FY 2024
BUDGET REQUEST
FOR
OPERATING
AND
CAPITAL FUNDS
PREPARED FOR THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOVEMBER 17, 2022

I UIC ☥️ UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SYSTEM
FY 2024

BUDGET REQUEST

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CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR FY 2024

Capital Executive Summary

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OPERATING BUDGET
REQUEST FOR FY 2024
FY 2024 OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

OVERVIEW

The University of Illinois System is one of most important contributors to economic and workforce development in the State of Illinois. With three best-in-class universities, a robust healthcare enterprise, and a celebrated legacy, the U of I System transforms lives and enhances public good for tens of thousands of citizens in the state (see Figure 1).

![Figure 1](image.png)

The University of Illinois System now educates over 94,800 students and harnesses its technical expertise, medical resources, and research capabilities to positively impact the state of Illinois and beyond. Our talented faculty generate over one billion dollars in research funding annually. And our student enrollment comprises over 51% of all students attending public universities in the state. Last year, our three universities together graduated over 24,700 students, seventy percent of whom stayed in Illinois to become taxpayers and leaders in their communities. UI Health—the system’s health care enterprise—provides critical services to some of the most vulnerable population in the State.
The University of Illinois System’s economic impact is significant. A study released in 2022 conducted by Lightcast (formerly Emsi) documented that the University of Illinois System contributes $18.9 billion to the state economy each year and supports over 164,000 jobs state-wide (see Figure 2).

The contributions of the U of I System to the State of Illinois were clearly visible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout this crisis, the U of I System has been an indispensable partner to state, city, and local governments and public health leaders. Our experts created predictive models of the spread of COVID-19 that provided governmental officials with critical information to manage the pandemic. U of I researchers also developed an accurate, easy to use, low-cost saliva-based test. The U of I System then established a statewide testing infrastructure and, in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), provided tests to public schools, colleges, and universities across the state. UI Health provided frontline medical services to heal our communities and conduct clinical trials for life saving drugs and vaccines. The system truly fulfilled its service mission by harnessing all its intellectual expertise, medical resources, and research capabilities to help steer Illinois and the country through the pandemic.
It is with this backdrop that the University of Illinois System requests an appropriation of $731.77 million in support of its operating budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 2024). The FY 2024 operating appropriation request reflects an increase of $76.53 million or 11.7 percent over the current year’s (FY 2023) appropriations. These incremental funds will ensure that the system can continue to serve the state of Illinois and its citizens. The requested increment will be a small step in reversing the decades long erosion in operating appropriations for public universities. The appropriation of $655.24 million in FY 2023, for example, was 14 percent below the level in FY 2010 in real dollar terms and 39 percent lower when adjusted for inflation.

**FY 2024 State appropriation request: $731.77M**

The University of Illinois System’s FY 2024 operating budget request will provide the funding necessary to implement and enhance key strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing educational opportunities for Illinois students and supporting the state’s economy. **The state of Illinois needs its flagship system now, more than ever.** We can help attract and retain talent to Illinois and grow the state’s infrastructure and economy. To do this, we need the state to provide us with a healthy FY 2024 budget.

The requested increase in funds will be used to support four areas. First, funding to improve student support, expanding our bridge programs, and enhancing mental health programs for students. The pandemic has shown that all universities can do more to support students in these areas. Our request of $7.5 million for each of those areas will ensure continued improvement in outcomes for underrepresented students and expanded mental health care for all. Second, we urgently need to keep on the path of
attracting great talent, which means recruiting and growing our faculty, especially in response to the significant growth in our enrollment, and to retain our current faculty by providing a competitive salary program. Talented faculty, after all, are the foundation of the university’s academic and research excellence. Specifically, we propose an investment of $10 million in state funding for our three-year initiative aimed at hiring new faculty to keep pace with our record system-wide enrollment growth, with a particular focus on increasing faculty from underrepresented groups. Funds also will be devoted to providing a competitive salary program to retain our talented faculty and staff who are being courted on a regular basis by peer universities. Third, we are facing unprecedented energy and other cost increases, and we are requesting $16.5 million to try to keep pace.

Requested operating budget details are shown in Table 1.

Table 1
University of Illinois System
FY 2024 Operating Budget Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Student Support</th>
<th>$ 15,000.0</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Bridge Programs</td>
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<td>B. Mental Health Programs</td>
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<th>II. Maintaining Competitiveness and Quality</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Recruiting and Growing Faculty to Meet Enrollment Demand</td>
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<td>B. Competitive Compensation</td>
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<th>III. Meet Inflationary and Other Cost Increases</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Cost Increases</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. General Price Increases</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Utilities Price Increases</td>
<td>8,536.0</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Request</th>
<th>$ 76,528.9</th>
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<tr>
<td>% increase in state appropriated funds</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
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BRIDGE PROGRAMS

($7,500,000)

OVERVIEW

Bridge programs provide access, academic support and financial aid to students who show academic promise for succeeding in college but may need some preparatory work. Available primarily to full-time, high school matriculated students, the programs are designed to provide academic support to students pursuing a four-year degree at our universities. Per state legislation, the students must be residents and must meet the definition of an underrepresented student. Each of the three universities in the U of I System has implemented bridge programs to assist students that meet the above-mentioned criteria. With additional support from the state, these programs can be significantly expanded to benefit many more students.

ILLINOIS SCHOLARS PROGRAM – UIUC

The Illinois Scholars Program, created in 2018, is a summer bridge program spanning 4 weeks in length that is designed to guide undergraduate students’ transition to the university by providing historically underserved students a wide range of educational, personal, social, and cultural opportunities. This experience provides individualized support, academic preparedness in math and writing, and unique opportunities to interface with campus. Students receive 4 weeks of math and writing preparation in a non-credit course led by campus professionals. This is an on-site program, where the students reside in campus housing facilities and are provided with meals while on campus. The program is currently offered with a capacity of 60 students, and we are considering doubling capacity to 120 students. To date, there have been five cohorts, and the program has produced higher retention rates for those participating compared to students not in the program from similar backgrounds.
SUMMER COLLEGE PROGRAM – UIC

The University of Illinois Chicago offers a robust, tuition-free summer program to support students’ academic and socio-emotional transition from high school to college. The UIC Summer College provides an opportunity for incoming students to meet other students, to interact with staff and instructors on campus, and to brush up on math, writing, chemistry and/or music theory so they can move into college credit-bearing courses as they start their first semester at UIC.

