

CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

2026 - 2032

Capital Planning System Reports

BRANCH:

Executive Branch

AGENCY:

Eastern Kentucky University

MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Eastern Kentucky University traces its roots to 1874 with the founding of Central University in Richmond, Kentucky. In 1906, Eastern Kentucky University was established as a comprehensive institution created by KRS and governed by a Board of Regents (KRS 164.310). It is statutorily charged (KRS 164.295) with providing upon approval by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) associate, baccalaureate, specialist, master's and doctoral degrees. In 2008, the University introduced its first doctoral program, the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, and awarded its first doctoral degree in 2010. Since that time, ECU has added doctoral degrees in Nursing Practice (DNP), Occupational Therapy (OTD) and Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.) as well as a new Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering. The University is also charged with conducting research and service programs directly related to the primary needs of its service region, which comprises 22 counties in central and southeastern Kentucky.

The University's chief administrative officer is its President. Direct reports to the President include the Executive Vice President for Academics & Provost; the Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration; Vice President of Minority Affairs and Strategic Initiatives; University Counsel; the Senior Vice President for Student Success and Campus Life; the Athletics Director; the Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations; the Vice President for Government Relations; the Chief of Staff and Vice President of Communications and Brand Management, and Internal Audit.

The University fulfills its academic mission through its six academic colleges: Arts, Letters, and Social Sciences; STEM; Business; Education; Health Sciences; and Justice and Safety. The Office of Regional Stewardship coordinates the extension of programs and services beyond the main campus at Richmond. The Office of University Programs supports University-wide interdisciplinary academic programs that promote student success and faculty development. A faculty of approximately 650 includes instruction on the main campus at Richmond, at extended campuses in Corbin and Manchester, Hazard, and Lancaster's learning centers.

FUNDING SUMMARY

Fund Source	2026-2028 Biennium	2028-2030 Biennium	2030-2032 Biennium	Total
Federal Funds	2,200,000	-	-	2,200,000
Restricted Funds	108,200,000	58,000,000	24,000,000	190,200,000
General Fund	986,229,000	75,000,000	-	1,061,229,000
Other - Third Party Financing	237,200,000	-	-	237,200,000
Agency Bonds	80,000,000	-	26,000,000	106,000,000
Total	1,413,829,000	133,000,000	50,000,000	1,596,829,000

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PLAN OVERVIEW

Eastern Kentucky University, EKU, continues to need and seek significant physical plant investment focused on deferred maintenance needs and replacement of existing facilities and infrastructure for continued use by students, faculty, staff and the general public and appreciates prior and current efforts on behalf of the Legislature to recognize and address extensive deferred maintenance needs.

The top priority for EKU for the upcoming 2026-28 biennium is a \$330M Health Innovations Center; a multi-discipline state-of-the-art Health Sciences campus center, anchored by the new Osteopathic Medicine program. EKU appreciates the educational opportunities that Model Lab Phase I and II will provide as that project gets underway for fiscal year 2026 as well as improvements at the Madison County Regional Airport that will enhance the Aviation program and the Central Kentucky Region. Prior 2022-24 and 2024-26 biennial Asset Preservation pools are being utilized for ongoing and planned critical maintenance efforts.

By way of final prioritization, EKU needs to construct a new, energy-efficient primary Academic Building which will house classrooms, swing-spaces, presentation spaces, labs and faculty offices to best serve in person students for the coming decade; the last significant student-focused academic use facility was the Phase I and II New Science Building, constructed in the prior decade.

