



1943 Lorraine Avenue, Suite 2001  
McLean, VA 22101  
T: 703.584.4121 ♦ F: 866.514.9892  
Info@EcoMetrical.org

## CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION OF GS-42 TRAINING PROGRAMS & TRAINERS

### A INTRODUCTION

The Green Seal™ Environmental Standard for Cleaning Services, GS-42, is the basis for a certification program run by Green Seal designed to define, validate, and promote green cleaning programs of building service contractors (BSCs) and in-house service providers (ISPs). Since its issuance in 2006, GS-42 has developed interest throughout the Cleaning Industry with cleaning services looking to develop GS-42 compliant programs and achieve certification. In addition, there are a growing number of groups and individuals training cleaning services to implement GS-42 practices and attain GS-42 Certification.

As a result, the GS-42 Training Accreditation Program (GS-42 TAP) has been developed. The GS-42 TAP is a review system of training materials and trainers with the goal of providing a recognized, consistent approach to training to the GS-42 Standard, leading to GS-42 Certification. The accreditation that is available through this program is for the program and the trainers delivering the program.

Green Seal has given EcoMetrical, a non-profit organization specializing in the administration of environmentally-oriented data management programs, the authority to develop and administer the GS-42 TAP. EcoMetrical is solely responsible for its decisions relating to the program and granting, maintaining, renewing, suspending, and withdrawing accreditation.

The accreditation criteria for training programs and trainers are presented below. Since GS-42 may be revised by Green Seal as a part of maintaining their standards, the accreditation criteria shall address the most recent version of GS-42. The accreditation criteria for GS-42 TAP are based on:

1. ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024<sup>(1)</sup>, and
2. GS-42<sup>(2)</sup> [*“GS-42” in the rest of this document refers to the Green Seal Environmental Standard for Cleaning Services and the certification process associated with verifying compliance to the standard*]

### B REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ACCREDITED TRAINING PROGRAM (“PROGRAM”)

The program will have at least the following requirements:

1. Have an orally presented as well as written or online (a) presentation with slides; provide (b) hands-on training; and a written or online final (c) examination.
  - a. Presentation: Presentations must effectively explain the elements of GS-42 and meet the requirements outlined in section C.
  - b. Hands-on-Training: One session of the training must include a “hands-on” interactive presentation of green products and equipment as required under GS-42.
  - c. Examination: Examinations of those being trained will be a valid test of the individual's knowledge for GS-42 standards and the steps necessary to achieve GS-42 Certification. To ensure that the class keeps current with the material, review exams covering the material presented to date must be provided in the beginning of each new session. A Final Exam will test all facets of the program. A score of 70% is required to pass.
2. Require ALL clients to sign a disclaimer stating that the program does not guarantee GS-42 certification and that the program's trainer(s) do(es) not represent Green Seal or EcoMetrical.

3. That the program's trainers be independent of Green Seal and EcoMetrical and that there is no conflict of interest involving any of the entities participating.
4. The duration of the presentation and hands-on-training shall be at least 24 hours.
5. The trainer must regularly provide data (see *Quality Control Training Data - Appendix A*) to EcoMetrical. So that the data are current, this information must be forwarded no later than one week following the completion of a training program.

### **C TRAINING MATERIALS**

All presentation materials and notes must be provided to EcoMetrical for review and meet the following:

1. Address all requirements of GS-42 (see *Training Material Review Checklist*).
2. Effectively teach how to manage and perform green cleaning procedures in compliance with GS-42.
3. Content must effectively provide all information needed to help companies achieve GS-42 compliance.
4. Must be simple, have no more than 4 or 5 bullets per slide, have large clearly legible fonts, and have handouts that complement the presentation.
5. Primary language must be English. If training to help companies become GS-42 compliant is provided in another language, these materials must also be submitted in that language.
6. The materials shall not misrepresent the intent of or actual requirements in the Green Seal GS-42 standard.
7. Training must include a disclaimer that reads "This material does not guarantee certification by Green Seal".

### **D TRAINER REQUIREMENTS**

EcoMetrical will review the presentation duration to ensure that a trainer meets these criteria. At the discretion of EcoMetrical, the review may be done by webcam, unedited video recording or on-site. All individuals delivering the training program/materials must meet the following requirements:

1. Experience: Have at least 5 years experience in the cleaning industry or related field.
2. Skills and Capabilities
  - a. Have in-depth knowledge of GS-42 as verified by a written examination
  - b. Good interpersonal skills
  - c. Effective English communication
  - d. Good presentation skills
  - e. High level of professionalism.
3. Accreditation Maintenance: Entities seeking to maintain GS-42 Training Accreditation must provide proof of having delivered at least four programs to a client per year and trained at least 10 people.

---

#### References:

- (1) [http://www.ansi.org/conformity\\_assessment/personnel\\_certification/apply.aspx?menuid=4](http://www.ansi.org/conformity_assessment/personnel_certification/apply.aspx?menuid=4)
- (2) [http://www.greenseal.org/certification/cleaning\\_services\\_gs\\_42.pdf](http://www.greenseal.org/certification/cleaning_services_gs_42.pdf)



**EcoMetrical**

1943 Lorraine Avenue, Suite 2001  
McLean, VA 22101  
T: 703.584.4121 ♦ F: 866.514.9892  
Info@EcoMetrical.org

**Appendix A**

**Quality Control Training Data**

<b>Training Company</b>	<b>Trainer</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last 4 SS</b>	<b>email</b>

<b>Cleaning Company</b>	<b>Attendees</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last 4 SS*</b>	<b>email</b>

<b>Attended/Completed</b>	<b>Duration (Hr)</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Number</b>

\* Last 4 SS means the last four digits in a Social Security Number