The Summer College includes:

- 3- and 6-week academic enrichment programs in math, writing, chemistry, and music theory.
- Academic support programs provided by the Academic Center for Excellence, Asian American Mentor Program, Career Services, Hispanic Center for Excellence, President’s Award Program Academy, LARES, TRIO, and CHANCE.
- Several one-day programs and seminars to provide students with information on campus support services and opportunities that will help them transition to and be successful in college.
- Transportation assistance (CTA Ventra cards) for eligible students who otherwise could not afford travel to UIC to attend the Summer College.

Of the students enrolled in the program, roughly 68% are Pell recipients, 61% are first-generation, and 64% are underrepresented minority students. Students who attend Summer College Math and/or Writing academic enrichment programs display higher metrics of success than do those who are eligible but opt not to attend. For example:

- Attendees are more likely to succeed in first-year math and writing courses.
- 82% of the students completing the math and/or writing academic workshops revise their placements into credit-bearing courses as they start their first semester at UIC.
- Participating students had a first-to-second-year retention rate over 7 percentage points higher than the rate for eligible students in a control group who chose not to participate.
- Attendees earn 2 more credits in their first year than a control group of eligible students who chose not to participate.
- Graduation rates improve by 7 percentage points for attendees.
FLAMES LEADERSHIP NETWORK – UIC

The Flames Leadership Network (FLN) program serves incoming, first-year UIC students who are invested in their own academic success, using a holistic, proactive coaching model. The program, which began in 2017, has since served 1,727 unique first-year students to date. 86% of participants are first-generation college students, 88% are Pell recipients, and 92% are underrepresented minority students. A variety of intensive one-on-one asset-based support services are offered to students participating in the FLN program, including:

- A designated coach to help students transition from high school to college.
- Career services workshops to help students secure on-campus employment and explore career options.
- Monthly workshops to help improve essential soft skills related to success, such as time management and test taking strategies.
- Students are also encouraged to engage in a variety of UIC-related events.
- A $400 stipend ($200 per semester) in their first year.
- Emergency funding for students in the program.

Students who participate in the FLN program show significant advantages compared to those who do not:

- 7 percentage point higher first-to-second-year retention rate for underrepresented minority students than the rate for eligible underrepresented students in a comparison group.
- Students in FLN experience fewer academic dismissals (6 percentage points less) than eligible students in a comparison group.
- FLN students experience fewer financial aid cancellations (9 percentage points less) compared to those from eligible students in a comparison group.
- Based on a 2021 survey, 100% of FLN respondents felt that the program has been a supportive resource in their first year.

STARS AND SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAMS – UIS

Launched in 2011, Students Transitioning for Academic Retention and Success (STARS) at the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) is a living-learning community specifically developed to provide increased academic support for students who may be underprepared for college-level coursework. Students are invited into the program based on their academic profiles and are supported by UIS staff, student peer mentors, and faculty members involved in programs designed to help the students improve their study skills. Prior to the school year, STARS students participate in Summer Bridge, a two-week on-campus summer experience that prepares them for the transition to college life. Of the students that participate, 90% are a racial or ethnic minority, 83% are female, 42% are first-generation college students, and 85% are Pell Eligible. On average, students that have participated in STARS have a retention rate nearly 6% higher compared to their comparable peers. Additionally, since the program
began in 2011, 87% of participating students were retained from their first to second semester, and 71% of students were retained to their second year.

**NECESSARY STEPS MENTORING PROGRAM - UIS**

Established in 2009, the Necessary Steps Mentoring Program is designed to help transition first-generation students to university life. Mentors help students identify and overcome problems they may face throughout their first year in college. The students reside together on a single floor in campus housing (separate from the STARS living-learning community) and take a yearlong series of classes as a cohort. Of the students who participate, 83% are a racial or ethnic minority and 69% are female. When compared to similar peers who do not participate in Necessary Steps, retention rates of participants are 12% higher after the first semester and 13% higher after the eighth semester.

**SUMMARY**

The five summer bridge programs across the U of I System are proven successes, but they are also very resource intensive. **To expand these programs, we are requesting $7.5 million of operational support as part of our FY 2024 appropriations.** With this funding we can build capacity to expand enrollment from the roughly 600 students per year currently enrolled to nearly 2,000 students per year. These initiatives have been a boon to success for in-state students from underrepresented groups, and we hope to continue reaching and helping these students succeed for many years to come.
MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

($7,500,000)

OVERVIEW

There are many programs at each of our universities designed to assist students with their mental health. During the pandemic, the mental health needs of our students expanded dramatically, and the U of I System’s three universities all added new mental health resources and programs. Some of these programs are described below, but student surveys clearly demonstrate that the need for additional services is increasing every day.

While the system is committed to supporting the mental health of their students, faculty and staff, these programs are resource intensive. Thus, we ask for $7.5 million of recurring support as part of the FY 2024 operating appropriation.

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – UIUC

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign strives to foster a Community of Care in which mental health and wellness are infused throughout campus among all stakeholders, including students, faculty, and staff. The Illinois Student Assistance Center (SAC) in the Office of the Dean of Students is a key resource – in addition to triaging a broad range of student concerns and supporting students in crisis, students, faculty, staff, parents, and others can refer students of concern to the SAC. Referral forms are available online and reporting behaviors of concern to a central office allows trained staff to put together bigger picture trends in behaviors when applicable, facilitates earlier intervention, and provides a resource to help the individual making the referral to manage the difficult situation.

The pandemic has been difficult, but it has also been a time for reflection in our work. UIUC is listening to what students are saying they need during this time. The Counseling Center plays a key role in student mental health, and they recently added an online scheduling platform to facilitate convenient access to initial clinical appointments. The Counseling Center also added four new embedded counselors, which are licensed clinicians whose offices are housed in academic units and University Housing. The Counseling Center also added an important staff member in the Center itself – Canine Associate, AKC Certified Therapy Dog Louis Barnum.
UIUC also added a confidential and voluntary support service, My SSP, providing a 24/7 student program secure platform for counseling and related services for our students residing outside the state of Illinois. McKinley Mental Health added another psychiatrist to their staff and developed and pushed out a chatbot to help students navigate their resources such as immunizations. Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) continued to provide individual therapy with no fee or session limits throughout the pandemic via a HIPAA-compliant Zoom platform for registered students with disabilities that need long-term support. DRES also continued to provide support groups each semester for registered students, including ADHD support group, social support group, Mindfulness support group, Wellness Support group, Disability Identity support group, and Emotional Regulation support group. Public Safety launched the Response, Evaluation and Crisis Help (REACH) initiative to help students who are experiencing a mental health emergency. Staffed by social workers who are trained in crisis intervention, the REACH team acts as a wraparound service to connect students with established mental health services and ensure they do not slip through the cracks.

Even though much has already been done in this area, so much more remains. Our students have strongly advocated for future mental health priorities that will require us to hire and retain trained, licensed mental health counselors, which requires additional funding. There is also a desire to expand training and prevention programming and personnel with a community approach at the heart, and these initiatives need to be appropriately staffed to succeed.

**STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – UIC**

The University of Illinois Chicago recently completed a university-wide assessment of student mental health needs and resources. In response, UIC allocated over $700K in additional support for mental health services. UIC has also committed to hiring seven additional mental health providers and that process is already underway. Additional staff will allow expansion to other parts of the Chicago campus, including opening counseling offices in Student Center East and Student Center West. The Rockford and Peoria campuses are also receiving additional mental health support. As UIC restructures their mental health and wellness programs into an integrated model that will address student wellbeing in a more holistic way, more funding is needed to ensure efficient and effective care.
**STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – UIS**

At the University of Illinois Springfield, an additional counselor was recently hired, with the hope of adding one more in expectation of an increase in students needing mental health counseling. UIS is also conducting orientation sessions with all incoming students regarding mental health signs and symptoms as well as addressing how to seek services. During those sessions, self-reported mental health assessment screenings are also taking place. UIS is also conducting training with new faculty, student affairs staff and athletic staff on how to spot signs and behaviors of students that may be struggling with their mental health. This is part of UIS’s new community approach to mental health where everyone plays a role in the overall mental health of the university. UIS is training people on a trauma informed approach to serving students and each other as we all still deal with the collective trauma of COVID. And the typical items – individual, group and peer support services are offered. All these efforts require funding.

**ANNUAL SYSTEM-WIDE SYMPOSIUM ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH**

To address the building student mental health crisis, a symposium was first held in the fall of 2020 to identify problems and innovate solutions system-wide across all three of our universities. Now an annual event attracting on average over 400 people, the symposium provides a forum to explore fresh ideas, strengthen system-wide relationships and generate innovative strategies to address the growing need for effective and available mental health services that promote student success. The symposium precipitated the development of the “Community Mindset Program” and funded four university student mental health subgroups (UIUC, UIS, UIC and UICCOM). Each group received $5,000 to implement a student focused well-being initiative. Each university will follow the 2022 fall symposium with campus specific events with the focus on the community responses to student mental health issues.
RECRUITING AND GROWING FACULTY TO MEET ENROLLMENT DEMAND

($10,000,000)

OVERVIEW

The University of Illinois System plays a central role in education, research, and economic development in the state of Illinois and beyond. As stated in the Strategic Framework, the system views itself as the Public’s University with four overarching pillars to which its three universities are committed:

- An institution of and for our students.
- Research and scholarship with global impact.
- A healthy future for Illinois and the Midwest.
- Tomorrow’s university today.

All four of these pillars rely on the recruitment and retention of faculty of the highest caliber.

In the last 6 academic years, the U of I System has increased its enrollment by over 16 percent, adding over 13,300 students to its campuses. To keep pace with this record system-wide enrollment growth, we need to recruit more faculty. Investment in additional faculty ensures continued excellence of our academic programs and timely graduation of students.

We are requesting a total of $10 million from the state of Illinois to help support our plan to rebuild our faculty numbers and to assist in our continuing efforts to recruit and retain distinguished faculty, especially those from underrepresented groups. These crucial initiatives will allow us to maintain excellence in teaching and research, meet current student demands, and strategically invest for future enrollment growth.
**GROWING FACULTY ACROSS RANKS TO KEEP UP WITH ENROLLMENTS**

As the following figure illustrates, our student enrollments have grown significantly over time, reflecting a multi-year commitment we have made to increase accessibility and provide more transformational opportunities for students, particularly Illinois residents. However, as the student body has grown, we have not been able to keep pace with faculty numbers due to budgetary constraints (see the gray line below).

![Student Enrollment and Faculty Trends](image)

Maintaining a healthy balance between student and faculty numbers is vital to academic quality. Otherwise, class sizes grow too large, courses may not be offered as often because of fewer faculty to teach, and students are faced with fewer opportunities to work one-on-one with talented faculty because of workload issues. All of this negatively affects the student experience. Moreover, student-to-faculty ratios are among several key factors used in university rankings. High student-to-faculty ratios can also influence decisions of prospective students as well as faculty.
To ensure adequate faculty and reverse the trends at both Urbana-Champaign and Chicago we need to grow our faculty numbers to meet demand. In the spring of 2022 both UIC and UIUC, in consultation with individual colleges and programs and other stakeholders, developed specific targets for new faculty hires for the next three years. The university plans were based on careful analyses of student demand for specific programs, expanding the reach of our educational programs, and the level of investments required to achieve those targets. Over the next three years we are planning to add 300 net new faculty positions system-wide, 200 at UIUC and 100 at UIC, at a cost of roughly $50 million annually. The plan also includes aggressive efforts by both universities to increase the number of faculty from underrepresented groups and sets specific targets to increase the number of underrepresented faculty. Concurrently, the proposed hiring plans will enhance the research and innovation agenda, especially through collaborations with the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) and the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN).

**RECRUITING DISTINGUISHED FACULTY**

The President’s Distinguished Faculty Recruitment Program launched in 2017 to attract faculty talent and counter the perception of faculty migration. The program provides matching funds from the President’s Office to attract highly distinguished faculty to our three universities. The funds are to be used for start-up costs such as: the purchase of new equipment, renovation of space, graduate student support, and/or other needs associated with supporting the research and teaching needs of prominent faculty.

Since 2017, the U of I System has successfully recruited 32 world-renowned experts from prestigious institutions such as Harvard, Duke, Northwestern, the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Washington. For example, Professor Ana Baros recently left Duke to become the new Donald Biggar Willett Chair of Engineering and new head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in The Grainger College of Engineering at UIUC. Professor Baros has received over $20 million in past and current research support from NASA, the NSF, and the NOAA among others. She is a founding member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Committee on Climate Change and Adaptation and president-elect of the Hydrology Section of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). Barros also is a fellow of AGU, the American Meteorological Society, ASCE and AAAS. In 2019, she was elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

Another recent hire is Professor Thomas Searles who left Howard University to join UIC’s Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. He was previously a Martin Luther King Visiting Professor at MIT and served as the Director of the IBM-HBCU Quantum Center. In recognition for his research in light-
matter interactions and his capability to train and mentor Black students in Physics and Engineering, Thomas was recently awarded the inaugural AIP-NSBP Joseph A. Johnson Award for Excellence and an NSF CAREER Award. Professor Searles is currently spearheading a new partnership between UIC and the Co-design Center for Quantum Advantage (C2QA), a U.S. Department of Energy-funded center focused on building the tools necessary to create scalable, distributed and fault-tolerant quantum computer systems.

