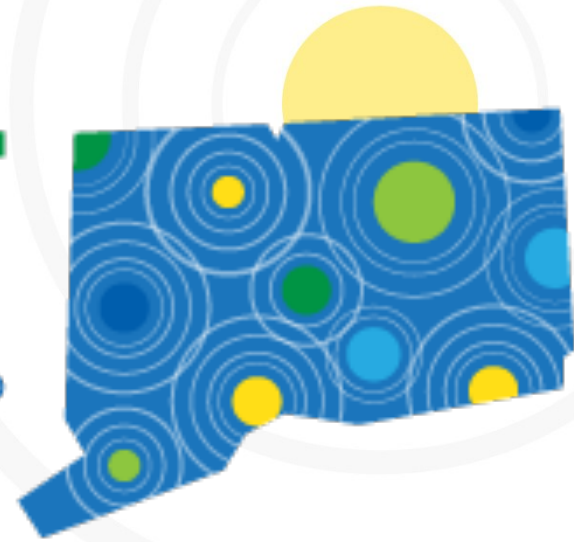


Sustainable CT

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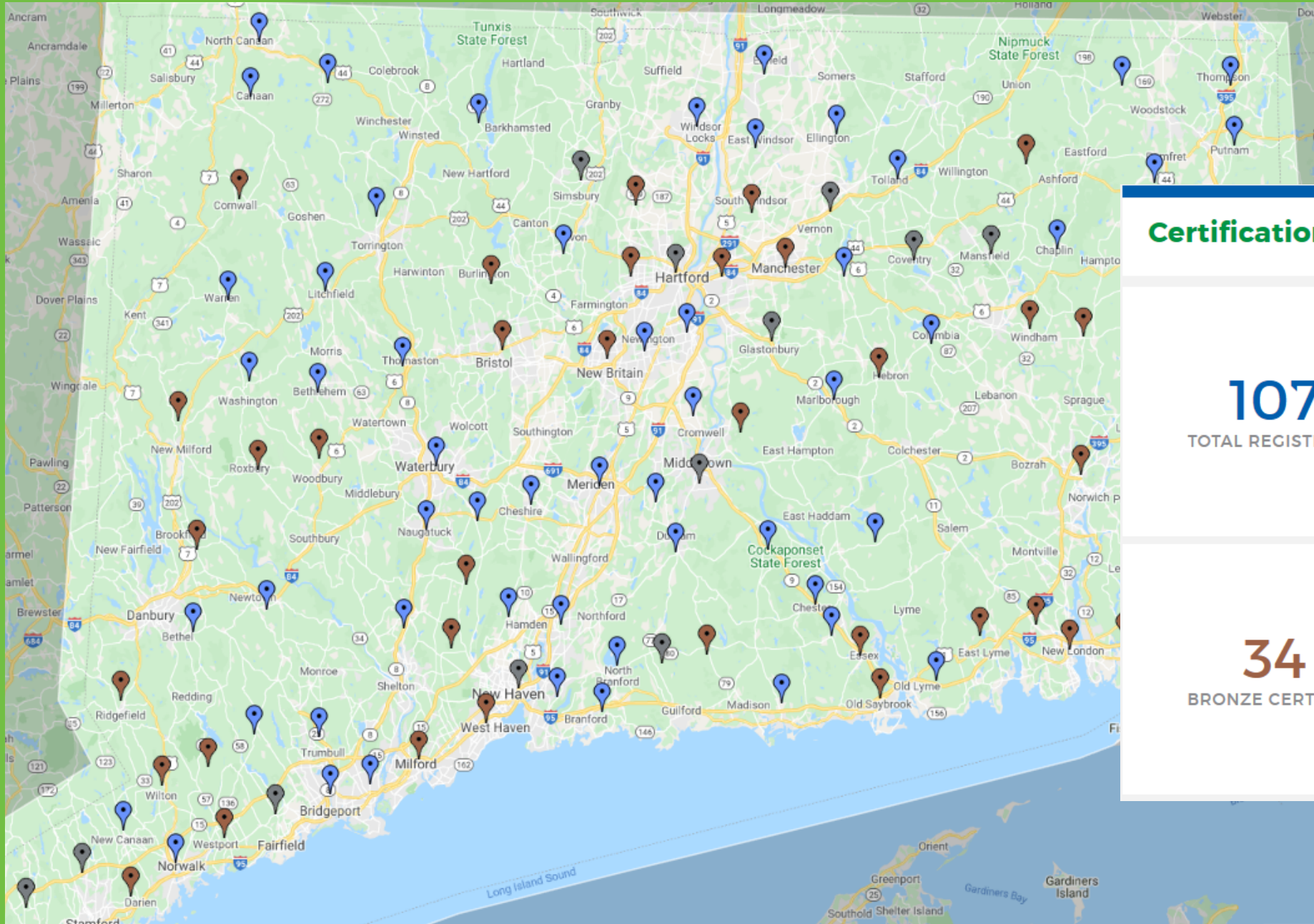
EASTERN
CONNECTICUT
STATE UNIVERSITY

