

CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

2026 - 2032

Capital Planning System Reports

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Western Kentucky University

MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is a leading regional comprehensive university found in Bowling Green, Kentucky, which operates under the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), a coordinating board which monitors academic quality, affordability and student success through policy and accountability measures. WKU offers a student-centered academic portfolio of undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree programs designed to attract and retain a student population of increasing quality.

WKU is committed to embracing our responsibility as a public university in Kentucky by providing access to an affordable postsecondary education of exceptional quality, while also recognizing that access without success is access to nothing at all. At the center of WKU mission is the WKU Experience, which engages students in applied learning opportunities such as internships, research projects, study away/abroad opportunities and community partnerships. The WKU Experience fosters real-world skills by integrating classroom knowledge with practical experience to empower students to solve complex problems, preparing them for successful careers in the future.

WKU provides students of all backgrounds with rigorous academic programs consisting of 96 majors, 71 minors and 47 undergraduate and 39 graduate certificate programs, 4 associate degree programs, 45 master's degree programs, 2 specialist degree programs, 4 doctorates, and many professional and pre-professional curricula in education, sciences, technologies, health services, business, and liberal arts. Maintaining a campus of distinctive history and character, WKU carries out its education and service mission through its main campus, regional campuses and extensive distance learning opportunities via a combination of innovative technologies, high impact practices, and traditional postsecondary modes, such as classrooms, laboratories, meeting and seminar rooms, auditoriums and other spaces designed for research, collaboration and dissemination of knowledge.

FUNDING SUMMARY

Fund Source	2026-2028 Biennium	2028-2030 Biennium	2030-2032 Biennium	Total
Restricted Funds	71,000,000	6,000,000	21,000,000	98,000,000
General Fund	1,298,200,000	220,800,000	252,200,000	1,771,200,000
Other - Third Party Financing	75,500,000	71,000,000	23,000,000	169,500,000
Agency Bonds	35,000,000	-	-	35,000,000
Total	1,479,700,000	297,800,000	296,200,000	2,073,700,000

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PLAN OVERVIEW

Western Kentucky University (WKU) has long recognized the importance of strategic planning in shaping the future of its campus and ensuring that capital investments align with institutional priorities. The integration of campus capital planning into WKU's broader long-term vision remains a key focus, guided by the Campus Master Plan 2021-2031, Strategic Plan 2018-2028, and insights from the 2017 VFA Facility Assessment. These foundational planning documents have informed the 2022-2028 Capital Plan, which emphasizes student recruitment, retention, and success. Investments in existing facilities, new construction, transportation infrastructure, and campus landscape improvements are designed to create a more flexible, adaptable, and sustainable environment that supports WKU's evolving needs.

Unlike private enterprises, which assess facilities based on direct return on investment, WKU views its physical environment as an essential, mission-critical component of the educational experience. The university's buildings and infrastructure directly impact instruction, research, and student engagement. A well-maintained, modern campus is vital to fostering academic excellence, supporting faculty innovation, and enriching the overall student experience.

However, previous capital planning efforts have not secured adequate resources to address the growing backlog of deferred maintenance and infrastructure deterioration. The aging condition of many campus facilities presents an ongoing challenge that, if left unaddressed, could hinder WKU's ability to provide high-quality educational experiences. Investing in facility renewal is essential for sustaining a vibrant learning environment, supporting economic development, enhancing the quality of life, and ensuring continued excellence in higher education at all levels.

This six-year capital plan is ambitious but necessary. It reflects WKU's unwavering commitment to providing students from diverse backgrounds with rigorous academic programs across education, the liberal arts and sciences, health sciences, and business. With a strong emphasis on baccalaureate and masters programs, complemented by select associate and doctoral offerings, these investments align with the evolving landscape of post-secondary education in Kentucky. The priority projects outlined in this plan are designed to advance WKU's mission while strengthening its role as a leader in higher education and a key contributor to regional growth and innovation.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Proposed Projects Involving the General Fund (cash or bonds)