Another noted scholar, Professor Graham Peck, recently joined the history department at UIS as the Wepner Distinguished Professor of Lincoln Studies. These scholars and the other transformational hires we have made will ensure that the quality of our academic programs continues to be strong into the future. This year, we are again requesting state support to help foster this program and ensure this type of hiring initiative can continue.
COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION
($35,059,000)

OVERVIEW

The University of Illinois System is a recognized leader among the nation’s top public institutions of higher education. Our three best-in-class universities provide transformational education for students as well as intellectually vibrant environments for faculty who are experts in their respective fields. As national leaders, our three universities face a continuous challenge: to sustain excellence in a highly competitive environment, we must attract and retain top-quality faculty, staff, and students. And yet national prominence marks our universities as prime targets for other institutions seeking to enhance their own quality through recruitment of top faculty. Our two large, Research I institutions, Urbana-Champaign, and Chicago, are especially vulnerable to losing talent. That risk only increases during budget challenges. When other universities perceive vulnerability because of funding issues, they target talent in those places. The University of Illinois System must remain aggressive in the highly competitive market for top-quality faculty or risk falling behind. Competitive compensation and annual salary programs are critical in attracting and retaining talent at all levels.

Without an increase in state support our ability to compete for and retain talent will be significantly compromised. We are requesting incremental funds totaling $35.1 million to be used for a modest faculty/staff salary program as well as to help recover slippage in particular disciplines and ranks of faculty (compression, market, equity, and retention). Overall, this compensation allocation will allow us to retain world-class faculty who are targeted by other universities and to ensure our salaries are competitive up, down, and across the ranks as well as by particular demographics such as gender and race/ethnicity.

FACULTY SALARIES

Analyses of faculty salaries in comparison to those of peer institutions clearly demonstrate the need for a robust compensation program to improve salary competitiveness. Faculty salaries at the three U of I universities were compared with a specific set of public university peers identified for each based on specific criteria and adopted by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of performance measurement. The analyses reveal that each of our three universities lags its peers in terms of faculty salary. Although
Urbana-Champaign is among the nation’s most academically competitive institutions, salaries for faculty at Urbana-Champaign are in the middle of the pack among its peer group, both before and after cost-of-living adjustment. Faculty at Chicago also fall in the middle of their peer group when cost of living is factored in. Springfield is in the bottom half of its peer group in terms of faculty salary.

A look over time is also illuminating. In FY 2015, salaries for Urbana-Champaign full time instructional faculty were on average only $2,500 lower than those of their peers. During the State of Illinois budget impasse from FY 2016-2018, the salary gap at Urbana-Champaign ballooned to almost $10,000. In FY 2018, the salary gap held steady, but then it started growing again. As of FY 2022, the salary gap stands at more than $12,000.

Comparative analyses at the level of individual departments demonstrate a similar trend. Between 2017 and 2022, salary rankings compared to peers declined sharply in high-demand fields. Since 2015, Urbana has dropped 7 places in faculty salary rank in Engineering, 7 places lower in Physical Sciences, and 9 places lower in Business. We are at risk of losing talented and in-demand faculty from these disciplines unless these trends are reversed. A modest salary program will not eliminate these gaps but will allow us to begin narrowing them.
GENERAL PRICE INCREASES
($7,933,900)

The diversity of University of Illinois System activities suggests a “market basket” approach is necessary to adequately predict the effect of price increases on the U of I System as a whole. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a "market basket" indicator, as it measures the change in actual prices paid by urban households for items such as food, housing, and transportation. For this analysis, we will exclude energy costs since a separate utilities cost increase request is defined in the following section.

Figure 4 below illustrates the wide disparity between appropriation increases to the U of I System and inflation levels estimated by the CPI for FY 2010 through FY 2024, with FY 2016 omitted from the chart due to the state budget impasse at that time. As the graph makes clear, U of I System appropriations since FY 2010 have declined sharply while inflation continues to grow. Even with a slight upward move in FY 2022, the U of I System is 14% below its FY 2010 appropriation amount, while the CPI is projected to be nearly 50% above the FY 2010 amount by FY 2024. In order to stem further erosion of funding, an increment of $7.9 million is sought.

Figure 4
Cumulative Inflation Vs. State Appropriations
Change Since FY 2010
UTILITIES PRICE INCREASES
($8,536,000)

The recent rise in the cost of energy due to inflation and supply chain issues has significantly added to the University of Illinois System’s operating costs. The system has had to allocate increasing resources to provide the necessary basic needs to heat, cool, power, light and serve the water and sanitary needs on all three campuses. The Commonfund Institute’s Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) estimates that utility costs increased a whopping 43% in FY 2022, and they predict that those costs will continue to rise in the foreseeable future.

The U of I System recently conducted a thorough analysis of state and tuition funded utility costs for academic enterprise system-wide, showing recent rises in costs but also large projected increases. Overall costs are projected to increase dramatically by FY 2025 (see figure 5 below).

Figure 5
State & Tuition Funded Utilities for Academic Enterprise
(Dollars in Thousands)
Breaking the totals down by costs shows electricity, steam, and chilled water making up the bulk of the costs, with a nearly $38 million increase in those combined areas projected by FY 2025.

Additional costs facing the U of I System on the utility front are state and federal requirements to make use of renewable energy and to decrease the University’s carbon footprint. Under the Illinois Climate Action Plan (iCAP), UIUC hopes to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. As part of iCAP, UIUC recently built two solar farms, which along with other sustainable energy projects has raised the campus’ clean energy production to 12% of total campus usage. The Energy Resources Center at UIC is also part of the project, collaborating with UIUC on making the solar panels as productive as possible.

Despite continued attention to energy and fuel procurement trends in the marketplace and cost-saving technologies to limit expenditure growth, costs continue to rise. The U of I System requests an increment of $8.5 million to help cover utility cost increases both now and into the near future.
CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST
FOR FY 2024
To begin consideration of the University of Illinois System capital budget request it is important to recall that an institution of this size, scope, and complexity faces a recurring array of facility related needs every year. Indeed, the capital facilities make up the University’s largest asset and provide one of the foundations to attract and retain top quality faculty, staff, and students. As shown in Figure 1, the fiscal year 2024 capital budget request focuses on supporting the mission of the University of Illinois System and its impact on the state.

