

# FACT SHEET: GREEN STAR - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA



A detailed document outlining the current Green Star Eligibility Criteria can be viewed on the GBCA website at [www.gbca.org.au](http://www.gbca.org.au)

## Why have Eligibility Criteria?

There are two main reasons as to why the Green Star rating tools have eligibility criteria.

### 1. Equity

It is important that the project applying for certification is fairly assessed; the project must meet a number of criteria to enable a fair assessment under the different rating tools. These include the correct mix of BCA classes; independence from other buildings; and being in the suitable phase of the building's life.

### 2. Brand value

Green Star certification is a strong brand in the Australian property industry - it represents industry leadership in environmental design and construction. It is important that the strength of the Green Star brand continues to represent strong environmental leadership by only certifying distinct projects. Hence the eligibility criteria require that the project has its own address, entrance and name.

## What are the Eligibility Criteria?

There are four Eligibility Criteria, and all must be met by projects seeking Green Star certification:

1. Space Use
2. Spatial Differentiation
3. Conditional Requirements
4. Timing of Certification

### 1. Space Use

Each Green Star tool targets a particular building type. This Criterion requires that 80% of the project's area is addressed by the chosen tool, to ensure that the rating is meaningful.

### 2. Spatial Differentiation

To ensure brand clarity, only distinct projects, as defined by this Criterion, are eligible for Green Star certification.

### 3. Conditional Requirements

Whenever the chosen Green Star rating tool has Conditional Requirement(s), all of them must be met to ensure that critical environmental issues are addressed.

### 4. Timing of Certification

All Green Star ratings have a cut-off period to ensure that they are relevant when awarded. Projects must ensure that they achieve certification using their chosen tool during the prescribed period.

## How to confirm eligibility?

It is the responsibility of each project team to check the most current Eligibility Criteria on the GBCA website at the time of registration, to ensure that their project(s) is eligible.

Whenever unsure, project teams can request an eligibility ruling from the GBCA by forwarding a brief description of the project, using the Eligibility form, to [greenstar@gbca.org.au](mailto:greenstar@gbca.org.au).

Please note that registration does not guarantee assessment; no project will be assessed if it is deemed ineligible against the Eligibility Criteria current at the time of registration.

The GBCA reserves the right to deny eligibility to any project that is deemed to compromise the Green Star brand, and to revise these criteria to better achieve the goals of the Green Star rating tools.

The registration process for Green Star certification can proceed once the project is confirmed as eligible.

## What to do if deemed ineligible?

The GBCA staff will work with the project team to explore whether the project may be eligible for another Green Star rating tool.

Until the GBCA has completed the Green Star suite of tools, it is possible that some projects may not have a Green Star tool available for their type or class of development at the time of application. To enable these projects to apply for certification when a tool becomes available, project teams are encouraged to use the current Green Star tools to help inform the design, and strive for 'best practice' outcomes for that building type using the Green Star framework.