bargaining agreements covering staff, faculty and/or employees of contractors:
---

Does the institution wish to pursue Part 2 of this credit (assessing employee compensation)?:
---

Number of staff and faculty that receive sustainable compensation:
---

Number of employees of contractors that receive sustainable compensation:
---

A brief description of the standard(s) against which compensation was assessed:
---

A brief description of the compensation (wages and benefits) provided to the institution’s lowest paid regular,
full-time employees:

---

A brief description of the compensation (wages and benefits) provided to the institution’s lowest paid regular, part-time employees:

---

A brief description of the compensation (wages and benefits) provided to the institution’s lowest paid temporary (non-regular) staff:

---

A brief description of the compensation (wages and benefits) provided to the institution’s lowest paid temporary (non-regular, adjunct or contingent) faculty:

---

A brief description of the compensation (wages and benefits) provided to the institution’s lowest paid student employees (graduate and/or undergraduate, as applicable):

---

The local legal minimum hourly wage for regular employees:

---

Does the institution have an on-site child care facility, partner with a local facility, and/or provide subsidies or financial support to help meet the child care needs of faculty and staff?:

Yes

Does the institution offer a socially responsible investment option for retirement plans?:

Yes

The website URL where information about the institution’s sustainable compensation policies and practices is available:

http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+40.1-28.10
Assessing Employee Satisfaction

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution conducts a survey or other evaluation that allows for anonymous feedback to measure employee satisfaction and engagement. The survey or equivalent may be conducted institution-wide or may be done by individual departments or divisions. The evaluation addresses (but is not limited to) the following areas:

- Job satisfaction
- Learning and advancement opportunities
- Work culture and work/life balance

The institution has a mechanism in place to address issues raised by the evaluation.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Has the institution conducted an employee satisfaction and engagement survey or other evaluation that meets the criteria for this credit?:

Yes

The percentage of employees (staff and faculty) assessed, directly or by representative sample:

---

A brief description of the institution’s methodology for evaluating employee satisfaction and engagement:

In 2007 VCU administered a Climate Survey with the purpose of assessing the attitudes, behaviors, standards and perceptions associated with a climate that offers equal opportunities for students, faculty, and staff from all backgrounds and an environment free from discrimination.

A brief description of the mechanism(s) by which the institution addresses issues raised by the evaluation (including examples from the previous three years):

---

The year the employee satisfaction and engagement evaluation was last administered:

2,007
The website URL where information about the institution’s employee satisfaction and engagement assessment is available:

http://www.vcu.edu/eeoaa/uedc.html
Wellness Program

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has a wellness and/or employee assistance program that makes available counseling, referral, and wellbeing services to all members of any of the following groups:

- Students
- Staff
- Faculty

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution make counseling, referral, and wellbeing services available to all members of the following groups?:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A brief description of the institution’s wellness and/or employee assistance program(s):

The program seeks to improve the physical, mental, emotional, and social health and well-being of VCU faculty and staff, reduce and prevent health risks and build – and expand on – current programs. The program offers physical, nutritional, recreational and social, financial and career, and mental and emotional wellness resources.

The website URL where information about the institution's wellness program(s) is available:
http://www.hr.vcu.edu/wellness/health.html
Workplace Health and Safety

Criteria

Part 1

Institution has reduced its total number of reportable workplace injuries and occupational disease cases per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee compared to a baseline.

Part 2

Institution has fewer than 5 reportable workplace injuries and occupational disease cases annually per 100 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees.

This credit includes employees of contractors working on-site for whom the institution is liable for workplace safety, for example workers for whom the institution is mandated to report injuries and disease cases by a health and safety authority such as the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) or the Canadian Center for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS). Injuries and disease cases include OSHA/CCOHS-reportable fatal and non-fatal injuries (or the equivalent) arising out of or in the course of work and cases of diseases arising from a work-related injury or the work situation or activity (e.g. exposure to harmful chemicals, stress, ergonomic issues). See Sampling and Data Standards, below, for further guidance on reporting injuries and disease cases.

This credit was marked as Not Pursuing so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
**Investment**

This subcategory seeks to recognize institutions that make investment decisions that promote sustainability. Most institutions invest some of their assets in order to generate income. Together, colleges and universities invest hundreds of billions of dollars. Schools with transparent and democratic investment processes promote accountability and engagement by the campus and community. Furthermore, institutions can support sustainability by investing in companies and funds that, in addition to providing a strong rate of return, are committed to social and environmental responsibility. Investing in these industries also supports the development of sustainable products and services. Finally, campuses can engage with the businesses in which they are invested in order to promote sustainable practices.