The first theme related to capital continues our longstanding request for funds for Repair and Renovation projects at the three universities. To date, the University of Illinois System has a backlog of roughly $2 billion in deferred maintenance. As buildings age through their normal life cycles, it is crucial to address repair and renovation needs as they occur. Failure to do so accelerates deterioration and leads to costly major remodeling requirements more quickly than would be necessary if prudent attention to annual repair and renovation were possible. Changing programmatic emphases in academic units also create the need for relatively small remodeling projects, which can be addressed quickly to make existing space more useful for emerging academic priorities. This year’s request totals $243 million to combat the remodeling and rehabilitation projects at each university. Much of this money will be used to remedy deferred maintenance in classrooms, labs, studios, and faculty-student collaborative spaces.
The second theme—**Innovation and Workforce Development**—represents funds to keep the U of I System on the forefront of invention as well as developing the workforce of the future to support a vibrant economy in the state of Illinois. Included here are key initiatives such as a renovation and building addition for Fine and Applied Arts at UIUC and a new College of Business Administration Building at UIC. These projects aid in basic science collaboration and development and meet needs in high demand fields.

The third focus of the capital budget is on **Hospital & Health Sciences**. UI Health continues to play a critical role in the health of people throughout the state of Illinois, and the need for medical professionals far outweighs the supply. This year’s request is for a new Rural Health Sciences Education Building in Rockford. A new building will allow UIC to bring programs from multiple health sciences colleges to Rockford: Dentistry, Allied Health Sciences, Public Health, and Social Work, in addition to the College of Medicine. This program expansion will increase the supply of health care professionals in rural medicine. Additionally, the influx of students, staff, and faculty will positively impact the economy of Rockford, Winnebago County, and rural Illinois.

The fourth focus of the capital budget seeks **Library Renovations and Upgrades** to the libraries at UIUC and UIC in order to meet the changing educational and research needs of diverse users. Gone are the days when libraries simply held books and journals and offered quiet study spaces for students. The libraries now play a vital role as digital learning centers, supporting students, faculty, and staff. Our university stakeholders are calling for collaborative spaces that provide access to a multitude of documents and online materials, and that allow for interactive exploration and innovation. Our libraries also provide resources and information services to the citizens of the state. In fact, our libraries collectively are the largest contributor to the statewide library network, containing over 54% of the unique titles available and providing 22% of the statewide library loans through the network.

The allocation by university is shown in Figure 2 at the top of the next page.
Figure 2
University of Illinois System
FY 2024 Capital Budget Request by University

- UIUC: $283,116 Thousand
- UIC: $358,682 Thousand
- UIS: $41,117 Thousand
- Total Capital: $682,915 Thousand

Figure 3
University of Illinois System
FY 2024 Capital Budget Request by University Detail
(Dollars in Thousands)

- UIUC, $133,516
- UIC, $101,682
- UIS, $8,117
- UIC, $99,600
- UIC, $102,000
- UIC, $75,000
- UIS, $33,000
- UIS, $80,000

Legend:
- Repair & Renovation
- Innovation & Workforce Development
- Hospital & Health Sciences
- Academic Libraries
As Figure 4 shows, the U of I System has received capital appropriations only three times in the last decade.

The FY 2020 capital appropriation, after a long hiatus, was greatly welcomed by public universities across the state. The appropriation included $353 million for repair and renovation projects for the U of I System, along with $233 million for new building projects, one for each university. Additionally, $500 million in capital funds were reappropriated for the Discovery Partners Institute, which will aid the U of I System in its state-wide research and innovation agenda. In the past year, a few of these projects have seen release of funds for planning and/or construction including the Altgeld and Illini Hall Project and the Discovery Partners Institute. In FY 2022, the capital appropriation funded a single U of I project, the Clinical Decision Unit at UIC. There were no new appropriations in the FY 2023 budget.

Consistent and steady state funding is critically important to maintain the physical plant. There is no doubt that costs rise and safety is at risk when we do not attend to maintenance of our facilities on an annual basis. When that is not possible, a backlog of unfunded projects grows quickly and accelerates the cycle of deterioration in facilities. The result is a deterioration in the physical environment that
compromises the ability to attract talented faculty and students. With the recent release of some of the FY 2020 appropriations and reappropriation of prior fiscal years, we hope this is the start of a new pattern of steady funding for the valuable plant infrastructure at our universities. Perhaps it is obvious yet worth stating that academic facilities exist for one purpose: to support academic and research programs. The capital facilities make up the U of I System’s largest asset and provide a crucial foundation for attracting and retaining exceptional faculty, staff, and students.

For FY 2024, the University of Illinois System requests a capital budget of $682,915,000. A detailed project list is provided in Table 1 below.

### Table 1

University of Illinois System
FY 2024 Capital Budget Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UIUC</th>
<th>UIC</th>
<th>UIS</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Repair and Renovation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Repair and Renovation</td>
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<td>$101,682</td>
<td>$8,117</td>
<td>$243,315</td>
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<tr>
<td>II. Innovation and Workforce Development</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. School of Art &amp; Design Renovation/Addition</td>
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<td>B. College of Business Administration Building</td>
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<td>C. Brookens Building Remodel</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>33,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>III. Hospital and Health Sciences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Rural Health Sciences Building Rockford</td>
<td></td>
<td>75,000</td>
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<td>75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV. Library Renovations and Upgrades</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>A. Library/Digital Learning Center Upgrades</td>
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<td><strong>Total Request</strong></td>
<td>$283,116</td>
<td>$358,682</td>
<td>$41,117</td>
<td>$682,915</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PRIORITIES

($682,915,000)

OVERVIEW

The University of Illinois System’s FY 2024 capital budget request consists of six projects reflecting three themes, for a total cost of $682,915,000 as detailed below.

REPAIR AND RENOVATION – $243,315,000

- UIUC ($133,516,000)
- UIC ($101,682,000)
- UIS ($8,117,000)

The first priority is a $243,315,000 Repair and Renovation request, which is comprised of projects at UIUC, UIC, and UIS. These projects, while not large enough to compete with major remodeling requests, represent a significant, real funding need. A high priority on renovation and renewal must be maintained by institutions that have facilities that are at the size, scope, and age of those within the University of Illinois System. Years of insufficient funding coupled with an aging physical plant serve to create rising levels of deferred maintenance that have reached the critical stage on our campuses. The Repair and Renovation request is vital for the continued renewal of existing facilities across our three universities; those facilities are at the core of how we provide excellence in instruction and research, and how we deliver on the promise of transforming the lives of tens of thousands of students across the U of I System. Indeed, providing up-to-date support for academic programs and innovation is tantamount to protecting the state’s investment in our future.
INNOVATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – $212,600,000

- **UIUC** ($99,600,000)
- **UIC** ($80,000,000)
- **UIS** ($33,000,000)

**School of Art and Design Thinking and Learning Addition ($99,600,000) – UIUC**

Built in the late 1950s, the Art and Design Building has undergone only minor repairs and upgrades. The current condition of the building reflects the wear and tear of 60 plus years of continuous use as an administrative, teaching and research facility. It suffers from general fatigue and deterioration of comfort and visual quality. Over time, the requirements of the School’s disciplines have changed dramatically, creating entirely new functional demands which were unimagined when the building was conceived. New program and equipment needs have rendered the original space configuration outmoded, inefficient, and ill-suited to their intended purposes. This project will renovate and upgrade the existing facility and provide an addition to consolidate all functions, activities, and programs into one facility.