Conversation on Recertification

June 29, 2020

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Participation Update
3. Certification Cycle: Lessons Learned
4. Action Updates
5. Partners Guidance
6. Lookback Period
7. Open Conversation



Certification Program Statistics



107

TOTAL REGISTERED



48

CERTIFIED



34

BRONZE CERTIFIED

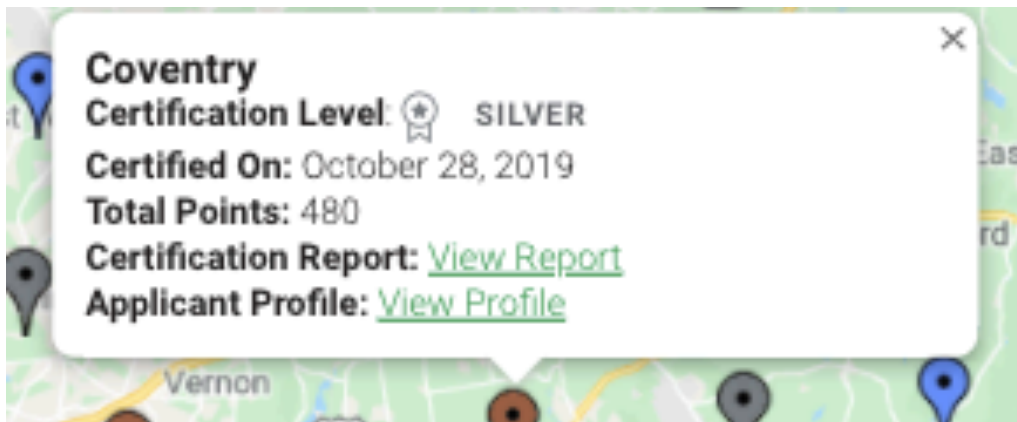


14

SILVER CERTIFIED

Certification

- Certification lasts 3 years (expires December 31, 2021 for communities certified in 2018)
- Early recertification: why?



Move up a level



Stay engaged

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Lessons Learned: Improving Quality

- First year offering two annual opportunities for certification each year (spring and fall), utilizing the existing Round 1 and Round 2 review cycles, while maintaining one annual recognition ceremony, in partnership with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
 - Recommendation implemented from annual report to Board
 - Municipalities can still submit a partially completed application in any review cycle to receive feedback

2020 Certification Timeline and Process

Note: Spring certification deadline will be in March 2021

Submission deadline for spring certification

- April 24

Submission deadline for fall certification

- August 25

Awards presentation at CCM annual meeting of all 2020 certified communities

- December

Comments released; spring certified communities announced; opportunity for staff and Fellows support

- June-August

Comments released; fall certified communities announced; opportunity for staff support

- October-December

Lessons Learned: Improving Quality

- Sustainable CT will limit invitations for post-deadline application revisions to applicants that meet at least 2 of the following criteria:
 - Fewer than 40 points from the certification threshold
 - Missing approved actions in 2 or fewer certification categories
 - Point approval rate of at least 70%

Lessons Learned: More Convenient Feedback

- New, streamlined review process this year to simplify collection of reviewer feedback and sharing back with municipalities

