



FAQ Guide: Enterprise Green Communities and WELL

1. What is the 2026 Enterprise Green Communities Criteria and how does it relate to WELL?

Enterprise Green Communities is a platform for high quality affordable housing in the United States— and the only national green building framework developed explicitly with and for the affordable housing sector. The WELL Building Standard (WELL Standard) is the premier framework for advancing health and well-being in buildings, communities and organizations around the world. With the 2026 Enterprise Green Communities Criteria, we've leveraged the best of both programs and created one path for affordable housing developments in the United States to create best-in-class healthy, efficient and environmentally responsible homes. Projects that achieve certification with the 2026 Criteria will be recognized as certified under both Enterprise Green Communities and the WELL for residential program. The WELL for residential certification program is a verified framework to create healthier, more resilient homes. Learn more at <https://www.wellcertified.com/residential>.

2. If I am associated with an affordable housing project and I want to pursue WELL Certification – or conversely, I want to pursue 2026 Criteria certification – which program should I register with?

If you're an affordable housing project, [register for the 2026 Criteria](#) with Enterprise Green Communities. That is your most efficient one-stop shop for certification with both programs.

3. What is the cost of registration for Enterprise Green Communities?

There is no fee for registration. There is a fee to submit your project for certification review – learn more about [eligibility and requirements](#).

4. How and where does a 2026 Criteria project scorecard get developed and tracked?

Use the [2026 Criteria site](#) to get started with planning your project – take advantage of the editable versions of the 2026 Criteria Checklist there. When you're ready to begin preparing your application for certification review, create an account in the [2026 Criteria certification portal](#); the certification review team will help guide you through the Prebuild and Postbuild phases of certification.

5. Where do 2026 Criteria projects submit documentation and what is the process of documentation review?

There are two phases for certification review. First, the Prebuild stage which occurs before construction begins and second, Postbuild, which occurs once the project is complete. Documentation for each of these phases of review is tracked within the 2026 Criteria certification portal. Take a look at the [Certification Hub](#) for an overview video of the portal, templates to be used as part of your certification application, and the 2026 Criteria to review the requirements.

6. Is there any on-site performance verification necessary to achieve this dual certification? If so, how are they carried out?

Yes, many of the design and construction strategies required of the program are verified through on-site performance tests and inspections. The program has mandatory and optional requirements, and these differ slightly for projects based on construction typology (new construction, substantial rehab, moderate rehab) and whether or not the project is in a rural location. Visit the [certification templates page](#) for full submission and testing details relevant to your project.

7. How is dual certification recognized across both programs? What does the plaque look like? What does brand fulfillment look like?

All projects that successfully meet the 2026 Criteria will receive a PDF certificate recognizing both its Enterprise Green Communities 2026 and WELL Residence Certification achievement. This PDF will include both the Enterprise and WELL marks. Projects can also request a dual certification plaque by submitting a plaque request form through Enterprise's certification portal. Additionally, IWBI will be offering dual-certified projects a full marketing and PR package that includes a template press release and sample social media posts.

8. Is there a recertification process for the Enterprise WELL dual certification?

Certification for the 2026 Criteria is granted to projects that have demonstrated they have met the Criteria in full. Enterprise has worked hard to ensure a strong management plan is enforced in order for projects to become certified, so there is no recertification requirement for the program.

9. Will my project be publicly listed in any project directory – either on [wellcertified.com](#) or [enterprisecommunity.org](#)?

All Enterprise Green Communities 2026 Criteria projects will be listed on the [IWBI Projects Directory](#) under the Residential sector, the Enterprise + WELL project type, and the WELL Residence project status. The Enterprise website does not include a project directory.

10. Does the dual certification apply to single-family residential projects?

Yes, a single-family home can earn the WELL Residence designation if it is certified under the 2026 Criteria; read more about [2026 Criteria eligibility requirements](#).

11. What WELL achievement do I earn through certifying to the 2026 Enterprise Green Communities Criteria?

Projects that earn certification to the 2026 Green Communities Criteria also become a certified WELL Residence. Learn more about the WELL for residential certification program at <https://www.wellcertified.com/residential>.