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

2026-2028 Biennium

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

1 Construct Potter College Arts & Letters Fac

280,000,000

The Potter College of Arts & Letters facilities require significant improvements to address aging infrastructures, enhance safety, and ensure accessibility for all users. This comprehensive, multi-phase project will focus on optimizing spaces to better serve students, faculty, staff, and visitors. A complete needs assessment will be conducted to determine which buildings and spaces can be reused and where new structures may be needed to meet long-term academic and institutional goals. Planned improvements will focus on modernizing essential building systems to enhance overall safety, functionality, and compliance with current regulatory standards. This includes upgrades to life safety and emergency response systems, improvements to environmental conditions, and enhancements to occupant health and comfort. The project will also incorporate measures to address potential environmental hazards, ensure efficient building performance, and support long-term sustainability objectives. Additionally, modifications will be made to improve accessibility and inclusivity, aligning spaces with contemporary standards to better serve all users. These improvements will contribute to a more resilient and adaptable environment, ensuring that facilities remain responsive to evolving academic and operational needs. By reimagining and revitalizing these spaces, the project will provide an enhanced learning and working environment while balancing historical preservation with modern functionality. It will accommodate evolving academic and programmatic needs, ensuring that Potter College continues to foster creativity, scholarship, and engagement for years to come. The scope will be carefully developed in alignment with institutional priorities, with attention to maximizing long-term value and sustainability. The project will encompass upgraded or newly developed space, reflecting WKU's commitment to excellence in arts and humanities education. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *This project was included in several previous capital plans, #2 priority in the last plan at a scope of \$120,400,000.*
- *This is a phased project. The first phase shall be to conduct a feasibility study for master planning purposes with regard to determination of phases by location spatial needs. Project phase budgets and schedules shall be determined from this initial master plan.*

- 2 Construct Environmental Sciences and Tech 250,000,000**
- Western Kentucky University plans to raze the existing Environmental Sciences and Technology Building to make way for the construction of a new, state-of-the-art facility. This next-generation building will continue to serve as a cornerstone for environmental and applied science education and research, offering an interdisciplinary environment that supports innovation, sustainability, and real-world solutions to global environmental challenges. The new facility will be designed with flexibility in mind to accommodate evolving academic, research, and technological needs. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- *New project - has not been listed in a previous capital plan.*
 - *The project has been informed by WKU's campus master plan and long-range facilities planning efforts, which identify this site and program as a high priority for reinvestment. Early planning discussions with internal stakeholders and external consultants have confirmed the strategic importance of replacing rather than renovating the existing building in order to maximize long-term value, flexibility, and performance.*
- 3 Renovate Ogden College of Science & Engineering 250,000,000**
- This project to renovate Ogden College of Science & Engineering facilities is needed to address major infrastructure upgrades, and extensive interior work. This project is a multi-phase, multi-year renovation project that will involve various types of improvements in the existing buildings including modifications to spaces, equipment or building systems, and materials, including: fire safety-exits, emergency lighting, detectors and alarm systems, and sprinklers, asbestos and lead paint abatement, air duct system cleaning, and lighting improvements. Accommodations will also be made to address ADA accessibility that currently are not code compliant better serving our visitors, students, faculty and staff. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- *This project was included in several previous capital plans, #8 priority in the last plan at a scope of \$120,800,000.*
 - *Brought forward in time using the average of four historical inflation cost indexes to current dollars, then escalated forward in time based upon the current construction inflation rate to the estimated bid date.*
- 4 Demolition of Grise Hall and Improve Site 5,000,000**
- The Grise Hall demolition and site improvement project will remove the outdated academic building and prepare the site for future development, enhancing the functionality and aesthetics of the campus. The project includes the removal of building space and associated infrastructure, with site improvements to support potential new construction or green space. This effort aligns with university planning goals. (C-O)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- *This project may be undertaken in phases over multiple biennia, depending on funding availability, institutional priorities, and evolving campus needs. Future phases may involve additional site preparation, infrastructure upgrades, or facility enhancements to ensure long-term functionality and alignment with the university's strategic plan.*

5 Renovate College High Hall 48,400,000

College High Hall houses math classrooms, as well as the university's math tutoring and testing centers, supporting the academic success of students across disciplines. Additionally, College High Hall is home to various departments within the Ogden College of Science and Engineering (OCSE), including Architectural Science, Civil Engineering, Computer Information Technology (CIT), Computer Science, Construction Management, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Technology Management, Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering, and Industrial Education. The Center for Energy Systems Lab, an innovative hub for research and development, also resides within this facility.

