The state has appropriated $4.7 million in capital improvements funding to Crowder College over the last decade, but just over $1 million, or approximately 22%, has been restricted or vetoed.
Crowder College is located in Neosho. The college’s service area extends into portions of nine southwestern Missouri counties, including the communities of Joplin, Webb City, Carthage, Lamar, Nevada, Monett, and Cassville. In addition to the main campus, Crowder has satellite campuses in Cassville, Nevada, and Webb City. Approximately 5,400 students attend the college.

**Capital Improvement & Facilities History**

The state has appropriated $4.7 million for capital improvement projects to Crowder College over the last 10 years. Governor Nixon vetoed $375,000 for a campus corridor at the Cassville campus in fiscal year 2015. That same year, the college received another $375,000, which it used to renovate the Hickey Building. In fiscal year 2016, the college was appropriated nearly $2 million in Board of Public Building bond funds, which was used to complete deferred maintenance projects at various campuses. Another $2 million was appropriated to the college in fiscal year 2019, but $667,000 was vetoed. The remaining funds will be used for a major renovation project at the Cassville campus.

**Facility Challenges**

Crowder College consists of 47 Education & General Buildings with 605,925 gross square feet (GSF) of maintainable campus space. However, more than 30% percent of the E&G buildings on the main campus have not had a major renovation in over 20 years.

Currently, the campus has over $10 million in facilities needs including $1.3 million in deferred maintenance. A significant portion of the deferred maintenance is in plumbing, electrical, and upgrading heating and cooling systems.
Crowder College has identified the following as the college’s top three priorities for the future. The total state request for these projects is approximately $10 million.

1. Cassville Campus Renovations

This project consists of remodeling the existing Cassville campus to accommodate additional classroom space and to expand the training space available for Crowder’s nursing program. The current facility consists of three separate buildings, which can create issues relating to accessibility, collaboration, convenience, and safety. These renovations will connect the buildings with corridors and common space that will enhance the amenities and safety of the Crowder campus.

Request from State: $2,696,000

2. Neosho Campus Diesel Technology Building

This project consists of building a new diesel technology building of approximately 20,125 square feet. This facility will include a shop with a designated classroom area, and will provide the most up-to-date space, equipment, and technology for students. This, in turn, will better prepare Crowder’s students for professional success in today’s job market.

This new facility will increase the college’s capacity to serve a greater number of students in secondary and postsecondary programs. The job market and employer demand for professionals with knowledge and skills relating to diesel technology in southwest Missouri continues to grow. Additionally, the new space will provide an opportunity for a partnership with the existing transport training program offered at Crowder College. Students in the diesel technology program will be tasked with repairing and maintaining the trucks used by transport students, providing them with practical hands-on experience that benefits both fields.
3. Neosho Campus McDonald & Newton Hall Renovations

Crowder College is in need of renovation of its lecture halls, which are over 50 years old. Both McDonald and Newton halls were U.S. Army buildings in the 1950s and have been staple classroom spaces since the college opened its doors in 1963. The spaces have been subdivided over time to provide the college's main classroom — a temporary solution that makes these spaces imperfect for modern-day, high-quality instruction.

Proposed improvements include larger, better designed classrooms, wider hallways, meeting spaces for students, and renovations to restrooms and plumbing systems. Some of these renovations are not only important amenities that provide a comfortable environment, but are also necessary for the facilities to be ADA compliant. Classrooms, hallways, and stairwells are laid out poorly due to the limited space. Capital funding will provide for these overdue renovations and improvements, improving the accessibility and quality of Crowder College’s educational climate.

Click here for main campus map (Neosho).
Click here for Google view.
Click here for virtual tour.