Throughout this subcategory, the term “sustainable investment” is inclusive of socially responsible, environmentally responsible, ethical, impact, and mission-related investment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Committee on Investor Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Disclosure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Committee on Investor Responsibility

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution has a formally established and active committee on investor responsibility (CIR) or similar body that makes recommendations to fund decision-makers on socially and environmentally responsible investment opportunities across asset classes, including proxy voting. The body has multi-stakeholder representation, which means its membership includes faculty, staff, and students and may include alumni, trustees, and/or other parties.

Institutions for which investments are handled by the university system and/or a separate foundation of the institution should report on the investment policies and activities of those entities.

A general committee that oversees the institution’s investments does not count for this credit unless social and environmental responsibility is an explicit part of its mission and/or agenda.

This credit applies to institutions with endowments of US $1 million or larger. Institutions with endowments totaling less than US $1 million may choose to omit this credit.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution have a formally established and active committee on investor responsibility (CIR) or similar body that has multi-stakeholder representation and otherwise meets the criteria for this credit?:

---

The charter or mission statement of the CIR or other body which reflects social and environmental concerns or a brief description of how the CIR is tasked to address social and environmental concerns:

---

Members of the CIR, including affiliations and role (e.g. student, faculty, alumni):

---

Examples of CIR actions during the previous three years:

---

The website URL where information about the CIR is available:
Sustainable Investment

Criteria

There are two possible approaches to this credit; institutions may pursue one or both. Institutions for which investments are handled by the university system, a separate foundation of the institution and/or a management company contracted by the institution should report on the combined activities of those entities.

Option 1: Positive Sustainability Investment

Institution invests in one or more of the following:

- **Sustainable industries** (e.g. renewable energy or sustainable forestry). This may include any investment directly in an entire industry sector as well as holdings of companies whose entire business is sustainable (e.g. a manufacturer of wind turbines).

- **Businesses selected for exemplary sustainability performance** (e.g. using criteria specified in a sustainable investment policy). This includes investments made, at least in part, because of a company's social or environmental performance. Existing stock in a company that happens to have socially or environmentally responsible practices should not be included unless the investment decision was based, at least in part, on the company's sustainability performance.

- **Sustainability investment funds** (e.g. a renewable energy or impact investment fund). This may include any fund with a mission of investing in a sustainable sector or industry (or multiple sectors), as well as any fund that is focused on purchasing bonds with sustainable goals.

- **Community development financial institutions** (CDFI) or the equivalent (including funds that invest primarily in CDFIs or the equivalent).

- **Socially responsible mutual funds with positive screens** (or the equivalent). Investment in a socially responsible fund with only negative screens (i.e. one that excludes egregious offenders or certain industries, such as tobacco or weapons manufacturing) does not count for Option 1.

- **Green revolving loan funds** that are funded from the endowment

Option 2: Investor Engagement

Institution has policies and/or practices that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Has a publicly available sustainable investment policy (e.g. to consider the social and/or environmental impacts of investment decisions in addition to financial considerations)

- Uses its sustainable investment policy to select and guide investment managers

- Has engaged in proxy voting to promote sustainability, either by its CIR or other committee or through the use of guidelines, during the previous three years

- Has filed or co-filed one or more shareholder resolutions that address sustainability or submitted one or more letters about social or environmental responsibility to a company in which it holds investments, during the previous three years

- Has a publicly available investment policy with negative screens, for example to prohibit investment in an industry (e.g. tobacco or weapons manufacturing) or participate in a divestment effort (e.g. targeting fossil fuel production or human rights violations)

- Engages in policy advocacy by participating in investor networks (e.g. Principles for Responsible Investment, Investor Network on Climate Risk, Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility) and/or engages in inter-organizational collaborations to share best practices

This credit was marked as **Not Pursuing** so Reporting Fields will not be displayed.
Investment Disclosure

Responsible Party

Jacek Ghosh
Director of Sustainability
VCU Sustainability

Criteria

Institution makes a snapshot of its investment holdings available to the public, including the amount invested in each fund and/or company and proxy voting records. The snapshot of holdings is updated at least once per year.