This multi-functional space is central to advancing WKU's mission of providing exceptional education, fostering innovation, and promoting interdisciplinary collaboration. By hosting both academic programs and specialized labs, College High Hall plays a pivotal role in preparing students for careers in STEM and other technical fields. Through ongoing efforts, including planned renovations and updates, WKU is committed to ensuring that College High Hall continues to provide a state-of-the-art environment that meets the evolving needs of students, faculty, and researchers while upholding the university's strategic vision for growth and excellence. (C-O)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *New project - has not been listed in a previous capital plan.*

6 Renovate South Campus for Dental Hygiene 7,000,000

WKU's Dental Hygiene program needs an upgraded facility to increase its enrollment capacity and meet the growing demand for dental hygienists in the region. The current space is limited and cannot accommodate the number of students needed to expand the program effectively. Upgrading the space will allow for the addition of more clinical stations, modern equipment, and expanded classroom areas, providing students with the hands-on training necessary for success while supporting WKU's ability to admit more students and address workforce shortages in the dental healthcare field. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *New project - has not been listed in a previous capital plan.*

7 Renovate space for CRNA simulation space 5,000,000

Upgrading the space for CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) simulation is essential to provide a more effective and immersive learning environment for students. This upgrade will involve enhancing existing facilities with state-of-the-art simulation equipment and technology, allowing students to practice anesthesia techniques in realistic, controlled settings. The improvements will support hands-on training, improve educational outcomes, and better prepare students for real-world clinical situations, ensuring they are equipped with the skills and experience needed to excel in their careers. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *New project - has not been listed in a previous capital plan.*

8 Renovate Horse Barns Ag Expo 3,000,000

The WKU L.D. Brown Agricultural Exposition Center was completed in 1980. Over the years, the facility has received minimum maintenance for upkeep and no major renovations. As a result, the facility is beginning to show its age. Despite this deterioration, the facility still serves as major outreach for the University to the local and regional communities. Currently, drainage issues with the stall barns behind the facility are threatening to halt the Ag Expo Centers ability to continue to serve this outreach purpose. While there is a wide range of events at the Ag Expo Center from educational conferences to motocross events, the majority have centered on equine events. The equine industry is still one of the top agriculture industries in the state. Due to the investment and value of an individual animal coupled with an emotional attachment (horse owners do not consider their horses as livestock), an elevated standard is expected when it comes to housing of equine. Poor drainage of stall barns has rendered one almost useless for housing of equine during events and is threatening an additional second barn. Water runs into barns which causes erosion in stalls and subsequent potting of the floors. Furthermore, standing water in alleyways is an issue during events. The poor drainage is starting to damage the structure of the barns themselves. Inadequate stalls limit the size of equine related events the Ag Expo Center can host. As a result, lost revenue streams have occurred and current events may move away from the facility in the future if these issues are left unaddressed. This issue also limits the Ag Expo Centers ability to attract new events related to the livestock industry, especially equine. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *This project was included in several previous capital plans. The most recent plan had a scope of \$2,400,000.*

9 Renovate Kentucky Building 39,900,000

This project will fund a functional renovation of the Kentucky Building. The project is expected to complete the renovation recommended by the 2006 VFA Facility Condition & Space Study: ""The Kentucky Building needs fire code renovations. The storage rooms do not comply with current fire safety requirements. The Kentucky Museum is relatively large. There is currently storage in spaces that would make good gallery spaces. The Museum could demonstrate added value through a programmatic concept showing how they could make use of additional exhibit spaces. There are mechanical and glazing issues."" (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *This project was included in several previous capital plans, #6 priority in the last plan.*
- *Kentucky Library and Museum, 80,866 gsf, 3 floors, originally constructed in 1939. This building is on the Historic Register.*