3	Action	Status	Approved Points	Reviewer Comment to Municipality	Success Story?
4	1.1	Approved	60	We greatly appreciate your submission, you've done an excellent job on this application. In total, you were awarded with 60 out of the 80 points requested. Please take a look at the comments and points awarded per action: 15 points are awarded for the brownfields inventory (1.1.1) and 5 points for the map of brownfields (1.1.2). One minor comment regarding the map is that it's not clear if the map has been updated according using the 2019 properties. For future submissions I suggest adding a title to the map including the date/ relevant inventory. 10 points are awarded for the BAR grant that was submitted in 2018 (1.1.4). The Phase II-III report did not gain any points because it was conducted in July 2016 and falls out the period to give credit for this submission. 10 points are awarded for the risk-based cleanup of PCBs (1.1.5). For future submissions, please submit the actual report for the risk-based cleanup and not the screenshot of the website. 5 points are awarded for the public meeting (1.1.6) and 10 points for the town website (1.1.7). In the future, I advise you to add more information on the website and update the BF map but you've done a great start! Finally 15 points are awarded for the remedial activities at 894 Middle Street.	
5	1.3	Approved	20	Thank you for your submission for actions 1.3.1 & 1.3.2. Your submission was very well-documented, and your actions very well-done. I particularly enjoyed looking through the website to see all that Bristol has to offer - very encouraging to support local! With the listings and mapping of businesses and their sectors, you have earned 10 points for action 1.3.1a, 5 points for each of up to two target sectors and 10 points for action 1.3.2, for a total of 20 points. Thank you again for your submission.	Yes

Lessons Learned: Deeper Engagement

- Data partners are creating and/or improving municipal data profiles for improved Sustainability Team decision-making
 - Partnership for Strong Communities/CT Data Collaborative
 - DataHaven
- Municipalities are interested in further cultivating local elected leaders, municipal commissions and committees, municipal staff and community members as knowledgeable ambassadors of their community's sustainability achievements.

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Read full action write-ups in certification year

● 1. Thriving Local Economies	▼
● 2. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources	▼
● 3. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems	▼
● 4. Dynamic and Resilient Planning	▼
● 5. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices	▼
● 6. Efficient Physical Infrastructure and Operations	▼
● 7. Strategic and Inclusive Public Services	▼
● 8. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing	▼
● 9. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts	▼
● 10. Innovation Action	▼

Categories may change!

What's Changed?



REVIEW

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Sustainable CT Actions

Sustainable CT actions are designed with flexibility to meet the varying needs of all municipalities. Each action description below shows [benefit icons](#), action steps, certification points, resources, and Connecticut success stories for 2020 certification submissions. Complete one action in categories 1-9 to be eligible for [Bronze or Silver certification](#). Many actions have variable points, which means there are several ways to complete the action. Achieve any one of the designated point levels within an action to consider it complete.

[Visit the Sustainable CT Archives to view past actions](#)

[Download master list of actions](#)

[Send us your feedback and ideas for new actions](#)

Action Updates

Past Sustainable CT Actions

2018 Archived Actions

A list of actions from the 2018 Certification cycle.

[VIEW LIST](#)

2019 Archived Actions

A list of actions from the 2019 Certification cycle.

[VIEW LIST](#)

2020 Action List

2020 actions will go here upon the 2021 program release.

[VIEW LIST](#)

Action Change Summaries

A year-by-year summary of action changes.

[VIEW](#)

The release of the 2021 program criteria and actions will coincide approximately with the announcement of 2020 fall certified communities (November/December).

Action Updates



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Action Changes Summaries

Sustainable CT makes annual updates to actions, based on your feedback and its ongoing research of best practices. To see the most current action list click [here](#). To see high-level summaries of what's changed from year to year, please click on each of the hyperlinks below. Details of changes can be accessed in the "action revisions" section of each individual action write-up. Questions? Contact info@sustainablect.org.

[2018-2019 Action Change Summary](#)

[2019-2020 Action Change Summary](#)

Action Updates

2019 Action Revisions: Summary

- 1.1.1: As of 2019, the brownfields inventory must be completed in a Sustainable CT provided template with specific information fields
- 1.1.4 (NEW)—
 - Prepare a grant proposal for site assessment or clean-up
- 1.1.8 (NEW)—
 - Remediate a brownfield site and redevelop for productive uses
- 1.3.1: The inventory's retailer information must be provided both in list and map form, and special designations should be given for sustainable businesses
- 1.3.2: Complete a "buy local" campaign discussion worksheet

Action Updates

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A list of actions from the 2018 Certification cycle.

[VIEW LIST](#)

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Action Change Summaries

A year-by-year summary of action changes.

[VIEW](#)

Can look at detailed changes from year to year as well.