This renovation will allow for a symbiotic relationship with the new Siebel Design Center which will be a facility used by students from every discipline and background. These facilities will serve both as a physical and intellectual hub, layering across the undergraduate experience a range of informal and formal opportunities and offerings to engage students in multi-and trans-disciplinary collaborations. This project will meet Illinois’ vision for multi-disciplinary design and doing, while fostering a culture of student-led problem solving. The building will be an incubator of talent where students master skills by tackling real and pressing problems that lend themselves to design-based solutions. Total project budget is $113,600,000 with $99,600,000 being requested from the state.

**College of Business Administration Building ($80,000,000) – UIC**

The College of Business Administration (CBA) has seen over a 50% increase in students in the last decade and expects to see continued growth in the next several years. With the student increase, the CBA will also seek to increase the amount of tenure and tenure-track faculty to be hired to adhere to the college’s strategic plan to reduce the student-to-faculty ratio. Based on these considerable growth targets and a shortfall of office space in their existing location in University Hall, CBA will need additional office and classroom space to accommodate this increase in personnel and students. As
such, it is recommended to construct a new College of Business Administration Building. This 100,000 square foot facility would accommodate all of CBA’s existing programs in addition to their anticipated growth in students, faculty, and support staff. The building will include offices, student support spaces, business learning lab, student oasis spaces, and active learning classrooms. Construction of a new facility would free up space in other campus buildings that CBA currently occupies and would vacate once the new CBA building is constructed. The new building will provide consolidated space for the college’s academic departments including Accounting, Finance, Management, Marketing, Real Estate, and Information and Decision Sciences. $80,000,000 in capital funds are requested from the state to construct this building with $20,000,000 pledged from other sources.

**Brookens Building Remodel ($33,000,000) – UIS**

With recent funding appropriated to build a new Library, Learning, and Student Success Center, it will be necessary to renovate and reinvent the 120,000 square feet of interior space in the existing Brookens Library Building. The repurposing of the Brookens Building centralizes several critical student, faculty, and staff resources. These resources include the Online, Professional, and Engaged Learning (OPEL) program, which promotes learning through initiatives in four departments: the Center for Online Learning, Research, and Service (COLRS), the Office of Engaged Learning (OEL), the Continuing and Professional Education (CAPE) program, and the Faculty Development Resource Office (FDRO). Several key student services will be moved and centralized in the building, including Health Services, Counseling Services, the Office of Disability Services, the Office of International Student Services, and the Intercultural Center. In addition, the university’s Human Resources office, several departments of the Office of Business and Financial Services, and an expansion of the Center for Lincoln Studies, will reside in the building. Other improvements include the ability to provide better temperature control to all spaces in the facility and improve wayfinding in the facility. Renovation of the HVAC and mechanical systems will allow the university to dramatically improve the energy efficiency of the facility in addition to providing optimal humidity and climate controls that are required.

This project aspires to achieve U.S. Green Building Council LEED Gold certification with HVAC, plumbing, lighting, fire suppression, electrical, and building envelope modernizations. This project also enables the demolition of temporary facilities that were constructed in the early 1970’s when the university was established. The $33,000,000 renovation of the Brookens Building will rehabilitate
the building into a state-of-the-art learning center, extending the life of the facility and enhancing the building’s presence on the UIS quadrangle.

**HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES – $75,000,000**

**Rural Health Sciences Building Rockford ($75,000,000) – UIC**

Roughly 1.5 million people live in rural Illinois. These people tend to be older, less well-insured, more likely to report “fair to poor health” and have a higher prevalence of disease than those in urban counties. All but four counties in the state have shortages of health care professionals. During the COVID-19 pandemic the need for more and better health care in rural Illinois became even more evident. According to the CDC, long-standing systemic health and social inequities have put some rural residents at increased risk of getting COVID-19 or having severe illness.

The University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford has graduated nearly 400 physicians through the Rural Medical Education Program with 60% of them practicing in rural Illinois and it is home to the National Center for Rural Health Professions. The Rural Pharmacy Education Program began in 2010 and Rural Nursing Education Programs began in 2016. Building on the success of these programs by bringing other much-needed health professions educational programs to campus will only further enhance access to rural health providers for our state’s rural residents. The new Rural Health Sciences Education Building will be a five-story, stand-alone building of 135,000 square feet on the 20-acre UIC Health Sciences Campus-Rockford that will house programs from multiple UIC health sciences colleges. A new building will allow UIC to bring programs from the following colleges to Rockford: Dentistry, Allied Health Sciences, Public Health and Social Work. This program expansion will impact the health of residents and with the influx of students, staff, and faculty, the economy of Rockford, Winnebago County, and rural Illinois. This will be the only program in the country to bring together seven health sciences colleges to focus on rural education and research.

In today’s complex and interconnected world, health sciences learning environments are as integrated as the professions for which they prepare students. The building plan seeks to create an integrated learning experience in health sciences with a rural emphasis for an additional 450 health sciences students on the Rockford campus. Technology-rich classrooms will connect students with each other and with instructors on-site, around the state and across the world. The building design allows for interdisciplinary learning experiences that foster the kind of learning that will translate to the high-functioning teams needed in
rural areas where resources and access to specialists may be scarcer than in urban areas. $75,000,000 in state funding is requested with $40,000,000 allocated from other sources.

**LIBRARY RENOVATIONS AND UPGRADES — $152,000,000**

*Main/Undergraduate Library Redevelopment Phase II ($50,000,000) – UIUC*

The University Library at UIUC recently completed the Main Library Stack Removal Feasibility Study and is now ready to move forward with the next phase of the Main/Undergraduate Library Redevelopment. The overall project will be constructed in phases so that the library can remain open to serve patrons. Phase I as seen in last year’s budget request—although not funded from state appropriations—had begun with campus resources. That phase will focus on the transformation of the undergraduate library into an Archives & Special Collections Library. The project will provide a secure location for preserving materials in a humidity and temperature-controlled environment for University Archives, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Student Life and Culture Archives, and Illinois History and Lincoln Collection. This second phase of the library plan will focus on the main stacks. This portion of the project will demolish five of the existing six stacks, the majority of which are 60 years old or older; the sixth stack will be retained because its capacity and conditions have been modernized and offer a substantially better environment for older printed materials. Construction of a new infill addition will include interdisciplinary collaborative research and learning spaces, additional high-capacity shelving space, and a loading dock. This new construction will include a lower level plus 4 floors to align with the current basement and floors 1-4 of the 1925, 1927, and 1929 sections of the eastern half of the library. The new five-story infill at approximately 100,000 square feet would serve as an interdisciplinary hub for the arts, humanities, and social sciences such as psychology, sociology, and economics. The addition will allow for current and future interdisciplinary collaborative research spaces and departmental libraries, learning spaces, and interactive presentation spaces with large format visual walls that will help enhance the educational experience and create a research hub for the humanities and social sciences. The main library will still hold over 3 million volumes on site, mostly focused on the humanities and social sciences. The total project amount for this phase of redevelopment is $100,000,000, with the portion requested from the state in the amount of $50,000,000.
Daley Library Addition ($102,000,000) – UIC