10 Renovate Raymond Cravens Library 47,600,000

The project will provide the construction funds to completely renovate Cravens Library and provide for the modernization of this building. Cravens was built in 1969, is 48 years old and has 9 floors totaling 96,887 gsf. The VFA Facility Condition & Space Study indicates the library spaces are dated. There are no adequate group study rooms. Compact shelving can only be used in the basement level. The amount of user seating is less than most accepted targets would suggest. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *This project was included in several previous capital plans, #5 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.*
- *This is a phased project. The first phase shall be to conduct a feasibility study for master planning purposes with regard to determination of phases by location spatial needs. Project phase budgets and schedules shall be determined from this initial master plan.*

- 11 Enhance Avenue of Champions streetscaping 4,000,000**
- Project would enhance the streetscape of Avenue of Champions at the lower end of WKU's campus, extending and connecting the Bowling Green Greenway.
The improvements strive to slow traffic exiting campus and improve pedestrian safety. (C-O)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the previous capital plan at the same estimated cost.
 - This project may be undertaken in phases over multiple biennia, depending on funding availability, institutional priorities, and evolving campus needs. Future phases may involve additional site preparation, infrastructure upgrades, or facility enhancements to ensure long-term functionality and alignment with the university's strategic plan.
- 12 Construct State Street Plaza 6,000,000**
- Create a pedestrian friendly plaza along State Street bounded by College Heights Blvd and Kiss Me Quick Alley. The priority is to emphasize pedestrian safety and eliminate or minimize vehicular conflicts in this area which connects the Ogden College of Science and Engineering with the main campus. A pedestrian/traffic conflict study was conducted in 2019 to support this. (C-O)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the last two capital plans, with the same estimated cost as the last plan.
 - This will be a phased project with the phases being established based upon minimization of vehicle and pedestrian impact during construction.
- 13 Renovate and Expand Innovation Campus (CRD) 101,000,000**
- The Center for Research and Development is a 214,560 sq ft facility currently housing a number of start-up programs for entrepreneurship and business development. The facility is in need of major deferred maintenance items, in particular a \$5,000,000 roof. This project is a multi-phase, multi-year renovation project that will involve various types of improvements in the existing buildings including modifications to spaces, equipment or building systems, and materials, including: fire safety, emergency lighting, detectors and alarm systems, and sprinklers, asbestos and lead paint abatement, air duct system cleaning, and lighting improvements. Accommodations will also be made to address ADA accessibility that currently are not code compliant better serving our visitors, students, faculty and staff. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in previous capital plans, #4 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.
- 14 Renovate Glasgow Campus 28,500,000**
- The 58,152 sq ft building constructed in 2001 is now in excess of 20 years old and most building systems are at the end of useful life. These include the roof, HVAC systems, lighting systems, and IT systems. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the previous capital plan, #14 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.
 - The building systems are at and/or beyond expected useful life. Failures in systems affecting the educational environment are becoming more common and must be addressed.

- 15 Renovate Hardin Planetarium 3,000,000**
- The Hardin Planetarium on WKU's campus is in need of maintenance work on its exterior. This was identified in the Facilities Condition Assessment by VFA in 2006. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the previous capital plan, #10 priority in the last plan with a scope of \$2,000,000.
 - Hardin Planetarium is a 6000 SF facility that was constructed in 1967 and has served the campus and local community continuously since that time. There have only been minor improvements made to the facility during its life, and its unique dome structure is now in need of rehabilitation.
- 16 Capital Renewal Pool 10,000,000**
- Possible multi-phased, multi-year pool listing:
- Exterior Windows...\$1M
 Boiler Repairs...\$1.2M
 HVAC..... \$1.3M
 Roofing. \$1.8M
 Pedestrian Paving. \$1.2M
 Roadways. \$1.8M
 Life Safety/Controls. \$1M
 Elevators. ... \$1.2M
 Other infrastructure and major maintenance as needed. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in several previous capital plans, #19 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.
- 17 Renovate WL Terry Colonnade 5,000,000**
- The W.L. Terry Colonnade was constructed in 1927 and is located at the top of the seating in the original football stadium. Much effort has been made over the years to maintain the structural integrity of the limestone, but it is now in need of major renovation to extend its life. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the previous capital plan with a scope of \$3,000,000.
 - These costs were adjusted for current construction inflation to align with the projected bid date.
- 18 Renovate Central Heat Plant 5,000,000**
- On March 21, 2011, the Environmental Protection Agency finalized its emissions rule for industrial, commercial and institutional boilers and process heaters, known as the Industrial Boiler Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard. WKU retired two permitted coal fired boilers, replaced them with natural gas boilers, and achieved compliance with the EPA Boiler MACT regulations as required by March 21, 2014.
- This renovation of the central steam plant is necessary to complete this transformation. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in several previous capital plans, #13 priority in the last plan with the same scope of \$5,100,000.

