

Aquinas College – Academic Building
1700 Fulton St. E. Grand Rapids, MI 49506
PROJECT PROFILE

LEED CI v2.0
LEED SILVER
June 2009

[Aquinas College](#) is located on the eastern edge of Grand Rapids and houses several LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings. Certification is given by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to recognize the world’s greenest, energy-efficient, and high performing buildings.

Completed in 1955, the Academic Building housed offices for College administrators, staff and faculty, in addition to the classrooms and the library. When the library moved to its new LEED certified facility in 2006, the second level of the Academic Building was left vacant. The College decided to renovate and update the building’s second level. This renovation was done through Rockford Construction and it has earned silver LEED certification (LEED CI, v. 2.0). During the renovation process, over 50% of construction waste was diverted from a landfill.



To maximize energy efficiency on the second floor of the Academic Building, HVAC systems, lighting systems, and appliances were reviewed and selected based on energy performance. Daylight sensors were an addition to the lightning controls, turning off the lights when they sense adequate natural light for the particular space. Restrooms are fitted with low-flow toilets, sensor operated faucets, and ultra-low flow urinals to reduce water usage by 30%. Parking around the building was kept to a minimum to encourage patrons to use alternative forms of transportation. The second floor of the Academic Building house classrooms and offices, as well as the Center for Sustainability. This space serves as a common area where students and faculty can come together, increasing communication.

LEED Facts

Academic Building

Location.....Grand Rapids, MI
Rating System.....LEED CI v2.0
Certification Achieved.....Silver
Points Achieved.....27/57

Sustainable Sites.....3/7
Water Efficiency.....1/2
Energy and Atmosphere.....3/12
Materials and Resources.....7/14
Indoor Environmental Quality.....9/17
Innovation and Design.....4/5

PROJECT METRICS

- 10%** recycled content building materials
- 5%** regionally extracted, harvested, recovered, or manufactured materials
- 75%** of occupied space has daylighting
- 90%** of occupied space has quality views
- 20%** reduction in indoor potable water use
- 50%** of construction waste was diverted from a landfill.