



## **For Immediate Release**

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# **U.S. Green Building Council-L.A. New "GPRO" Program Enhances Job Skills, Opportunities to Building Professionals**

## **First Public, Free "GPRO" Class Offered April 7<sup>th</sup> at SCE Training Center**

Los Angeles, CA (February 7, 2017) – The [U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles](#) chapter (USGBC-LA) is launching its first round of "green professionals", or GPRO, classes that target on-the-ground building professionals who seek to integrate green practices into their core knowledge, and expand their skills to fit a wider range of jobs, as the construction industry moves further toward a sustainable built environment. "GPRO: Fundamentals of Building Green" to be held on April 7, 2017, at Southern California Edison's Irwindale Training Center, is the first class open to the public. For more info and to sign up: [https://sce-web.ungerboeck.com/coe/err\\_p1\\_main.aspx?sessionid=ej7ejlej5falfd6fg8fh0](https://sce-web.ungerboeck.com/coe/err_p1_main.aspx?sessionid=ej7ejlej5falfd6fg8fh0) .

The full GPRO program offers a series of classes that lead to a certificate exam. Materials cover the "green gap" between standard trade skills and the *new* knowledge, awareness, and skills required to successfully implement green building. The "GPRO: Fundamentals of Building Green" class is the prerequisite for all GRPO trade-specific courses.

While individuals with experience in construction (contractors, electricians, plumbers, etc.), and building operations (facilities / property managers, maintenance) will have an advantage when taking this course, anyone with an interest in green building is encouraged to participate.

USGBC-LA also offers on-site trainings for companies, for groups of 10 or more employees.

"We at USGBC-LA are excited to launch this program and expand job opportunities for more building professionals, as having a sustainable building environment continues to become more and more important to homeowners, building owners and tenants," states USGBC-LA Executive Director Dominique Hargreaves. "With California recently ranked the [5<sup>th</sup> state in the country](#) for LEED green building, the importance of this type of training here will offer a tangible advantage to those behind the scenes in construction.

"We are also proud to adopt this program created by the Urban Green Council, USGBC New York, much as other USGBC chapters in California are adopting the Green Janitor Certification Program we and our partners created here in L.A. It is this kind of creative thinking, partnerships and sharing of successful programs that promises to benefit all involved."

L.A.'s GPRO program follows the success over the last 2+ years of the Green Janitor Program, which has certified over 600 janitors across L.A. County, providing hands-on energy

management and green cleaning training to address Operations and Maintenance practices that enable buildings to meet green performance standards, with special focus on resulting energy efficiency.

On an introductory scale, objectives for attendees of the "Fundamentals" class include being able to demonstrate an understanding of green building and *why* it's important, work in accordance with new regulations, and have an enhanced ability to compete for and participate in green jobs. The class will include a student's role in:

- Construction Activity Pollution Prevention
- Construction Waste Management
- Construction Indoor Air Quality
- Commissioning

To learn more about GPRO opportunities, please contact Dominique Hargreaves, [dominique@usgbc-la.org](mailto:dominique@usgbc-la.org).

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**About U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles (USGBC-LA)**

USGBC-LA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to creating a prosperous and sustainable future within one generation. Our mission promotes sustainability in LA County's built environment by delivering access to knowledge, resources, recognition and networking. ([www.usgbc-la.org](http://www.usgbc-la.org))