

**Dickinson State University  
Budget No. 239  
Senate Bill No. 2003**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025-27 legislative appropriation	170.80	\$26,552,094	\$46,456,545	\$73,008,639
2023-25 legislative appropriation	<u>178.00</u>	<u>26,039,995</u>	<u>51,697,829</u>	<u>77,737,824</u>
2025-27 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriation	(7.20)	\$512,099	(\$5,241,284)	(\$4,729,185)

**Item Description**

**Enrollment** - At the end of the 2025 regular legislative session, the Dickinson State University (DSU) FTE student enrollment projection for the 2025-27 biennium was 1,133 for the fall 2025 semester and 1,164 for the fall 2026 semester.

**Tuition collections** - In the budget approved by the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), tuition revenue for DSU for the 2025-26 fiscal year was estimated to be \$10.6 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. Dickinson State University may be awarded up to \$2.05 million under the program.

**Extraordinary repairs** - The Legislative Assembly, in Senate Bill No. 2003, appropriated \$409,078 from the General Fund to DSU 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 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

**Status/Result**

The actual fall 2025 semester FTE enrollment was 1,100, which was 33 students less than projected and 20 less than the fall 2024 semester.

Dickinson State University increased resident tuition rates for the 2025-26 academic year by 4 percent. The current estimate for tuition collections for the 2025-26 fiscal year is \$64,600 more than projected.

Through March 31, 2026, the DSU Foundation has received \$1,271,918 in grant funding through the program. The institution requested an additional \$343,510 in May 2026 and anticipates requesting the full allocation by December 31, 2026.

Dickinson State University anticipates expending the full appropriation for various extraordinary repairs projects, including campus security cameras, flooring, and door access upgrades, by the end of the biennium. The campus reported it is using donations for the Agriculture Building to serve as match for these campuswide extraordinary repair projects. Section 4 of Senate Bill No. 2003 states an institution shall provide \$1 of matching funds from operations or other sources for each \$1 of extraordinary repairs funding used for a project.

Dickinson State University has matched and expended all funding allocated to the institution in Tiers II and III of the University System Capital Building Fund for various extraordinary repair projects (\$516,884) and the agriculture and technical education building and rodeo arena projects (\$700,000). The campus reported it is using donations for the Agriculture Building project to serve as match for the campuswide extraordinary repair projects and for the agriculture and technical education building and rodeo arena projects. North Dakota Century Code Sections 15-54.1-03 and 15-54.1-04 authorize the SBHE to allocate Tier II and Tier III funding to an institution for a project only after the institution provides \$1 of matching funds from operations or other sources for each one dollar from the University System Capital Building Fund for the project.

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 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 (SIIF) to the University System Capital Building Fund. Dickinson State University was allocated \$516,884 in Tier II and \$700,000 in Tier III of the University System Capital Building Fund for the 2025-27 biennium.

**Capital projects** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$12.5 million of one-time funding from revenue bond proceeds, the University System Capital Building Fund, and other local funds, for capital projects at DSU, including Woods Hall, the agriculture and technical education building, and the rodeo arena. This amount is in addition to \$18 million, including \$17.1 million from SIIF, appropriated for the 2023-25 biennium for the agriculture and technical education building.

**Workforce Education Innovation Grant Program** - The Legislative Assembly, in Senate Bill No. 2003, appropriated \$10 million from SIIF 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.

Dickinson State University reported it has expended \$27 million, including \$5.6 million for Woods Hall and \$21.4 million for the agriculture and technical education building and rodeo arena projects as of March 31, 2026. All projects are anticipated to be complete by the end of the biennium. The university noted funding for the Woods Hall project included \$500,000 from 2023-25 biennium Tier III funds and the remainder from a short-term Bank of North Dakota loan until permanent bond financing is secured. The university noted funding for the agriculture and technical education building and rodeo arena projects included \$700,000 from 2025-27 biennium Tier III funds, \$17.1 million from SIIF, and the remainder from donations. Bonds for the projects have not been issued as of May 26, 2026.

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 the entirety of the \$10 million appropriation in August 2025.

Dickinson State University was awarded \$1 million in grant funding for academic programs relating to cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and athletic training.