



MEMORANDUM

October 4, 2024

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 USHE Capital Budget Recommendation

The Board has a statutory requirement to develop a strategic capital facility plan for the System, including establishing a project prioritization process in accordance with the Utah Codes [53B-22-204](#) and [53B-2a-117](#). Board [Policy R741, Threshold Requirements for Capital Development Project Requests](#), further defines basic requirements for institutional capital project requests, including criteria for cost-effectiveness and efficient use of resources, consistency with institutional role, mission and master plan, and fulfillment of a critical institutional facility need. By statute and policy, the Board shall neither prioritize nor submit for approval for legislative funding a capital project that does not meet these requirements.

Institutional requests for dedicated capital projects, if approved by the Board, should be internally funded (with the exception of operation and maintenance costs) using institutional funds and state appropriations to the Higher Education Capital Project Fund or Technical College Capital Projects Fund, respectively. FY 2025-26 institutional requests for dedicated capital projects are as follows:

Degree-Granting FY 2025-26 Dedicated Project Requests

Institution	Capital Project	Project Cost	O&M
USU	Dee Glen Smith Spectrum Building Remodel	\$30,000,000	\$651,300
UTU	McDonald Building Renovation & Addition	\$27,367,000	\$407,700
SUU	South Edge of Campus Landbank	\$6,635,000	\$0
SUU	Business Building West Cost-Escalation	\$1,365,100	\$0
UVU	Student Athlete Building	\$29,000,000	\$317,700
UVU	Health Professions 2 Building (Design)	\$7,734,100	\$0
WSU	Student Services Support Center Remodel	\$10,704,500	\$214,200
WSU	Allied Health South Building Remodel	\$4,679,000	\$449,400
SLCC	South City Campus Seismic Upgrade	\$37,706,600	\$0
Snow	Washburn Building Entrance Addition	\$6,455,000	\$45,600

Technical College FY 2025-26 Dedicated Project Requests

Institution	Capital Project	Project Cost	O&M
SWTC	Diesel Tech Program Bays	\$1,500,000	\$53,200
TTC	Adjacent Property Landbank	\$640,000	\$0

Institutional requests for non-dedicated projects are scored by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education against various standards for industrial demand, space utilization, and cost efficiency, among other variables (see Attachment 3). Subsequent to the Office of the Commissioner scoring, the Board may prioritize non-dedicated projects according to qualitative criteria, such as how well the project supports system-level strategic initiatives, or quantitative factors outside of the scoring process, such as the total dollar amount requested, in the context of the state revenue environment. Upon final prioritization, the top-ranking projects for degree-granting institutions and technical colleges may advance to the Governor and Legislature as funding requests for consideration in the upcoming legislative session. Moreover, by Board policy, the Board may elect to hold the list of projects and their ranking unchanged for a period of up to three years.

Degree-Granting FY 2025-26 Non-Dedicated Project Requests

Institution	Capital Project	Project Cost	O&M
USU	Math, AI, Data/Analytics Center	\$46,584,700	\$286,200
SUU	Engineering & Comp Sciences Building	\$79,997,400	\$1,080,000
UTU	Health Sciences & Taylor Building	\$95,945,100	\$1,040,100
UVU	Health Professions 2 Building	\$150,000,000	\$1,867,100
UU	Community & Family Health Building	\$412,634,500	\$2,989,000

Technical College FY 2025-26 Non-Dedicated Project Requests

Institution	Capital Project	Project Cost	O&M
SWTC	Public Safety Building	\$25,031,000	\$295,100
DXTC	Trades & Technology Building	\$73,491,800	\$965,200
UBTC	Health Sciences Building	\$74,961,300	\$1,021,900

Commissioner’s Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends the Board review and consider for approval the Fiscal Year 2025-26 institutional dedicated capital project requests. The Commissioner further recommends that the Board review and prioritize institutional non-dedicated capital project requests, with a determination of projects recommended for funding in the next legislative session. Finally, the Commissioner recommends that the Board defer a decision until the next budget cycle as to whether the non-dedicated projects and their ranking be frozen.

Attachments

- Attachment 1 – Degree-Granting Higher Education Capital Project Fund Balances (Estimated)
- Attachment 2 – Technical College Capital Project Fund Proposal (Estimated)
- Attachment 3 – Non-Dedicated Capital Project Scoring Criteria