

CSB Sustainable Building Policy

The College of Saint Benedict will strive to implement sustainable building guidelines in the design and construction of new buildings and additions, for building renovations over 5,000 square feet, and for the operation of buildings on campus. Through this approach, CSB will balance short and long-term costs, maintenance, life cycle, and the environmental impacts of the built environment while providing a healthy environment for the CSB community and supporting other elements of the broader institutional mission to instill sustainability principles throughout the community.

Sustainable Design Requirements;

1. All new construction, major additions, and site develop will be designed to promote the most environmentally and financially responsible construction, maintenance, and operation of the built environment.
 - a. Whenever practical, buildings will be renovated rather than torn down.
 - b. Projects will be designed to minimize the impact on the natural environment on site and, through the selection of materials, off site as well.
 - c. Total life cycle costs will be considered in addition to return on investment in shaping design considerations.
 - d. Designs will incorporate planning for long-term adaptive reuse and end-of-life-cycle recycling/disposal.
2. All new construction, major additions, renovations and site development will at a minimum, meet the criteria outlined in CSB's Sustainable Building Guidelines (in development).
 - a. The goal for each project will be to reach for the highest standard possible.
 - b. Under the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, CSB has pledged to build to a minimum of Silver Certification under the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) program. USGBC certification is not required; however the project must demonstrate the ability to earn the necessary points to meet Silver certification standards.
3. Retro commissioning is to be conducted on all campus buildings on a rotating basis.
4. Building materials and supplies will be purchased and designers, engineers, and construction expertise will be hired locally whenever possible.
5. Significant departures from this policy must be approved by the College Sustainability Council and the President.