Action Updates

Past Sustainable CT Actions

2019 Certification Actions

(Please refer to the [Sustainable CT Action List](#) for the most up-to-date actions)

1. Thriving Local Economies

- [1.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites](#)
- [1.2 Implement Sustainable Purchasing](#)
- [1.3 Inventory and Promote Local Retail Options](#)
- [1.4 Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses](#)
- [1.5 Promote Sustainable Workforce Development](#)
- [1.6 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program](#)

2. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

- [2.1 Provide Watershed Education](#)
- [2.2 Create a Watershed Management Plan](#)
- [2.3 Engage in Watershed Protection and Restoration](#)

Action Updates

5.5 Promote Public Transit and Other Mobility Strategies

5 – 55 Points

Action Updates

This action has been revised for the **2019 certification cycle**. A version of this action from the prior program year is [available for comparison](#). Edits are highlighted in yellow.

Objective

Facilitate enhanced use, better coordination of public transit, and other mobility strategies, like walking and bicycling.

Complementary actions:

- [Implement Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development and Zoning](#)
- [Implement Complete Streets](#)
- [Promote Effective Parking Management](#)

Action Updates

What to Do

The list below is illustrative but not exhaustive. Innovative actions not listed here will be considered, so long as they advance the objectives of this Action. Successful implementation will likely require your municipality's partnership with state and regional entities. In When municipalities collaborate to implement one or more of these actions, each participating municipality will receive points.

The more you do, the more points you earn.

1. Educate residents via existing regional mobility managers, websites, and social media apps, about alternative routes and transportation methods. Your community may also receive points for providing educational materials to residents directly about transit options, routes, schedules, pricing and other information relevant to use. **(5 points)**

Submit: Overview of your outreach (5 sentences maximum) and examples of your outreach and educational materials, such as flyers, articles, letters, and website links.

2. Conduct a bicycle education program that teaches participants how to safely operate their bicycles in varied settings and improve bicycle riding and handling skills. The program should convene for a minimum of 4 hours total, which can be held over multiple sessions. Your municipality may work with one more partner organizations to implement the program. (5 points)

Submit: The name of the program, the dates during which it was held, the number of participants, and a list of the learning objectives for the program.

Action Input



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Action Growth Areas: Long-Range



Housing



Climate Change



Health



Homelessness Prevention

New Action Development

Your Input on New Actions

JULY 07, 2020 - 2:30 PM TO 3:30 PM

[REGISTER AND LEARN MORE](#)

This workshop is an opportunity for towns to learn about new actions and action revisions that Sustainable CT is working on for the upcoming certification cycle and then provide input on the actions being developed. As a program created for towns by towns, we will use this space to summarize new action/revision ideas and then open the floor to towns so we may learn about what works, what doesn't, and any additional ideas and feedback that the program may benefit from.



Lisa Noriega

Intern

ln2431@bard.edu

Lisa is a graduate student pursuing an MS with Bard College's Center for Environmental Policy. She will be interning with Sustainable CT in the Summer of 2020 to assist with the development of actions to further advance municipal sustainability. Lisa is a southern California native, graduating with her Bachelor's degree in environmental science and resource management in 2018 from California State University, Channel Islands. She then began her career managing energy and sustainability for the same university, doing work that ranged from on-campus activism to creating and implementing sustainability certification programs.

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Partners Guidance


✕

1.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

5 – 90 Points



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<u>Action Updates</u>
<u>Objective</u>
<u>What to Do</u>
<u>Credit for Past Action</u>
<u>Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators</u>
<u>Funding</u>

What to Do

If you collaborate with other municipalities or other stakeholders to implement this Action, please describe the partnership in the "partners" box of your submission. Please also consult this [guidance document](#) to help your municipality earn points for actions pursued in partnership. Regional collaboration and other forms of partnership are highly encouraged.

The more you do, the more points you earn.

1. Create a municipal or regional brownfields inventory. Any private properties should be listed only with the owner's consent. The inventory should include each site's name, address, zip code, parcel number, status, site type, site size, current zoning, current owner, tax payment status, existing

Partners Guidance

Municipal Partner Guidance

Many actions in Sustainable CT can be implemented in partnership with other stakeholders. We strongly encourage this! Below is some clarifying guidance and a checklist to help your municipality receive points for actions pursued in partnership.