A combined commitment to existing infrastructure via aggressive use of current deferred maintenance resources plus future maintenance requests and new facility construction will ensure that EKU thoughtfully balances the capital investments of the past one hundred-eighteen years with the investments needed for FY26 through FY32.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Proposed Projects Involving the General Fund (cash or bonds)
(amounts in **bold** are the total budget)

- 1 Construct Health Innovations Center** **660,000,000**

This project is intended to construct a new home for cross-disciplinary programs in Health Sciences such as nursing, public health, occupational therapy, and the proposed osteopathic post-baccalaureate programs. This project will be around a 330,000 square foot Health Sciences Building on University property. This will allow for needed expansion of the University's Health Sciences programs, such as a new Osteopathic Medicine program, in order to better meet the needs of the Commonwealth for trained health care professionals. (C-O)

CPAB Staff Notes

 - This project was included in the previous capital plan; however, the cost has increased by \$200,000,000. The original submission was for a 100,000 sq ft facility. The scope has since expanded to support the new Osteopathic Medicine program, resulting in a larger and more complex facility.
 - This project includes General Fund of \$300 million, restricted funds of \$5,000,000, and private funding (cash) of \$25,000,000.
- 2 2026-2028 Asset Preservation Pool (Phase III)** **150,000,000**

This project provides General Fund Bond Funds to address prioritized critical asset infrastructure needs, building on maintenance progress from the prior FY22-24 and FY24-26 Asset Preservation Pool. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

 - This project is related to the FY22-24 Asset Preservation Pool associated with CPE biennial recommended project authorizations. These projects accommodate related deferred maintenance initiatives and improvements.
 - Phase I and II of this pool were authorized for \$63 million and \$51.8 million, respectively, in the last two budgets.
- 3 Construct Academic Complex** **492,458,000**

This project will construct and consolidate academic-use classroom, lab and office space, currently housed in several buildings on campus, into a single complex, designed to provide an opportunity to study in modern classrooms, experience modern methodologies, and have opportunities for research. Potential additional services include building a new student health center. This facility will also provide an energy efficient environment for students and faculty. (C-O)

CPAB Staff Notes

 - This project was included in the previous six capital plans.
 - This project had \$3 million in other third-party financing authorized in the FY22-24 biennial budget.
- 4 Begley Building Comprehensive Maintenance and Ex** **300,000,000**

The Begley Building has significant deferred maintenance and expansion component needs, expansion could include dual-use purpose such as housing or expanded E&G use. The Building was constructed in 1970 and has been utilized for numerous events and purposes over a half century. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

 - This project was included in the previous capital plan.
 - \$40 million in Agency Bonds were authorized in the 24-26 budget, however, the project was not undertaken.
 - This project includes General Fund of \$110 million and Agency Bonds of \$40 million.
- 5 Renovate Roark Building** **150,000,000**

This project will renovate or replace the Moore Science, Memorial Scienc and Roark Buildings. This removation will include all HVAC systems, building envelope and interiors. The renovation or

replacement will provide for modern energy efficient classroom, lab and office spaces. Before renovations begin, a cost and feasibility study will be conducted to determine whether it is more practical to raze and replace Moore or renovate it. Factors to be considered will include cost of renovation compared to replacement, ability to efficiently use the space after a renovation and energy consumption (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- This project was included in the past four capital plans.

6 New Engineering and Technology Center 304,000,000

Three buildings comprise the Whalin Complex, intended for renaming as the ECU Engineering and Technology Center, if appropriated: the Gibson Building (27,610 square feet and completed in 1962); the Fitzpatrick Building (35,403 square feet, 1939) and the Ault Building (34,367 square feet, 1962). This project will make fire safety and handicapped access improvements and add a high bay construction technology lab in addition to general refurbishing. Fire safety and ADA improvements will include sprinklers, smoke detectors, fire alarm systems, ventilation and related improvements as necessary; and restroom door expansion, restroom expansion, a first floor ramp and an elevator for other floors. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- This project was included in the past five capital plans.
- This project includes General Fund of \$150 million and private funding (cash) of \$2 million.

7 Utility and Energy Infrastructure Redundancy 20,000,000

This project is intended to develop an energy and utility redundancy for providing power via energy storage and solar capacity. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- New Project - The project is designed to increase energy use redundancy and create a microgrid of power supply for ECU.