An addition of roughly 120,000 square feet to the Richard J. Daley Library will supplement student academic life through the inclusion of a new information commons, an auditorium, a large café, a winter garden, and a temporary exhibit space. A central atrium will allow natural light deep into the building and provide a visual connection to the upper floors. A new 200-seat auditorium will provide a public meeting venue to offer programs, lectures, performances, readings, and other events related to library and campus interests. To promote 24/7 campus life, a larger café with food prep areas and seating will be central to the ground floor. To create spaces that promote research, learning, and collaboration, the third floor will include a double height reading room, large group meeting spaces, and small group meeting rooms. $102,000,000 is requested from the state for this project.
REPAIR AND RENOVATION

SYSTEM-WIDE — $243,315,000

Requested Funds: State $243.3M
Multiple projects at each university
Over 70% of space is 40+ years old

Stated most simply, physical facilities are a critically important component of the academic support structure necessary to conduct instructional, research, and service activities in any institution of higher education. Academic facilities constructed and operated with state funds for the University of Illinois System have a replacement cost of over $8.3 billion. Most of these facilities were built to “institutional standards” in construction materials and techniques, meaning that with proper maintenance and regular renovation of components which have exceeded their useful lives, the facility can have a nearly infinite life. A variety of programs are today housed satisfactorily in buildings more than 100 years old and that experience can continue if adequate facilities funds are available. The U of I System faces an array of facility related needs each year but a major component in that capital portfolio is repair and renovation to existing facilities. Buildings and the infrastructure systems that support them have finite useful lives; masonry decays, roofs deteriorate, heating and cooling systems wear out. As buildings age through their normal life cycle it is crucial to address repair and renovation needs that normally arise. Failure to do so accelerates deterioration and leads to more costly repairs more quickly than would be necessary if prudent annual attention to annual repair and renovation were possible.

Three factors contribute to the need for annual attention to the configuration and quality of the physical facilities supporting any academic program:

Replacement Needs – Normal use inevitably causes wear and tear on building systems and components to the point at which their useful lives are exceeded and they must be replaced. This process is frequently described as depreciation and is universally recognized. If proper annual maintenance is not available for building systems, their useful lives are shortened. If replacement of worn-out building systems is not completed on a timely basis, significant backlogs of deferred maintenance needs arise, eventually resulting in larger and more costly major remodeling requirements.

Realignment Needs – The needs of academic programs vary over time. As enrollments shift among fields of study, space needs change with them. As the state-of-the-art within fields of study changes, so too do the facilities needed to support new activities. In some cases, the entire functional use of space must shift to accommodate changes within or among academic programs.

Renewal Needs – Technological advances can render both facilities and equipment obsolete, sometimes at rates far exceeding their physically useful lives. The application of computing to every discipline within a university and the dizzying pace at which computing power, speed, and applications continue to evolve is the most obvious example of such a change.
INNOVATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN THINKING AND LEARNING ADDITION — $99,600,000 — URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Requested Funds: State $99.6M, Other $14M

Consolidation of multiple facilities

Academic Impact of Art and Design:
- 18% undergrad enrollment increase over last decade
- 25% increase in undergrad degrees over last decade
- College of Fine and Applied Arts generated over $2.67M in Federal Grants & Contracts in FY 2022

Built in the late 1950s, the Art and Design Building has undergone only minor repairs and upgrades since it was constructed. The current condition of the building reflects the wear and tear of 60 plus years of continuous use as an administrative, teaching, and research facility. It suffers from general fatigue and deterioration of comfort and visual quality. It is worth stressing, however, that the basic building structure appears to be sound, and its functional qualities, while needing upgrading, serve its purposes well. This project will update worn and outdated facilities and improve accessibility.

The School of Art + Design occupies 141,000 square feet of space across 13 buildings. Of this space, 57,000 square feet are contained in the current Art and Design Building. Seven prefabricated industrial type metal buildings collectively known as the South Studio contain 30,000 square feet in an area adjacent to the Research Park. Flagg and Noble Halls combined have 42,000 square feet of space assigned to Art + Design. The School is the sole occupant/user of the seven studio buildings and of Flagg Hall. Currently, students, faculty, and staff are in 13 separate and scattered locations. Many of the occupied spaces were considered temporary and therefore are not adequate for the needs or of the size to best support the programs. Many of the spaces do not allow for growth, meet accessibility codes, or have adequate transportation services for student needs. For the first time in the history of the School, 12 discreet programs will be brought together in one building creating a strong identity for the visual arts on campus. This action will serve to promote the arts as a viable academic partner for collaborative research and intellectual interaction.

Undergraduate and Graduate students will be able to interact easily, build community, exchange ideas among programs, and more easily connect with the faculty and the rest of campus. The alterations and additions to the existing building will provide a unified location that will encourage interaction, improve efficiency of operation, and support more cross-discipline cooperation and collaborative courses. Consolidation of space within the existing Art and Design Building plus an addition to the building would allow the School to totally vacate space in nine buildings, including Flagg Hall, which would help clear the way for the Ikenberry Commons expansion.
INNOVATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING — $80,000,000 — UIC

Requested Funds: State $80M
New Construction of 100,000 square feet

Academic Impact of Business:
- Majors: 3,837 Undergrad; 1,277 grad
- 70% increase in undergrad enrollment over last decade
- 55% increase in grad enrollment over last decade
- 44% increase in undergrad degrees over last decade

The College of Business Administration (CBA) has seen large increases in students in the last decade and expects to see continued growth in the next several years. With the student increase, the CBA will also seek to increase the amount of tenure and tenure-track faculty to be hired to adhere to the college’s strategic plan to reduce the student-to-faculty ratio. Based on these considerable growth targets and a shortfall of office space in University Hall, CBA will need additional office and classroom space to accommodate this increase in personnel and students. As such, it is recommended to construct a new College of Business Administration Building.

