

**Williston State College  
Budget No. 229  
Senate Bill No. 2003**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025-27 legislative appropriation	99.74	\$15,112,315 <sup>1</sup>	\$25,951,804	\$41,064,119
2023-25 legislative appropriation	<u>102.83</u>	<u>13,485,325</u>	<u>69,068,931</u>	<u>82,554,256</u>
2025-27 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriation	(3.09)	\$1,626,990	(\$43,117,127)	(\$41,490,137)

<sup>1</sup>This amount includes \$1,490,000 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing General Fund appropriation is \$13,622,315.

**Item Description**

**Enrollment** - At the end of the 2025 regular legislative session, the Williston State College (WSC) FTE student enrollment projection for the 2025-27 biennium was 794 for the fall 2025 semester and 818 for the fall 2026 semester.

**Tuition collections** - In the budget approved by the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), tuition revenue for WSC for the 2025-26 fiscal year was estimated to be \$3.8 million.

**Higher Education Challenge Matching Grant Program** - In Section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2003, the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$24.76 million from the General Fund to the North Dakota University System office for the Higher Education Challenge Matching Grant Program. Williston State College may be awarded up to \$720,000 under the program.

**Extraordinary repairs** - The Legislative Assembly, in Senate Bill No. 2003, appropriated \$197,801 from the General Fund to WSC for extraordinary repairs. In Section 4 of the bill, the Legislative Assembly required institutions to match extraordinary repairs funding on a dollar-for-dollar basis using operations or other funding. The funding is considered Tier I of the University System Capital Building Fund, but it is included in the institution's capital assets line item.

**University System Capital Building Fund** - In addition to appropriating funding for specific capital projects, the 2019 Legislative Assembly established a University System Capital Building Fund for the 2019-21 biennium. The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$10 million from Bank of North Dakota profits as Tier II funding under the University System Capital Building Fund. The Tier II funding is appropriated directly to each institution and must be matched by the institutions with \$1 from operations or other sources for each \$1 from Bank profits. The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$9 million, including \$7 million from Bank profits and \$2 million from the General Fund, as Tier III funding under the University System Capital Building Fund. The

**Status/Result**

The actual fall 2025 semester FTE enrollment was 791, which was 3 students fewer than projected and 20 more than the fall 2024 semester.

Williston State College increased resident tuition rates for the 2025-26 academic year by 6 percent. The current estimate for tuition collections for the 2025-26 fiscal year is \$3.4 million, \$400,000 less than projected.

Through March 31, 2026, the WSC Foundation has received \$720,000 in grant funding through the program.

Williston State College anticipates matching and expending the full appropriation for extraordinary repairs projects by the end of the biennium.

Williston State College plans to match and spend approximately \$790,000 allocated to the institution in Tiers II and III of the University System Capital Building Fund for various deferred maintenance projects before the end of the biennium. The institution noted the campus's heating, venting, and air cooling system in its main building requires significant repairs and a capital request of \$1,225,000 will likely be submitted to the 2027 Legislative Assembly for the project.

Tier III funding is appropriated to the University System office to be allocated to the institutions as matching funds are committed and must be matched by the institutions with \$2 from operations or other sources for each \$1 appropriated as Tier III funding. After an institution has matched 75 percent of the funding appropriated from the General Fund as Tier I for institution extraordinary repairs and subject to SBHE approval, each institution may use money from Tier II and Tier III of its University System Capital Building Fund for extraordinary repairs and deferred maintenance projects that do not increase the square footage of a building.

The 2021, 2023, and 2025 Legislative Assemblies continued the University System Capital Building Fund with transfers of \$19 million, \$24 million, and \$26.5 million, respectively, from the Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund to the University System Capital Building Fund. Williston State College was allocated \$322,154 in Tier II and \$700,000 in Tier III of the University System Capital Building Fund for the 2025-27 biennium.

**Workforce Education Innovation Grant Program** - The Legislative Assembly, in Senate Bill No. 2003, appropriated \$10 million from the Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund to the University System office for the Workforce Education Innovation Grant Program to provide grant funds to institutions under the control of the SBHE to create or expand academic programs to address workforce needs.

The University System office reported a committee, including workforce-focused individuals from various state agencies and two members of the SBHE, was formed to allocate funding to campuses from the workforce education innovations grants line item. The committee reviewed applications requesting the funds from all nine eligible institutions and awarded all of the \$10 million appropriation in August 2025.

Williston State College reported it was awarded \$1.4 million in grant funding for allied health academic programs. The college noted this amount was in addition to \$1.49 million of one-time funding from the General Fund appropriated by the 2025 Legislative Assembly for health care program startup costs. Williston State College noted \$3.5 million will be requested from the 2027 Legislative Assembly to continue funding for these academic programs.