

**NDSU Main Research Center  
Budget No. 640  
Senate Bill No. 2020**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025-27 legislative appropriation	364.55	\$63,700,739 <sup>1</sup>	\$77,074,292	\$140,775,031
2023-25 legislative appropriation	<u>358.47</u>	<u>61,833,895<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>159,385,465</u>	<u>221,219,360</u>
2025-27 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriation	6.08	\$1,866,844	(\$82,311,173)	(\$80,444,329)

<sup>1</sup>This amount includes \$1,567,500 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing General Fund appropriation is \$62,133,239.

<sup>2</sup>This amount includes \$3,708,230 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing General Fund appropriation is \$58,125,665.

**Item Description**

**Full-time equivalent changes** - The Legislative Assembly authorized 364.55 FTE positions for the Main Research Center for the 2025-27 biennium, an increase of 6.08 FTE positions from the 2023-25 biennium authorization of 358.47 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly added 1 FTE veterinary toxicology resident position and removed 4.98 vacant FTE positions. In addition, 10.06 FTE positions were added pursuant to Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023), which authorized the State Board of Higher Education to adjust FTE positions at entities under its control. Section 9 of Senate Bill No. 2020 (2025) continues the authorization of the board to adjust positions at entities under its control during the 2025-27 biennium.

**New and vacant FTE pool** - The Legislative Assembly transferred \$7,150,286 for estimated savings from new and vacant FTE positions from the Main Research Center line item to the new and vacant FTE pool line item and reduced the amount to \$5,060,201 for estimated savings from new and vacant FTE positions. Of the \$5,060,201, \$247,500 is for a new FTE position and \$4,812,701 is for estimated savings from varied positions.

**Transfer authority** - In Section 8 of Senate Bill No. 2020, the Legislative Assembly authorized the Director of the Main Research Center, with approval from the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education, and appropriate branch research center directors, to transfer appropriation authority within the Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, branch research centers, and Main Research Center.

**Status/Result**

The Main Research Center anticipates filling the FTE veterinary toxicology resident position in late 2026.

Through February 2026, the agency had not received any funding from the new and vacant FTE pool for the new position. Through January 2026, the agency had estimated vacant FTE position savings of \$501,924, including \$460,610 of General Fund savings and \$41,314 of other funds savings. The agency had \$1,509,219 in expenses related to the vacancies, including accrued leave payouts, extra salary increases, bonuses, and other costs. The number of vacancies in the agency has ranged from 8.40 to 12.40 FTEs with an average monthly vacancy rate of 10.04 FTE positions.

To date there have been no transfers of appropriation authority within the Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, branch research centers, and Main Research Center, and the agency does not anticipate making any transfers during the remainder of the 2025-27 biennium.

**One-time funding** - In Senate Bill No. 2020, the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$17,037,500 of one-time funding as follows:

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
Interior of the Oakes Irrigation Research Site (Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund (SIIF))		\$620,000	\$620,000
Deferred maintenance (SIIF)		500,000	500,000
Langdon Research Extension Center (REC) seed conditioning plant (\$950,000 from SIIF and \$1.65 million from local funds)		2,600,000	2,600,000
Equipment storage sheds	\$1,567,500		1,567,500
Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project (\$400,000 from SIIF and \$1.9 million from local funds)		2,300,000	2,300,000
Williston equipment storage shed (local funds)		200,000	200,000
Swine facility renovation (local funds)		6,000,000	6,000,000
Main Research Center greenhouse addition (local funds)		3,250,000	3,250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,567,500</b>	<b>\$15,470,000</b>	<b>\$17,037,500</b>

The following is a summary of the status of the Main Research Center's one-time funding:

Interior of the Oakes Irrigation Research Site	The project is anticipated to be completed in May 2026 at a total cost of \$620,000.
Deferred maintenance	The Main Research Center has allocated the deferred maintenance funding as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedlot resurfacing and drainage work at the Carrington REC.</li> <li>• Fence repair and replacement at the Dickinson REC.</li> <li>• Fencing work at the Hettinger REC.</li> <li>• Residence repairs at the Langdon REC.</li> <li>• Machine storage gutter replacement at the Langdon REC.</li> <li>• Greenhouse updates at the North Central REC.</li> <li>• Headquarters repair at the North Central REC.</li> <li>• Heat pump replacement at the Williston REC.</li> </ul>
Langdon REC seed conditioning plant	As of April 2026, the Main Research Center is working with an architect to bid the project. The Main Research Center anticipates spending the entire appropriation during the 2025-27 biennium.
Equipment storage sheds	Through March 2026, the Main Research Center has spent \$444,621 on three equipment storage sheds at the Dickinson REC, the Central Grasslands REC, and the Carrington REC. All sheds have had site surveys and civil engineering plans completed and are anticipated to be completed in April 2027 at a total cost of \$1,567,500, or \$522,500 per shed.
Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project	See the <b>Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site</b> section below.
Williston equipment storage shed	The agency does not anticipate using local funds provided for the 2025-27 biennium. See the <b>Capital projects carryover</b> section below for additional information.
Swine facility renovation	Through March 2026, the Main Research Center has spent \$2,538,973 on the swine facility renovation. The project is anticipated to be completed during the 2025-27 biennium at a total cost of \$2,992,500.
Main Research Center greenhouse addition	The agency does not anticipate beginning the project during the 2025-27 biennium. No funding has been raised for the project.

**Capital projects carryover** - In Section 11 of Senate Bill No. 2020 and Section 41 of Senate Bill No. 2003 (2025), the Legislative Assembly provided exemptions to allow the following unexpended 2023-25 biennium funding to be continued and spent during the 2025-27 biennium:

- Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site (General Fund)
- Branch research center storage sheds (SIIF)
- Bolley Agricultural Laboratory (Waldron Hall replacement project) (SIIF and other funds)

**Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site** - In House Bill No. 1020 (2023), the Legislative Assembly provided one-time funding of \$1.7 million from the General Fund to the Main Research Center for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project. In Section 11 of Senate Bill No. 2020 (2025), the Legislative Assembly provided an exemption to allow the funding to be continued and spent during the 2025-27 biennium. In Section 1 of Bill No. 2020, the Legislative Assembly appropriated an additional \$2.3 million, including \$400,000 from SIIF and \$1.9 million from local funds, for the project.

The following is a summary of the status of the Main Research Center's carryover funding:

Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site	See the <b>Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site</b> section below.
Branch research center storage sheds	During the 2023-25 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$1.9 million from SIIF for the construction of four storage sheds. The Main Research Center continued \$475,000 in unexpended funding into the 2025-27 biennium. Through March 2026, the Main Research Center had spent \$149,488 from SIIF on a storage shed at the Williston REC. The agency anticipates completing the project during the 2025-27 biennium at a total cost of \$475,000.
Bolley Agricultural Laboratory	During the 2023-25 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$97,000,000, including \$87,000,000 from SIIF and \$10,000,000 from other funds for the Waldron Hall replacement project. The Main Research Center continued unexpended funding into the 2025-27 biennium. Through March 2026, the Main Research Center had spent \$73,487,986 from SIIF and \$669,324 from foundation funds. The estimated cost at completion is \$87,000,000 from SIIF and \$3,000,000 from foundation funds. The project is anticipated to be completed in August 2026.

Through March 2026, \$112,117 from the General Fund has been spent on the project. The Main Research Center is currently raising funds for the project. It is unknown how much will be spent during the 2025-27 biennium or when the project will be completed.