19 Upgrade IT Infrastructure 6,000,000

The purpose of this project is to upgrade the IT infrastructure for increased demand and reliance on all manners of technology and related services. The university already employs very conservative replacement cycles for infrastructure assets but even with those elongated cycles, we are unable to meet our goals with operating funds due to financial pressure. This project enables our students and employees by delivering and supporting increasingly capable academic and administrative systems: Expanding and modernizing network infrastructure including wireless, connectivity speed, and redundancies. Enhancing public and private cloud capabilities. Strengthening cybersecurity measures with updated security mechanisms and protocols. Improving operational efficiency through the deployment of modern technology tools. Providing a robust foundation for continually emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics, and remote collaboration tools. The ultimate goal is to increase the availability of the university's IT services while providing scalable and secure services to meet the needs of those we serve on campus or wherever they may be. (IT)

20 Renovate Grise Hall 5,000,000

This project is needed for a renovation and repurpose of the current home of the Gordon Ford College of Business, Finley Grise Hall. The five story 133,067 square foot building has an office wing, classroom-laboratory wing, and an auditorium lecture extension. This renovation project will involve various upgrades/replacements and modifications to spaces, equipment or building systems, and materials for the purpose of minimizing risks to human health and safety. Both in the state wide higher education Facilities Condition Assessment by VFA in 2006 classified this building as in Poor condition. While this facilities have been well maintained, age is taking its toll on individual components within systems in the buildings as they all have exceeded their useful life. (C-O)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *This project was included in several previous capital plans, #15 priority in the last plan with the same scope of \$2,000,000.*
- *This project will be a multi-year, multi-phased depending on funding and project programming needs of the University. A more developed phasing schedule will be available when the project design moves forward and a consultant is included in the planning.*

21 Renovate Jones Jagers Hall 60,000,000

This 47,061 SF building was constructed in 1969 and designed as a lab school. The usage has changed many times over the years but the current plan is to utilize this space for our educational program. The university will be doing an analysis of this building to determine the best approach. We will review several different options to determine what is most economical and feasible for the university. The building currently needs extensive interior and exterior renovations and complete system upgrades to provide for current and expected future use. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- *This project was included in the previous capital plan, #7 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.*
- *Head Start, TRIO, Veterans Upward Bound facilities are housed in this 47,061 sq ft facility constructed in 1969. All HVAC unit ventilators were replaced in 2012. The chiller and primary outside-air units were replaced in 2016. The roof was re-coated in 2016.*

