The state has appropriated $88.5 million in capital improvements funding to Missouri State University over the last decade, but just over $61 million, or approximately 70%, has been restricted or vetoed.
The State Fruit Experiment was founded in 1899. The Mountain Grove campus became part of Missouri State University in 1974.
Missouri State University is a comprehensive institution offering undergraduate and graduate programs, including the professional doctorate. The university educates students to be global citizen scholars committed to public affairs.

Missouri State University (MSU) is a selective institution with a statewide mission in public affairs designed to increase access to a higher education to southwest Missourians. Its main campus is in Springfield, and it offers a broad range of bachelor’s, master’s, and limited professional doctoral degrees, as well as specialist and other graduate-level programs. Approximately 24,000 students are currently enrolled at MSU; about 86% are undergraduates.

MSU also has a campus in West Plains, where students can receive associate degrees; an agricultural research campus in Mountain Grove; and partnership programs in Dalian, China.

Capital Improvement & Facilities History

Since 2010, $88.5 million has been appropriated to Missouri State University for capital improvement projects, but nearly 70% of that funding ($61 million) has been restricted. Missouri State was one of many higher education institutions expecting federal stimulus funds in 2010, but pressing maintenance and repair needs were postponed when funds were restricted. In 2015, $40 million was appropriated for the construction of the Ozarks Health and Life Science Center. However, this funding was contingent on the passage of SB 723, sponsored by then-Senator Michael Parson, which authorized the issuance of Board of Public Building bonds for various projects across the state. SB 723 did pass, but the truly agreed and finally passed version did not allow for the construction of new buildings, except for the new Fulton State Hospital. Therefore, there was no legal authority to issue Board of Public Building bonds for a new science center and the funding was restricted. The Board of Public Buildings bond funds the university did receive in fiscal year 2016 were limited to repairs and renovations. Using that funding, multiple renovation projects were completed at Ellis and Hill Halls. Additional state-funded projects include the renovation and construction of an admissions center, reconstruction and expansion of Glass Hall, and most recently, the planning stage and future construction of the Ozarks Education Center at Bull Shoals.

Facility Challenges

Over 83 percent of MSU’s E&G buildings have not had a major renovation in over 15 years.

Currently, the university has over $484 million in facilities needs including nearly $107 million in deferred maintenance. The campus has multiple buildings in need of demolition at an estimated cost of $1,540,000. A significant portion of the deferred maintenance is in building envelope issues (roofs, tuckpointing, waterproofing, window replacement, etc.); mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection infrastructure; and replacement or refurbishing of outdated elevators. Due to a lack of funds, there has not been any significant new construction or renovation on the Mountain Grove campus since 2003.
Missouri State University has identified the following as the university’s top four priorities for the future. The total state request for these projects is approximately $113 million.

1. Greenwood Laboratory School Multi-Purpose Addition

Missouri State University’s application for matching funds from the Higher Education Capital Fund for Fiscal Year 2020 will fund an addition to the Greenwood Laboratory School. Missouri State requests the state match private donations with a capital appropriation for new construction of a Multi-Purpose Addition to Greenwood Laboratory School.

The purpose and mission of Greenwood Laboratory School is to provide practicum opportunities and a laboratory of best practices in teaching for students and faculty at Missouri State University. In fulfilling this mission, Greenwood provides a comprehensive K-12 college preparatory education with an enrollment of approximately 370 students. Around 200 Missouri State students enrolled in teacher preparation programs complete practicum work at Greenwood each year.

Greenwood celebrates its 110-year anniversary in 2018. The current facility was built in 1966. Because enrollment has increased by more than 12 percent in the last 10 years, the school has added six additional middle and high school classes to accommodate the growth.

The university would like to construct an approximate 21,000 square foot addition on the southeast corner of Greenwood. The addition will include a new south entrance, an adjacent office, a lobby supporting the school, restrooms, and a multi-purpose center capable of seating 750 people with a performance stage. The new space will provide both a larger, accessible event entrance, and a welcome center.

The project will impact the entire K-12 Greenwood student population and improve facilities for a wide range of academic events. This expansion will allow Greenwood to host events like district music competitions and regional speech and debate tournaments. As the largest teacher preparatory program in the state of Missouri, this project will enhance the laboratory experience of MSU’s College of Education students.

1. Ozarks Science Center and Garnett Library (West Plains)

The Ozarks Science Center will house basic and applied research and undergraduate and graduate programs addressing science and environmental needs for Southwest Missouri. Over the past 25 years, the number of graduate students has doubled and graduate programs have tripled. The center will better accommodate growth in STEM programs. The STEM research and educational programs will be guided by regional and state needs with work of the center allowing for expanded collaboration with organizations and government.

Request from state: $51,625,377
In 1991, Garnett Library at MSU-West Plains was created by connecting and renovating a burned-out, depression-era building and a small building from the 1960s. Student enrollment at MSU-West Plains has since doubled. Student numbers at MSU-West Plains are projected to increase over the next five years, driving the need for a new, technically equipped library that will better serve students.

### 3. McDonald Hall

McDonald Hall was built in 1940 as the university’s main sports arena. It now houses the kinesiology department. Obsolete locker rooms will be replaced with classroom, lab, office, and storage space. Arena seating will be removed and that space and the arena floor will be renovated to create multiple classrooms. The electrical and mechanical system will also be completely upgraded. Only 17 percent of the building is air conditioned, making it unusable during certain times of the year. Mechanical equipment is nearly 40 years old and is insufficient to meet the building’s needs. Renovation will also allow for consolidation of a number of academic programs to the core of campus, thereby potentially reducing building needs elsewhere. In addition to providing for a more effective use of space, the project will take care of a large backlog of deferred maintenance in the aging building.

### Request from state:

$25,800,927

### 4. Cheek Hall

Cheek Hall was built in 1950 and is home to the departments of computer science, mathematics, and computer services. A number of factors have led to a significant increase in the number of students taking classes in these areas, including:

- Increased enrollment: More than 20,000 students take general education courses
- New programs: The number of majors in these fields has increased drastically
- Policies: New state and federal initiatives have focused on producing more STEM graduates

The building has been reconfigured many times over the years to meet different needs. Cheek Hall now requires major modifications. This renovation project will redesign, modernize, and upgrade the grossly inadequate facility. The HVAC system is more than 50 years old and parts of the electrical system are 60 years old. These will be updated or replaced. The building’s exterior is also very energy inefficient. Replacing the exterior will help with future energy savings. As the university’s primary computing center, Cheek Hall contains the servers and networking components that host the university’s core administrative and academic software. Services provided by this center are mission-critical for daily operations on the campuses of Springfield, West Plains, and Mountain Grove. Current physical conditions and environmental controls expose the university to unnecessary risks. These exposures could cause significant system downtime, information security ramifications, and disruption of university activities.

### Request from state:

$32,139,589