1. **Collaboration with other municipalities.** When working with other municipalities, each municipality participating in a collaborative to implement a specific Sustainable CT action is eligible to receive points for implementing that action. Each municipality must submit the appropriate documentation for that action when submitting for certification.
2. **Collaboration with other stakeholders.** Some Sustainable CT actions may be implemented by other stakeholders. Your municipality may have a relationship with such stakeholders, but not control or authority over them. Such non-municipal stakeholders include but are not limited to:
 - Schools
 - Health districts
 - Councils of governments
 - Public utilities (e.g., regional water companies, etc.)
 - State agencies
 - Nonprofit organizations
 - Academic institutions
 - Businesses
 - Sustainable CT Community Match Fund Project Leaders

If your municipality requests points for an action completed with a non-municipal stakeholder, **you must articulate the role of the municipality in action implementation in your submission.** See the checklist below for possible municipal roles.

3. **Checklist.** To receive points, your municipality must demonstrate some meaningful role in action implementation; it is insufficient to rely solely on the work of a partner. This checklist is not exhaustive, but below are examples of municipal activity that, if documented in your application submission, would qualify your municipality for points.
 - Education and Outreach.** *Example:* A nonprofit organization runs a textile collection program in your municipality. Your municipality conducts education and outreach to promote the program (e.g., information about the program is on the municipal website and is distributed at municipally-sponsored events).
 - Municipal Staff Time.** *Example:* An academic institution coordinates a local or regional Food Policy Council. A representative from your municipality regularly attends meetings.
 - Use of Municipal Land.** *Example:* A consortium of local businesses holds a sustainable business fair. Your municipality hosts the fair at town hall.
 - Funding or Other In-Kind Support.** *Example:* A health district conducts a health impact assessment. Your municipality partially funds the effort and prints hard copies of the reports in-house.
 - Active Use and Education of a Partner-Created Plan or Product.** *Example:* Your council of governments creates a regional watershed management plan. You actively use the plan and have integrated aspects of it into your municipal Plan of Conservation and Development.


Etc.

Lookback Period

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Credit for Past Action

1.1 Support Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

5 – 90 Points 

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- [Objective](#)
- [What to Do](#)
- [Credit for Past Action](#)**
- [Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators](#)
- [Funding](#)
- [Resources](#)

Credit for Past Action

For spring certification, count back from February 1st of the current year. For fall certification, count back from August 1st of the current year. For further clarification on determining if your prior work is eligible to earn points, [click here](#).

- With the exception of Steps 7 and 8 (see below), the look-back period for each step in this action is up to three years.
- For step 7, screenshot must have been taken within the past year, and printed materials must have been developed or revised within the past 3 years.
- For step 8, redevelopment must have been completed within the past ten years.

If a submission will fall outside of the lookback period by the next certification cycle, please indicate that in your comments, so the towns knows.

COVID adjustments

- 2021 (spring and fall): 1 additional year provided, beyond what's listed in the “credit for past action” section of each write-up
- Credit for equivalent virtual work

Credit for Past Action: Now you try!

For action 9.1 (Optimize for Equity), the action must have been completed within the past year.

1. In the spring 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on January 31, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action?
2. In the fall 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit?
3. In the spring 2021 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action?

Credit for Past Action: Now you try!

For action 9.1 (Optimize for Equity), the action must have been completed within the past year.

1. In the spring 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on January 31, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action? **No, counting back from February 1, 2020, the toolkit would have needed to be completed on or after February 1, 2019.**

Credit for Past Action: Now you try!

For action 9.1 (Optimize for Equity), the action must have been completed within the past year.

1. In the spring 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on January 31, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action?
2. In the fall 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit?
3. In the spring 2021 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action?

Credit for Past Action: Now you try!

For action 9.1 (Optimize for Equity), the action must have been completed within the past year.

2. In the fall 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit? **No.** For fall certification, we count back from August 1, 2020, rather than February 1, 2020, so the toolkit would have needed to be completed on or after August 1, 2019.

Credit for Past Action: Now you try!

For action 9.1 (Optimize for Equity), the action must have been completed within the past year.

1. In the spring 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on January 31, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action?
2. In the fall 2020 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit?
3. In the spring 2021 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action?

Credit for Past Action: Now you try!

For action 9.1 (Optimize for Equity), the action must have been completed within the past year.

3. In the spring 2021 certification cycle, a town submits an equity toolkit that was completed on February 1, 2019. Would they receive credit for past action? **Yes. In 2021, Sustainable CT is extending the look-back period for 1 year, so something with a 1-year look-back period would become 2 years. Counting back from February 1, 2021, the toolkit would have needed to be completed on or after February 1, 2019, so this works.**

Lookback Period

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Let's dialogue!