- 22 Renovate Jones Jagers Interior 1,300,000**
- Renovation to the existing Jones-Jagers school, which is aging in all aspects and in need of repairs. Should budget allow, a classroom addition would be constructed to aid in the current lack of space for the infants and toddlers. (C-O)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the previous capital plan, #16 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.
 - This project may be undertaken in phases over multiple biennia, depending on funding availability, institutional priorities, and evolving campus needs. Future phases may involve additional site preparation, infrastructure upgrades, or facility enhancements to ensure long-term functionality and alignment with the university's strategic plan.
- 23 Repair/Replace Roof at Ctr Research Development 6,000,000**
- Repair/replace 105,991 square feet of modified bitumen roof and 148,938 square feet of EDPM single ply roof at the Center for Research and Development. May be multi-phase, multi-year project. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project has been included in previous capital plans, #9 in the last plan with the same estimated cost.
 - The roof is now reaching the end of its useful life and it will be necessary to either replace or coat.
- 24 Replace Underground Infrastructure 5,000,000**
- This project continues the multi-year, multi-phased replacement of the existing 5kv underground electrical distribution infrastructure; replacement of campus underground steam lines; and replace underground domestic water, sanitary sewer, and storm lines. Because of delays in funding, continued deterioration of the existing infrastructure and the rapid growth of the campus, it has become necessary to complete the upgrade in one combined project to avoid a catastrophic failure of the respective systems. (C-PI)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project has been included in several previous capital plans.
 - Due to funding constraints, only eleven phases have been performed which amount to an approximately 80% completion of the overall project. WKU estimates that they have approximately \$6.0M left to complete the high voltage upgrade to all of their facilities.
- 25 Construct One Stop Student Service 82,000,000**
- Western Kentucky University would like to implement a One Stop Student Service facility to improve the efficiency of service for students. As the demographics of the student body changes, the university must be flexible in providing convenient access for student services. (C-O)
- CPAB Staff Notes
- This project was included in the previous capital plan, #11 priority in the last plan at a scope of \$81,600,000.

26 Improve Life Safety Pool/Academic Bldgs 34,500,000

This project will involve various types of measures in existing buildings including modifications to spaces, equipment or building systems, and materials for the purpose of minimizing risks to human health and safety. Both in the state wide higher education Facilities Condition Assessment by VFA in 2006 classified this building as in Poor condition. While these facilities have been well maintained, age is taking its toll on individual components within systems in the buildings as they physically wear out. In a more recent FM Global Risk Report, dated 13th of November 2015 certain potential hazards and conditions were evaluated and recommendations were made to minimize the possibility of costly interruptions to our operations. By providing adequate ceiling sprinkler protection will help ensure that if a fire does occur, the affected building will sustain limited damage. Sprinkler protection minimizes not only fire damage, but also smoke and water damage. (C-PI)

CPAB Staff Notes

- This project was included in the previous capital plan, #12 priority in the last plan at the same estimated cost.
- This project will include multiple buildings, and will be phased over the next few years. A more developed phasing schedule will be available when the project moves forward and a consultant is included in the planning.

2026-2028 Biennium Total:	1,298,200,000
<u>2028-2030 Biennium</u>	
Construct WKU Academy	42,000,000
Renovate Agriculture Expo Center	24,000,000
Renovate Gordon Wilson Hall	43,100,000
Renovate Industrial Education Building	22,200,000
Renovate Jody Richards Hall	52,000,000
Renovate PS1 Ground Level/Facilities Mgmt	14,900,000
Renovate Service Supply Building	22,600,000
2028-2030 Biennium Total:	220,800,000

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

2030-2032 Biennium

Construct South Reg Postsec Ed Center - Phase II	19,000,000
Construct WKU Owensboro, Phase II	18,400,000
Improve PS1	9,000,000
Renovate and Improve Downing Student Union	10,000,000
Renovate Engineering and Biological Sciences	18,000,000
Renovate Florence Schneider Hall	30,000,000
Renovate Gary Ransdell Hall	12,000,000
Renovate HCIC	10,000,000
Renovate Knicely Conference Center	39,900,000
Renovate Potter Hall	46,900,000
Renovate Van Meter Hall	14,000,000
Renovate Wetherby Administration Building	25,000,000
2030-2032 Biennium Total:	<hr/> 252,200,000

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
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)

Acquire FF&E Diddle Arena

5,000,000 OT

This project would provide authorization to purchase fixtures, furniture, and equipment, and other items needed for the existing E.A. Diddle Arena facility. Currently we have needs to replace and improve existing systems: sound system, lighting, scoreboards, and production equipment capabilities. We would like to add bleachers to increase the overall seating in the arena. Repair and replace infrastructure as required to enhance our training facilities located within this facility. This project would also allow us to provide some upgrades to our concession areas. (EQ)

