

Western Michigan University – Health & Human Services  
 1903 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI  
**PROJECT PROFILE**

**LEED v2 O+M**  
**LEED GOLD**  
 May, 2009

Western Michigan University's College of Health and Human Services was the first building in Southwest Michigan to meet national energy and environmental standards for an existing building.

The building achieved gold-level certification from the U.S. Green Building Council making it the first LEED-EB certified higher education building in the country to achieve a rating higher than silver.

The high-tech, 200,000-square-foot building was completed in the summer 2005 and was designed by the architectural firm SmithGroup of Detroit.

With help from a \$15,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, the university was able to assess the energy efficiency of current systems and improve green practices in the Health and Human Services building.

The facility was built with an emphasis on sustainable and renewable materials. Features of the structure include cork flooring and motion-activated lights, heating and cooling. Rice paper between sheets of glass provides translucent windows along hallways.

Achieving gold status involved documenting sustainable practices with storm water management, site erosion and light pollution control, water usage efficiency in restrooms and landscaping, ozone-free cooling systems, recycling and waste management storage and collection, sustainable cleaning products and policies, increased ventilation standards, daylight harvesting and lighting control, thermal comfort monitoring and increased air filtration.



## LEED Facts

### Health & Human Services

Location.....Kalamazoo, MI  
 Rating System.....LEED-EB (O+M)  
 Certification Achieved.....Gold  
 Points Achieved.....50/85

Sustainable Sites.....11/14  
 Water Efficiency.....3/5  
 Energy and Atmosphere.....10/23  
 Materials and Resources.....8/16  
 Indoor Environmental Quality.....13/22  
 Innovation and Design.....5/5

## PROJECT METRICS

- 50%** diversion of waste from facility alteration and additions
- 30%** reuse, recycle or compost of ongoing consumables and durable goods
- 50%** of occupied space has daylighting
- 45%** of occupied space has quality views
- 10%** reduction in indoor potable water use
- 50%** reduction in potable landscape water use