This 100,000 square foot facility would accommodate all of CBA’s existing programs in addition to their anticipated growth in students, faculty and support staff. The building will include offices, student support spaces, business learning lab, student oasis spaces, and active learning classrooms. The new building will be sited on Harrison Street directly to the northwest of the Architecture and Design Studios and just south of the new Academic and Residential Complex. Construction of a new facility would free up space in other campus buildings that CBA currently occupies and would vacate once the new CBA building is constructed. The new facility will provide consolidated space for the colleges’ academic departments including Accounting, Finance, Management, Marketing, Real Estate, along with Information and Decision Sciences. $80,000,000 in capital funds are requested from the State with $20,000,000 pledged from other sources to construct this building.
INNOVATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

BROOKENS BUILDING REMODEL — $33,000,000 — UIS

Requested Funds: State $33M
Renovation of 120,000 square feet

With funding appropriated in the last capital bill to build a new Library, Learning, and Student Success Center, it will be necessary to renovate and reinvent the 120,000 square feet of interior space in the existing Brookens Library Building. The Brookens Building was constructed in 1975 as the first major permanent building on campus. The building’s deficits include a confusing physical layout; an inefficient window system that creates uncomfortable cold and hot spaces; poor lighting system; severe acoustic problems; worn and outdated finishes and furnishings; and inaccessible spaces. A large portion of deferred maintenance will be addressed with this remodel.

The repurposing of the Brookens Building centralizes several critical student, faculty, and staff resources. These resources include the Online, Professional, and Engaged Learning (OPEL) program, which promotes learning through initiatives in four departments: the Center for Online Learning, Research, and Service (COLRS), the Office of Engaged Learning (OEL), the Continuing and Professional Education (CAPE) program, and the Faculty Development Resource Office (FRDO). Several key student services will be moved and centralized in the building, including: Health Services, Counseling Services, the Office of Disability Services, the Office of International Student Services, and the Intercultural Center. In addition, the university’s Human Resources office, several departments of the Office of Business and Financial Services, and an expansion of the Center for Lincoln Studies, will reside in the building. Other improvements include the ability to provide better temperature control to all spaces in the facility and improve wayfinding in the facility. Renovation of the HVAC and mechanical systems will allow the university to dramatically improve the energy efficiency of the facility in addition to providing optimal humidity and climate controls that are required.

This project aspires to achieve U.S. Green Building Council LEED Gold certification with HVAC, plumbing, lighting, fire suppression, electrical, and building envelope modernizations. This project also enables the demolition of temporary facilities that were constructed in the early 1970's when the university was established. The $33,000,000 renovation of the Brookens Building will rehabilitate the building into a state-of-the-art learning center, extending the life of the facility and enhancing the building’s presence on the UIS quadrangle.
RURAL HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING ROCKFORD — $75,000,000 — UIC COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ROCKFORD

Requested Funds: State $75M
New Construction of 135,000 square feet
- 46% enrollment increase over last decade with corresponding instructional unit increase
- Nationwide leader in rural health
- $2.73M in research funds in FY 2022

Roughly 1.5 million people live in rural Illinois. These people tend to be older, less well-insured, more likely to report “fair to poor health” and have a higher prevalence of disease than those in urban counties. All but four counties in the state have shortages of health care professionals.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the need for more and better health care in rural Illinois became even more evident. The University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford has graduated nearly 400 physicians through the Rural Medical Education Program with 60% of them practicing in rural Illinois and it is home to the National Center for Rural Health Professions. The UIC Health Sciences plans to dramatically expand their commitment to training health professionals for rural Illinois through the construction of the Rural Health Science Education Building.

Building on the success of these programs by bringing other much-needed health professions educational programs to campus will only further enhance access to rural health providers for our state’s rural residents. A new building will allow UIC to bring programs from the following colleges to Rockford: Dentistry, Allied Health Sciences, Public Health, and Social Work.

This will be the only program in the country to bring together seven health sciences colleges to focus on rural education and research. The building design allows for interdisciplinary learning experiences that foster the kind of learning that will translate to the high-functioning teams needed in rural areas where resources and access to specialists may be scarcer than in urban areas.

The Rural Health Sciences Education Building will be a five-story, stand-alone building on the 20-acre UIC Health Sciences Campus-Rockford that will house programs from multiple UIC health sciences colleges. $75,000,000 in state funding is requested with $40,000,000 allocated from other sources.
LIBRARY RENOVATIONS AND UPGRADES

LIBRARY/DIGITAL LEARNING CENTER UPGRADES — $152,000,000

Requested Funds: State $152M
UIUC Main Library $50M
UIC Daley Library $102M
State-wide Participation from U of I
- Account for 22% of loans
- Provide over 54% of unique titles
- Over 35% of library record counts

UIUC:
Since the founding of the University, the Library has been a catalyst for University of Illinois scholarship and innovation. With this remodel, the university has a unique opportunity to create a new model of the research library, one that actively fosters engagement with grand challenges that transcend disciplinary boundaries and leverages access to enduring historical collections. Phase I of this multi-phased project began in the last fiscal year with work beginning at the Undergraduate Library. This phase will transform the Undergraduate Library into a special facility designed to hold numerous archive collections and rare books and materials.

This portion of the project will demolish five of the existing six stacks, the majority of which are 60 years old or older; the sixth stack will be retained because its capacity and conditions have been modernized and offer a substantially better environment for older printed materials. Several special collections and archival materials currently located in the library will be relocated to the Undergrad Library and Oak Street High Density Storage Facility, which is environmentally designed for proper storage of print materials. The main library will still hold over 3 million volumes on site, mostly focused on the humanities and social sciences. The new five-story infill at approximately 100,000 square feet would serve as an interdisciplinary hub for the arts, humanities, and social sciences such as psychology, sociology, and economics. The addition will allow for current and future interdisciplinary collaborative research spaces and departmental libraries, learning spaces, and interactive presentation spaces with large format, visual walls that will help enhance the educational experiences and create a research hub for the humanities and social sciences. The project will be constructed in phases so that the library can remain open to serve patrons. The total project amount is $100,000,000, with the portion requested from the state in the amount of $50,000,000.

UIC:
An addition of roughly 120,000 square feet to the Richard J. Daley Library will supplement student academic life through the inclusion of a new information commons, an auditorium, a large cafe, a winter garden, and a temporary exhibit space. A central atrium will allow natural light deep into the building and provide a visual connection to the upper floors. A new 200-seat auditorium will provide a public meeting venue to offer programs, lectures, performances, readings, and other events related to library and campus interests. To promote 24/7 campus life, a larger cafe with food prep areas and seating will be central to the ground floor. To create spaces that promote learning, research, and collaboration, the third floor will include a double height reading room, large group meeting spaces, and small group meeting rooms. $102,000,000 is requested from the state for this project.