Acquire FF&E Equipment Pool

5,000,000 RF

Purchase equipment over \$200,000. (EQ)

Acquire FFE CHHS

8,000,000 RF

The acquisition of Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FFE) for the College of Health and Human Services is essential to support student learning, faculty instruction, and research. This project will furnish classrooms, labs, and collaborative spaces in renovated or newly constructed space, ensuring compliance with academic standards. Upgraded FFE will enhance functionality, improve accessibility, and create a modern learning environment that aligns with current industry and educational best practices. (EQ)

Acquire FFE Media

20,000,000 RF

The acquisition of Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FFE) for WKU media programs is essential to supporting hands-on learning, professional production standards, and evolving industry technology. This project will equip classrooms, studios, editing labs, and collaborative spaces to enhance student engagement and skill development in broadcasting, film, journalism, and digital media. Upgraded FFE will ensure compliance with industry standards, improve accessibility, and create a cutting-edge environment that prepares students for careers in media and communication. Modern equipment and furnishings will also support faculty instruction, interdisciplinary collaboration, and WKU's commitment to providing a state-of-the-art media education experience. (EQ)

Add Club Seating at Diddle Arena

10,000,000 OT

Diddle Arena received a complete renovation in 2003. Most of the bench seating was replaced with chair backs except in the two ends of the bowl. The Hilltopper Athletic Foundation (HAF) would like to add additional bleacher seating at each end of the arena and construct four to eight additional sky boxes. This project is a multi-year and/or multi-phase depending on the need of HAF. (C-PI)

Construct Baseball Grandstand

6,000,000 OT

This privately funded project will improve and expand the current baseball venue. This multi-phased, multi-year improvements project to the baseball stadium include a variety of new seating to bring the capacity up to 2,000 seats, a new elevated concourse, and new entry plaza with perimeter treatment consistent with all campus athletic facilities, new hitting facilities as needed to support program, a redesigned parking lot, storage, toilets, and concession area, new infrastructure as needed to support improvements. (C-O)

Construct Parking Structure IV**35,000,000 BD**

WKU would like to construct a new 1000 space parking garage on the North end of campus. With the increase of development on this end of campus, it's apparent the need for more parking. In the last several years, the university has expanded toward the downtown area. This parking garage would accommodate commuter parking, resident parking, event, and visitor parking. This project is consistent with current and past master planning documents and reports. (C-O)

Construct South Plaza**5,000,000 OT**

Renovate and construct the area between WKU Preston Center and the west entrance to Houchens Industries-L.T. Smith Stadium to create South Plaza. Improvement could include: infrastructure upgrades, lighting, irrigation, landscape and hardscape improvement, along with a potential for structures for gathering. This project is multi-year and/or multi-phased depending on the Hilltopper Athletic Foundation project program. (C-O)

Energy Saving Performance Contracting**15,000,000 OT**

The project will perform energy saving retrofits in various campus buildings.
This project is necessary to allow the reduction of energy consumption in campus buildings. (C-PI)

Expand Track and Field Facilities**6,500,000 OT**

The track facility was built in 2008 knowing there would be several phases to this project. WKU athletics would like to continue to expand this highly used facility. This next phase would include a project to add the following: field house, grandstands, landscape and walk ways, scoreboard, upgrades in utilities, lighting, and AV components. (C-O)

Purch Property for Campus Expansion**3,000,000 RF**

This project will allow the university to purchase property as it becomes available around the campus. (C-O)

Purchase Prop/Parking& Street Improve**3,000,000 RF**

This project is required to provide future expansion for the university. As property becomes available adjacent to the campus, the university will evaluate the usefulness of the property. (C-O)

Remove and Replace Student Housing @ Farm**10,000,000 OT**

Project would allow removal & replacement of dilapidated housing, currently occupied by students who live and work on the WKU Farm in conjunction with their educational tract. Houses are extremely inefficient and in many cases also have safety issues. (C-O)

