

Canisius College to receive millions in state grant funds for unfinished Science Hall



Canisius College: \$6.3 million



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Millions in state grant funds will go toward a Canisius College project that's been in the works for over a decade.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently announced \$57.2 million in Higher Education Capital Matching Grant Program funds for capital projects at 35 universities and colleges across the state. The highest amount allotted to a Buffalo-area school was about \$4.4 million to renovate Canisius College's Science Hall building.

The Science Hall first opened to students in 2012, but phases two and three of the project – which would allow the school to utilize the building's second and third floor, respectively – have not been completed, according to President [John Hurley](#).

The recently awarded grant will help fund phase two, which involves renovating the 60,000-square-foot second floor. The grant program requires that fund recipients invest \$3 of their own funds for every \$1 of state monies, according to a press release.

The college is still in the process of organizing the project's finances, which includes the funding needed to match the state grant as well as the grant amount, Hurley said. The state grant is given through reimbursements. The funds will come from a mix of institutionally generated funds like money from the college's sold properties, additional financing and fundraising.

The timeline for the project is uncertain, he said, but work could start as soon as summer. Phase two is about a year's-worth of construction. The second floor will primarily house Canisius' biology, pre-med and animal behavior, ecology and conservation programs, Hurley said.

The college doesn't currently have a timeline for completing phase three of the project.

Other Buffalo-area colleges and universities received the following state Higher Education Capital Matching Grant Program funds:

- About \$2.9 million for St. Bonaventure University to renovate Plassmann Hall
- About \$2.4 million for Daemen College to construct its sports and recreation center
- \$250,000 for Niagara University to upgrade the Kiernan Center
- Nearly \$115,000 for Hilbert College to upgrade the William E. Swan Auditorium