





# USRC Building Rating System: Getting-to-Silver Requirements

## Who uses the rating system?

Building owners, brokers, buyers, lenders, insurers and tenants all benefit from the USRC rating system.

**Owners** with properties that receive high USRC ratings will benefit from an increase in perceived value, potentially increasing leasing rates and transaction efficiency—the same kind of benefits associated with LEED® accredited properties.

**Lenders and Insurers** use USRC ratings to inform real estate transactions associated with lending decisions and defining insurance products.

**Tenants** value the USRC rating as it relates to both safety and recovery time following a major event.

**Governments and Institutions** use USRC ratings to identify safe buildings and make long-term strategic plans for reducing reconstruction costs and recovery time following a major disaster. As a comparison, over 40 jurisdictions in California require “Green” or LEED® certification of new public and private developments to improve long term sustainability.

## USRC ratings add value

The U.S. Resiliency Council Silver Rating provides a means for owners to achieve a USRC designation that sets their buildings apart as contributing to a resilient community and as good long term investments. The USRC is actively engaging with communities, lenders and insurers to incentivize USRC rated buildings with expedited permits, reduced mortgage and insurance rates, and other recognition of their lower risk and value to their communities.

These firms have been briefed on the Getting-to-Silver initiative and would be happy to work with you to achieve a rating.

If you are working with your own architect or engineer who is not a USRC member, have them contact the USRC at [evan.reis@usrc.org](mailto:evan.reis@usrc.org). We will be pleased to brief them on the initiatives so that they can help you achieve a USRC Silver Rating.

## How do I apply for a USRC Getting-to-Silver Rating?

More than 40 leading structural engineering and architectural firms with expertise in the seismic design of new buildings are members of the USRC. A list can be found at <http://www.usrc.org/index/members>.

## Can I apply for a rating if I don't go through the Getting-to-Silver Initiative?

Absolutely. The Getting-to-Silver Initiative is designed as a streamlined approach to a USRC rating for buildings built to the most recent building codes. Buildings built to older codes may be eligible for a USRC Silver rating through the standard USRC process. Buildings may also be eligible for a USRC Gold or Platinum rating through the standard USRC process.

