



Americas

Education

The UC Merced 2020 Project is a 1.2 million gross-square-foot campus expansion and redevelopment project on the UC Merced campus in Merced, California that will nearly double the campus' physical capacity by 2020.

The project will be the first in the UC system to use a single private development team for a multi-year, multi-building project of this scope. Plenary Properties Merced (PPM) will not only design and build all of the new facilities as a single, fast-track project, but will also ensure major building systems operate effectively over the 39-year term of the contract.

Project facts

Location Merced, California, USA	Client University of California, Merced	Value (NPV) US\$1.338 billion
Consortium Plenary Properties Merced (PPM)	Plenary Americas' role Financial advisor Equity investor	Builder Webcor Builders
Architect Skidmore, Owings & Merrill	Services Johnson Controls	Financial close date August 2016
Completion date September 2020	Contract terms 39 years, DBFM	Project website 2020project.ucmerced.edu

- LEED® Platinum Certified
- Award of Excellence in Low Carbon Development (ULI, 2023)
- Facility Design Project of the Year (Foodservice Equipment & Supplies, 2021)
- National Award of Merit, Education (DBIA, 2021)
- Land Development Project of the Year (American Soc. of Engineers, 2020)
- Best Social Infrastructure Project (P3 Awards, 2017)
- North American Social Infrastructure Deal of the Year (IJ Global, 2017)
- The Americas P3 Deal of the Year (PFI Awards, 2016)

To accommodate changing needs over time, the design and construction approaches are flexible and highly adaptable, helping the campus achieve long-term life-cycle and sustainability goals.



Design features

The 2020 Project is proposed as a mixed-use, master-planned development to be built on a 219-acre, university-owned parcel that includes or is adjacent to the existing campus.

The project will include new teaching facilities, research laboratories, and faculty offices. A total of 1,700 new beds of Student Housing will be constructed by 2020 helping UC Merced grow from currently 6,000 students to over 10,000. The project will be delivered in three phases with First Delivery in Summer 2018, Second Delivery in Summer 2019, and Substantial Completion for Summer 2020.

Innovations

The 2020 Project master plan is designed around an Academic Walk lined with ground floor teaching, retail, and meetings spaces with student housing in the upper floors to create a vibrant, collaborative environment. The Academic Walk is anchored to the north by a research quad and to the south by administrative offices and student services.

In line with the University's sustainability goals all buildings will be a certified LEED Gold minimum. The design includes a robust approach to storm water management and aquifer recharge. These design considerations are consistent with the University's goal of reaching triple net zero.