Renovate and Expand Clinical Education Complex**10,000,000 OT**

This project would expand and functionally renovate of the Clinical Education Complex to support program growth, current space needs, and improve utilization. (C-O)

Renovate CRD Phase I**12,000,000 OT/RF**

This project will renovate a total of 17,000 sq ft to accommodate multiple offices of various sizes for community economic development needs and mixed use performance and meeting space. (C-PI)

Renovate MCHC for CRNA program**3,000,000 RF**

The renovation of the Medical Center Health Complex (MCHC) for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) program is essential to creating a state-of-the-art learning environment that supports advanced clinical training. This project will upgrade existing classrooms, simulation labs, and collaborative spaces to accommodate the specialized needs of CRNA students and faculty. Improvements will include modernized instructional spaces, upgraded technology, and enhanced simulation equipment to align with industry and accreditation standards. These renovations will ensure students receive hands-on, high-quality training in a setting that mirrors real-world healthcare environments, ultimately strengthening workforce readiness and supporting the growing demand for CRNAs in the region. (C-PI)

Renovate Owensboro Campus for CRNA**3,000,000 RF**

This project will renovate space for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) program and is essential to

creating a state-of-the-art learning environment that supports advanced clinical training. This project will upgrade existing classrooms, simulation labs, and collaborative spaces to accommodate the specialized needs of CRNA students and faculty.

Improvements will include modernized instructional spaces, upgraded technology, and enhanced simulation equipment to align with industry and accreditation standards. These renovations will ensure students receive hands-on, high-quality training in a setting that mirrors real-world healthcare environments, ultimately strengthening workforce readiness and supporting the growing demand for CRNAs in the region. (C-PI)

Renovate South Campus**6,000,000 RF**

Renovate areas in the South Campus complex for programmatic needs or changes. (C-PI)

Renovate space for Exercise Science Program**10,000,000 RF**

Upgrades to the Exercise Science program at WKU are necessary to ensure students have access to state-of-the-art equipment and facilities that reflect the latest advancements in fitness and health science. With growing demand for qualified professionals in the fields of wellness, sports performance, and rehabilitation, it is essential to provide hands-on learning environments that enhance student preparedness for the workforce. Additionally, modernized spaces and technology will foster research opportunities and allow students to engage in cutting-edge practices that align with industry standards and improve career readiness. (C-PI)

Renovate State/Normal Street Properties**2,000,000 RF**

Consistent with our campus master plan, the university is interested in obtaining/purchasing properties along and adjacent to State and Normal Streets. This project will include funding for the purchase and/or improvements to these properties. (C-PI)

Upgrade Softball Facilities and Field**4,000,000 OT/RF**

The WKU softball facilities and field serves part of our athletic program, providing a dedicated space for student-athletes to train, compete, and showcase their talents. Located on Western Kentucky University's campus in Bowling Green, Kentucky, the facility supports team excellence and fosters school spirit among fans and the community. However, as the program continues to grow and compete at a high level, the softball field requires critical upgrades, including turf replacement. Updating the playing surface is essential to maintaining player safety, improving performance conditions, and ensuring the field remains a top-tier venue for competition and recruitment. (C-PI)

2026-2028 Biennium Total:

181,500,000

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Proposed Projects Involving Other Fund Sources
(amounts in **bold** are the total budget)

2028-2030 Biennium

Construct Equine Facility at WKU Farm	25,000,000 OT
Purch Property for Campus Expansion	3,000,000 RF
Purchase Prop/Parking & Street Improve	3,000,000 RF
Ren & Expand Intramural Sports Complex	16,000,000 OT
Ren & Expand Student Intramural Rec Fac @ PHAC	30,000,000 OT
2028-2030 Biennium Total:	<hr/> 77,000,000

2030-2032 Biennium

Purch Property for Campus Expansion	3,000,000 RF
Purchase Prop/Parking & Street Improve	3,000,000 RF
Renovate CRD Phase II	30,000,000 RF/OT
Renovate Eva and Jim Martens Alumni Center	8,000,000 OT
2030-2032 Biennium Total:	<hr/> 44,000,000