



Environment

UL GREENGUARD Certification for Furniture

UL GREENGUARD Certification empowers manufacturers to communicate a strong health-based message and indicates that a product contributes to the creation of healthier, more productive indoor environments.

Why GREENGUARD Certification?

Demand for low-emitting furniture has risen significantly over the past decade. This is evidenced by the ever-expanding number of sustainable building programs, codes, procurement policies, and governmental and corporate specifications that now incorporate emissions criteria. GREENGUARD Certification offers manufacturers the opportunity to appeal to this growing market and demonstrate concern for their customers' health and well-being.

Benefits of GREENGUARD Certification

Manufacturers that achieve GREENGUARD Certification are armed with the tools needed to effectively communicate the complex message of low-product emissions to the marketplace. And, they can do it in a highly recognizable, market-friendly way—just by using the GREENGUARD Certification mark. Research shows that GREENGUARD Certification is the most recognized and trusted product emissions certification on the market. In fact, architects, designers, and end users alike consider indoor air quality a key sustainable product attribute.

Compliance with Sustainable Building Codes and Credits

The use of GREENGUARD Certified furniture can help design teams earn points in green building rating systems, satisfy code or ordinance criteria, and meet indoor air quality-specific RFP requirements of nearly 200 programs. Here is an overview of some of the most notable sustainable building programs that recognize or reference GREENGUARD Certification:

LEED for Commercial Interiors/LEED Canada for Commercial Interiors

- IEQ Credit 4.5: Low-Emitting Material- Systems Furniture and Seating

LEED for New Construction/LEED for Core and Shell/LEED for Existing Buildings

- ID Credit: Low-Emitting Material- Systems Furniture and Seating

LEED for Retail: Commercial Interiors/LEED for Retail: New Construction

- IEQ Credit 4: Option E: Furniture

LEED for Schools

- IEQ Credit 4.5: Option 1: Furniture and Furnishings (GREENGUARD Gold Certification)



Participating manufacturers are encouraged to take advantage of UL Environment's comprehensive technical and marketing support. They're also entitled to publish their products in the free online GREENGUARD Product Guide—a trusted resource for specifiers of low-emitting products.

To learn more, visit ul.com/environment or call 1.888.485.4733

LEED for Healthcare

- MR Credit 5: Option 2: Furniture and Medical Furnishings (GREENGUARD Gold Certification)

Green Guide for Healthcare 2.2 (GREENGUARD Gold Certification)

- EP Credit 3.6: Furniture
- EQ Credit 4.5: Furniture

ASHRAE 189.1

- 8.4.2.5: Office Furniture Systems and Seating
- 8.5.2 g: Office Furniture Systems and Seating

Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) (GREENGUARD Gold Certification)

- 2.2.5: Furniture

Australian Green Star - Education

- IEQ Credit 8: Flooring/Furniture

Australian Green Star - Office Interiors

- IEQ Credit 11: Furniture/Wall Systems

Higher Standards. Healthier Air.

The value of a third-party certification is directly linked to the stringency of its standards. Here's a look at how GREENGUARD standards compare to other emissions-based certifications referenced in the furniture industry:

	GREENGUARD Certification	GREENGUARD Gold Certification	SCS Indoor Advantage	SCS Indoor Advantage Gold
Individual Chemicals (VOCs) Addressed	360+ including ACGIH TLVs	360+ CRELS and ACGIH TLVs	3	35 including CRELS
Additional cap on total volatile organic compound (TVOC) emissions	YES – Products screened against 10,000 chemicals and meet TVOC cap to reduce exposure to complex mixtures of chemicals.	YES – Products screened against 10,000 chemicals and meet even lower TVOC cap to reduce exposure to complex mixtures of chemicals.	YES	NO
Certification Maintenance	Ongoing maintenance and re-certification testing	Ongoing maintenance and re-certification testing	Every three years	Unable to determine
Standard Behind the Certification	Standard based on emission criteria established by the US EPA and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Individual VOC limits based on occupational exposure levels with a safety factor of 1/10. Office furniture products required to meet BIFMA X7.1 criteria.	In addition to meeting the US EPA and State of Washington criteria, individual VOC limits are based on occupational exposure levels with a safety factor of 1/100. Products must also comply with the California Department of Public Health Standard Practice (Section 01350).	Standard based on a furniture industry standard.	Standard based on the State of California's product emissions test method, California Section 01350.
Samples Tested	Components and fully assembled products undergo testing.	Components and fully assembled products undergo testing.	Only components undergo testing.	Only components undergo testing.

How to Get Started

For more information on UL Environment's services, visit www.ul.com/environment.

Or, call or write us today:

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