The Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design is the most environmentally advanced educational and research facility of its kind in the Southeast. It is anticipated that the project will achieve Living Building Challenge 3.1 certification in 2021. To be certified under the Living Building Challenge, projects must meet a series of ambitious performance requirements – Petals – over a minimum of 12 months of continuous occupancy and operations.

Total Programmed Space: 46,848 GSF
- Enclosed & Conditioned Space: 36,978 GSF
- Loading Dock & Bike Storage: 1,905 GSF
- Outdoor Porch Area: 2,618 GSF
- Roof Garden (Not Public): 4,347 GSF
- Roof Deck: 1,000 GSF

Total Construction Cost: $18.6MM
- Programmed Space Cost: $397/GSF
- Conditioned Space: $503/GSF
Cistern Capacity: 50,000 gallons
Solar Array: 330 kW (DC), 917 panels covering 16,109 GSF generate 455,000 kWh annually

For more information, visit livingbuilding.gatech.edu.
Performing to a Higher Standard

Among other performance standards required for Living Building Challenge 3.1 certification, The Kendeda Building must harness more energy and water than it consumes on an annual basis to function as a net positive facility.

- The building’s Energy Use Intensity (EUI) is expected to be 30 kBTU/SF/YR, which is 72 percent more efficient than an average building of the same size and occupancy.
- The photovoltaic array is designed to generate 42 EUI kBTU/SF/YR, which will offset the building’s 30 EUI kBTU/SF/YR. By harnessing more energy than the building consumes, the system results in a net-positive energy building.
- The building is expected to harvest 460,000 gallons of rainwater a year. To hold all this water, the building houses a 50,000-gallon cistern in the basement of the building, as well as the rainwater treatment equipment needed to appropriately treat the water to potable standards.

Transforming How We Think, Build, Live, and Learn

Designed to function as a true living, learning laboratory, The Kendeda Building will help educate and transform future generations of thinkers and doers to reimagine how we interact with our buildings and surroundings to create a more sustainable built environment.

The building’s flexible, open space – inside and outside – will enable students and faculty to engage in problem-based learning exercises that will explore and teach the principles of sustainability.

The Kendeda Building features:
- Two 64-person classrooms and four class labs (two 24-person and two 16-person) for instruction and hands-on learning.
- Makerspace for students to build and test the concepts they have designed in the classroom.
- An auditorium that will seat 176 people.
- The outdoor learning space consists of a rooftop garden that has a honeybee apiary, pollinator garden, and blueberry orchard. Functionally, the rooftop garden contains rainwater catchments to help manage stormwater runoff, while shade provided by the photovoltaic canopy helps mitigate the urban heat island effect.

Interested in a building tour? Visit livingbuilding.gatech.edu/tours.