8 Construct Alumni & Welcome Center 80,000,000

A new Alumni and Welcome Center will serve as a new home for ECU's 100,000+ alumni, and will create a signature facility where alumni and friends alike will begin their visit to the Campus Beautiful. Various campus offices will begin tours from the new Center, which will bring together alumni and future alumni in the new building. (C-O)

CPAB Staff Notes

- This project was included in the previous five capital plans.
- This project includes General Fund of \$20 million and private funding (cash) of \$20 million.

2026-2028 Biennium Total:	2,156,458,000
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2028-2030 Biennium

Renovate Bert Combs Building	75,000,000
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2028-2030 Biennium Total:	75,000,000
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Proposed Projects Involving Other Fund Sources

(amounts in **bold** are the total budget)

2026-2028 Biennium

(Projects listed by agency priority; descriptions are from the agency submission)

Athletics Capital Improvements Pool

75,000,000 RF/AF/OT

This project will provide maintenance and improvements for multiple athletic venue locations, including but not limited to, the Soccer field, grandstand, spectator experience enhancements, new lighting, new rec and practice areas, press area, soccer and softball team facilities.
(C-PI)

Aviation Acquisition Pool

5,000,000 RF

This pool project will support aviation assets utilized by the ECU Aviation program. (C-O)

Commonwealth Hall Partial Repurposing and Renov.

6,000,000 RF

Commonwealth high-rise residence hall is to be repurposed to accommodate administrative space. The units proposed to be placed in the renovated includes several administrative and academic offices. (C-O)

Construct University Hotel and Conference Center

130,000,000 OT

The ECU University hotel and conference center will provide hotel, educational and conferencing facilities and improve existing conferencing facilities in the Perkins Building. This project is envisioned to be funded through a public private partnership on land leased to a developer-operator pursuant to KRS 45.763. (C-O)

Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contracts

25,000,000 OT

Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract (C-O)

Improve Campus Pedestrian, Park and Trans Pool

21,000,000 RF/AB/OT

This project will repair/replace existing pedestrian and parking infrastructure and/or building systems. This pool of projects may finance projects that cost \$1,000,000 or more.
(C-PI)

IT Hardware Software Networking Systems Pool

24,000,000 RF

This pool will support new hardware and software for all computing needs, leases, communication, safety, security and service delivery. Three prior pools, Academic, Administrative and Networking were combined for this single pool authorization. (IT)

Lease - Aviation

200,000 RF

This project is a lease of existing and additional aircraft required to potentially avail ECU of a federal grant match to support ECU's aviation program. (EQ)

Miscellaneous Maintenance Pool 2026-2028

20,000,000 RF

The Miscellaneous Maintenance Pool represents maintenance, renovation, and capital replacement projects costing greater than \$1,000,000. It is a recurring request. Funds will be used to expand on projects currently funded through annual deferred maintenance. It is extremely critical to have a maintenance pool in order to continue renovation on existing facilities.
(C-PI)

Natural Areas Improvement Pool

1,000,000 RF

The Division of Natural Areas wishes to improve facilities and property on several ecological research and teaching sites owned by ECU. (C-O)

Property Acquisitions Pool**10,000,000 RF/OT**

This project will continue land acquisition and land use policy consistent with the campus master plan. This project is in the Facilities Master Plan under future purchases. Agency restricted funds will be used for these acquisitions. (C-PI)

Scientific and Research Equipment Pool**8,400,000 RF/FF/OT**

This project will support the acquisition of scientific equipment and instruments for the Department of Science in conjunction with the final construction of the new ECU Science Building. (EQ)

Upgrade and Improve Residence Halls Pool**10,000,000 RF**

This pool will allow the University to respond to needs for the upgrade, maintenance and repair of its residence halls for projects costing in excess of \$1,000,000 (C-PI)

2026-2028 Biennium Total:

335,600,000**2028-2030 Biennium**

Miscellaneous Maintenance Pool 2028-2030

23,000,000

Renovate Residence Halls

35,000,000

2028-2030 Biennium Total:

58,000,000**2030-2032 Biennium**

Miscellaneous Maintenance Pool 2030-2032

24,000,000

Renovate Residence Halls Pool

26,000,000

2030-2032 Biennium Total:

50,000,000