OP 13: Cleaning Products Purchasing

1 point available

A. Credit Rationale
This credit recognizes institutions that purchase green cleaning and janitorial products. By switching to non-toxic cleaning products, institutions reduce exposure impacts for all building occupants and the environment, thereby promoting clean and healthy work, living, and learning spaces.

B. 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
Institutions outside the U.S. and Canada for whom Green Seal or UL Environment (EcoLogo) products are not widely available may also count products that have been certified to meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for cleaning and janitorial products.

C. Applicability
This credit applies to all institutions.

D. Scoring
Each part is scored independently.

**Part 1**
0.25 points are awarded for Part 1 for having 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. Partial points are not available.

**Part 2**
Institutions earn the maximum of 0.75 points available for Part 2 by purchasing exclusively Green Seal and/or UL Environment (EcoLogo) certified cleaning and janitorial products. Incremental points are awarded based on the percentage of purchased products that are certified. For example, if 50 percent of cleaning product expenditures were on Green Seal certified products, an institution would earn 0.375 points (half of the points available for this credit). Points earned are calculated according to the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Multiply</th>
<th>Expenditures on Certified Green Cleaning and Janitorial Products</th>
<th>Divide</th>
<th>Total Expenditures on Cleaning and Janitorial Products</th>
<th>Equals</th>
<th>Total Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>____</td>
<td>÷</td>
<td>____</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>__________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Enter values as indicated below to calculate points earned for Part 2 of this credit
Points will be calculated automatically when data are entered in the STARS online Reporting Tool.
E. Reporting Fields

Required

- An indication of whether the institution has an institution-wide stated preference to purchase cleaning and janitorial products that are Green Seal or UL Environment (EcoLogo) certified or meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for cleaning and janitorial products.

- An indication of whether the institution wishes to pursue Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on cleaning products).

- An affirmation that the submitted information is accurate to the best of a responsible party's knowledge and contact information for the responsible party. The responsible party should be a staff member, faculty member, or administrator who can respond to questions regarding the data once submitted and available to the public.

Conditional

Required if the institution is reporting an institution-wide stated preference to purchase cleaning and janitorial products that are Green Seal or UL Environment (EcoLogo) certified or meet similar multi-criteria sustainability standards for cleaning and janitorial products:

- The green cleaning product purchasing policy, directive, or guidelines (text or PDF upload)

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

Required if the institution is pursuing Part 2 of this credit (expenditures on cleaning products):

- Expenditures on Green Seal and/or UL Environment (EcoLogo) certified cleaning and janitorial products (or local equivalents for institutions outside the U.S. and Canada) (US/Canadian dollars)

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### Scoring Example: Cleaning Products Purchasing (Part 2)

Example Community College spent $1,000 on cleaning and janitorial products last year. Of that, $850 was spent on Green Seal certified products.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Multiply</th>
<th>Expenditures on Certified Green Cleaning and Janitorial Products</th>
<th>Divide</th>
<th>Total Expenditures on Cleaning and Janitorial Products</th>
<th>Equals</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>÷</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>0.64</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Scoring Example: Cleaning Products Purchasing (Part 2)
Total expenditures on cleaning and janitorial products (US/Canadian dollars) (May exclude expenditures on products for which no third party certified alternatives are available)

Optional
- An indication of whether the main cleaning or housekeeping department(s) and/or contractor(s) have adopted a low-impact, ecological (“green”) cleaning program certified by Green Seal’s Environmental Standard for Commercial Cleaning Services (GS-42) and/or the International Sanitary Supply Association’s (ISSA’s) Cleaning Industry Management Standard for Green Buildings (CIMS-GB)
- 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 (text or PDF upload)
- The website URL where information about the institution’s green cleaning initiatives is available
- Notes about the submission

F. Measurement

Timeframe
Part 1
Report on current policies, directives, or guidelines.

Part 2
Report the most recent data available.

Sampling and Data Standards
Part 1
Report on purchasing policies, directives, or guidelines that apply to the entire institution.

Part 2
Include purchases made by all major housekeeping or cleaning departments, including outsourced or contracted service providers. Expenditures on products for which no third party certified alternatives are available may be excluded.

Institutions may track purchases over a one-year time period or take a representative sample to determine the percentage of expenditures on cleaning products that are certified green. When using a sample, institutions should strive to ensure that the sample recognizes seasonal and other variations that influence purchasing behavior.