

Dear DLC Members and Stakeholders:

The DesignLights Consortium™ is pleased to release the final Technical Requirements Table V4.0.

Informational webinars will be held to review the new technical requirements

- 1) 3:00 PM EST on Monday, June 6, and repeated at
- 2) 1:00 PM EST on Wednesday, June 8.

There will also be a webinar held in Mandarin explaining the new requirements on Monday June 13 at 9 PM ET.

To register for the webinar on June 6 at 3 PM EST, please click here:

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4246705707578696964>

To register for the webinar on June 8 at 1 PM EST, please click here:

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5712215069427464196>

To register for the webinar to be conducted in Mandarin on June 13 at 9 PM EDT (9 AM, June 14th Chinese Standard Time) please click here:

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4721798084891102977>

History of Revisions

DLC revises requirements in an effort to keep pace with changes in the market and support the energy savings goals and other needs of the DLC membership. Previous revisions that were finalized in 2014 and 2015 focused primarily on restructuring the technical requirements table, establishing requirements for the DLC Premium classification, enabling a pathway for products to be qualified under new Specialty Use designations, and adding categories to the Technical Requirements Table. The last major revision to efficacy levels for the DLC Standard classification was announced in April 2013, and took final effect on January 1, 2014.

The solid-state lighting market has grown and product performance has improved significantly in the nearly 3 years since these V2.0 efficacy levels were established. Therefore, to keep up with these performance improvements, the V4.0 revision focuses primarily on efficacy. While each DLC member efficiency program operates independently and have its own specific needs, this amount of revision is necessary for most programs to be able to differentiate product performance to continue offering incentives for DLC qualified products.

With the change in Standard requirements, as well as product development and evolution in efficiency programs, the DLC has raised the requirements for Premium as well to serve the needs of its membership. The objective for the Premium classification is to identify the top 5-10% most efficacious products in any given category.

Summary of Key Changes

The efficacy changes, have been revised (reduced) in several key areas from the February draft requirements largely in response to Stakeholder feedback. More detail on the rationale for determining specific levels will be provided on the webinars referenced above.

Efficacy Allowances

Please note that the V4.0 Technical Requirements document includes a placeholder for a new Table 6, identifying “Allowances” for specific product types. In the feedback received from stakeholders regarding the draft proposals released for comment in February, significant commentary discussed certain features of specific products that related to quality, but that made meeting the proposed efficacy levels more difficult to achieve relative to products without those features.

DLC and the DLC membership are sensitive to these concerns. It is not the intention of the program to prevent quality products from qualifying for the QPL. The challenge faced in addressing these concerns is two-fold:

- First, lowering the requirements for any given category to a level that would be more appropriate for products with these “quality” features threatens to lower the bar for products without those features. In serving the needs of its member’s programs, the DLC needs to maintain rigorous efficacy requirements for products that are able to meet those requirements without compromising their intended performance.
- Second, in many cases, these product features which are being described as contributing to “quality” are difficult to define objectively. In considering establishing any lower requirements for products of with these features, DLC needs to ensure that these lower requirements are not simply used as a loophole to enable lower-performing products to qualify for listing on the QPL.

To address these challenges and meet the needs of the member programs, the DLC has set the efficacy requirements for each general application based on the distribution of the performance of products in those general applications. This allows member programs to continue to be able to identify products that perform at levels high enough to meet the savings needs of their prescriptive programs.

In addition to establishing these baseline levels, DLC is committed to continuing the discussion regarding specific product features that enhance the quality of the product and the light they produce, and making appropriate accommodations for those features. DLC will engage in discussions with industry to create allowances for the efficacy of products where the key features can be rigorously and objectively defined.

Examples of features that have been suggested as potentially needing allowances include:

- High-CRI/low-CCT products,
- Decorative/historical outdoor fixtures,
- Architectural linear ambient products, and
- products with optical design and performance that distribute light more effectively, more efficiently, and without glare or pixelation. DLC will open comment on these features, and will explore the possibility of setting allowances in consultation with industry, while respecting of the needs of member programs.

Industry is requested to provide proposals for allowances by July 18, 2016 to info@designlights.org .

Additional information regarding this process will be provided on the Webinars outlined above.

Implementation Timeline

DLC received substantial feedback during the comment period related to the implementation timeline for the V4.0 Technical Requirements. In response to this feedback and needs of member programs, the implementation timeline has been revised and an additional step has been added.

Consistent with previous specification revisions, the transition to the new requirements will include two distinct grace periods: 1) a period under which applications for products meeting only the previous (V3.0/V3.1) requirements will continue to be accepted, and 2) a period under which products on the QPL will remain

qualified, even if they do not meet the new V4.0 requirements. Each of these grace periods will be extended an additional month from the date of this final announcement.

Specifically:

- Products may continue to apply for qualification/listing on the QPL under the V3.0/V3.1 Technical Requirements through August 31, 2016.
- All submissions received starting on September 1, 2016 will be evaluated against the V4.0 requirements.
- Products qualified under V3.0/V3.1, or previous criteria, that DO NOT meet the new V4.0 requirements will remain on the active QPL for a period of 10 months, through March 31, 2017.
- As of April 1, 2017, products that do not meet the V4.0 requirements will be removed from the active QPL, and only products that meet the V4.0 requirements will be considered qualified. As with previous delistings, products not meeting the new (V4.0) requirements will still be searchable using the "Include De-Listed Products" feature of the DLC search page.

In addition to these grace periods, DLC will be clearly identifying products that meet the V4.0 requirements on the QPL beginning in early January 2017. Analysis and outreach to manufacturers regarding which of their products may not meet V4.0 levels will take place September through December 2016. From January 2017 through the end of March 2017, products that do not meet the V4.0 requirements will remain on the QPL, and individual member programs may choose to filter them out of their incentive offerings.

Table 1: Summary of V4.0 Implementation Timeline

Milestone	Date(s)
Final V4.0 Technical Requirements Announced	June 1, 2016
Last day to submit products for qualification under V3.0/V3.1 Technical Requirements	August 31, 2016
Analysis of listings, outreach to manufacturers	September-December 2016
Identification of products meeting the V4.0 requirements on QPL	January 2017
Products not meeting V4.0 requirements removed from QPL	April 1, 2017

TM-30

As indicated in the draft released in February for comment, under the V4.0 requirements, DLC is including the option for reporting the R_f and R_g TM-30 color rendition metrics on QPL listings. *These metrics are optional, and are not required to be reported at this time.* To list these metrics, manufacturers will be required to submit the official Excel version of the TM-30 calculation tool offered with the IES standard. Basic or advanced versions of the Excel tool will be accepted. For more information on IES TM-30-15, please go to <http://energy.gov/eere/ssl/tm-30-frequently-asked-questions> . Manufacturers are also encouraged to submit this information for their listing with LED Lighting Facts.

If you have any questions, please direct them to info@designlights.org.

Best,

The DLC Team

info@designlights.org

designlights@neep.org

www.designlights.org