Institutions for which investments are handled by the university system, a separate foundation of the institution and/or a management company contracted by the institution should report on the combined activities of those entities.

"---" indicates that no data was submitted for this field

Does the institution make a snapshot of its investment holdings available to the public?:
Yes

The percentage of the total investment pool included in the snapshot of investment holdings:
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A copy of the investment holdings snapshot:
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The website URL where the holdings snapshot is publicly available:
Innovation

These credits recognize institutions that are seeking innovative solutions to sustainability challenges and demonstrating sustainability leadership in ways that are not otherwise captured by STARS.

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Innovation 1

Criteria

1. Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, ground-breaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.
2. In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as other STARS credits.
3. Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution’s region or institution type are eligible for innovation credits.
4. The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome must have occurred within the three years prior to the anticipated date of submission.
5. The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.
6. The innovative practice or program should originate from an area within the defined institutional boundary.
7. An institution can only claim a particular activity as an innovation credit once. When re-submitting for a STARS rating, an innovation credit that the institution submitted previously cannot be re-submitted. An institution that has made significant advancements to a project or program that was previously submitted as an innovation may resubmit based on those advancements if the project or program is still considered innovative.
8. Practices, policies, and programs that were once considered innovative but are now widely adopted (e.g. being the first institution to enact a policy 20 years ago that is now common) may not be claimed as innovation credits.
9. Multiple activities or practices whose sum is innovative can be considered for an innovation credit as long as those activities or practices are related. For example, three innovative waste reduction programs in research laboratories could be listed together under a single innovation credit for Greening Laboratories. Listing a series of unrelated accomplishments or events under a single innovation credit is not accepted.
10. While the practices that led to receiving an award may be appropriate for an innovation credit, winning awards and/or high sustainability rankings in other assessments is not, in and of itself, grounds for an innovation credit. When the innovation is part of a partnership, the summary provided must clearly describe the institution’s role in the innovation.

To help ensure that the policy, practice, program, or outcome that the institution is claiming for an innovation credit is truly innovative, institutions must submit a letter of affirmation from an individual with relevant expertise in the associated content area. The letter should affirm how the innovation meets the criteria outlined above.

For example, if an institution claims an innovation credit for water use reduction, the institution might solicit a letter from a hydrologist or a water expert from another campus or organization to verify that the strategy is innovative. An innovation may be affirmed internally by campus personnel who are independent of the policy, practice, program, or outcome. Please note that it is not required that the individual be employed in the higher education sector to submit a letter of verification.

The letter should be specific to a single innovation credit. If an institution is claiming three innovation credits, it would solicit and submit three separate letters, with each letter speaking to the specific innovation credit it addresses.

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Innovation 2

Criteria

1. Innovation credits are reserved for new, extraordinary, unique, ground-breaking, or uncommon outcomes, policies, and practices that greatly exceed the highest criterion of an existing STARS credit or are not covered by an existing STARS credit.

2. In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as other STARS credits.

3. Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution’s region or institution type are eligible for innovation credits.

4. The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome must have occurred within the three years prior to the anticipated date of submission.

5. The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.

6. The innovative practice or program should originate from an area within the defined institutional boundary.

7. An institution can only claim a particular activity as an innovation credit once. When re-submitting for a STARS rating, an innovation credit that the institution submitted previously cannot be re-submitted. An institution that has made significant advancements to a project or program that was previously submitted as an innovation may resubmit based on those advancements if the project or program is still considered innovative.

8. Practices, policies, and programs that were once considered innovative but are now widely adopted (e.g. being the first institution to enact a policy 20 years ago that is now common) may not be claimed as innovation credits.

9. Multiple activities or practices whose sum is innovative can be considered for an innovation credit as long as those activities or practices are related. For example, three innovative waste reduction programs in research laboratories could be listed together under a single innovation credit for Greening Laboratories. Listing a series of unrelated accomplishments or events under a single innovation credit is not accepted.

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Innovation 3

Criteria

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2. In general, innovation credits should have roughly similar impacts or be on the same scale as other STARS credits.

3. Outcomes, policies, and practices that are innovative for the institution’s region or institution type are eligible for innovation credits.

4. The innovative practice, policy, program, or outcome must have occurred within the three years prior to the anticipated date of submission.

5. The innovative practice or program has to be something that the institution has already done; planned activities do not count.

6. The innovative practice or program should originate from an area within the defined institutional boundary.

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Innovation 4

Criteria

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