The University of Wisconsin is driving the state’s economy forward and is key to its economic future. With a $30.8 billion annual economic impact, more than 10,000 job-ready graduates per year, and life-changing research that is shaping the future of healthcare and innovation, UW–Madison is creating a brighter future for the state of Wisconsin. To continue serving the state and its residents – and to maintain our world-class excellence – the university is requesting additional state funding, infrastructure investments and a commonsense compensation plan in the 2023–2025 state budget.

**PRIORITY 1:**
Increase General Purpose Revenue, A Proven Return on Investment

For every tax dollar invested in UW–Madison, Wisconsin sees a $26 return to its economy. In the face of unprecedented inflationary challenges, stagnant state support for UW is threatening the state’s economic progress, undercutting our competitiveness among peers, and impeding our ability to serve Wisconsin families and residents. We are requesting a four percent increase in the operating budget to maintain educational quality, research excellence and access. Additional state support would be used to address short and long-term needs, including investing in high demand majors and student support.

This will help mitigate some of the continued impacts of inflation and help with recruitment and retention efforts. Also, under the current structure of the UW state compensation plan, the state provides two-thirds funding for every compensation increase, with student tuition making up the rest. However, with frozen tuition, a partially funded compensation plan has created pressure on campuses to provide the one third needed for every increase. UW is the only state agency that does not receive a fully-funded pay plan from the state.

**PRIORITY 2:**
A Compensation Plan to Attract and Retain Talent

Amid high inflation and a tight labor market, a moderate increase in compensation is necessary to stay competitive among our peers and fulfill our mission. UW–Madison supports a four percent increase among UW System employees in each year of the biennium, fully funded by the state.

This will help mitigate some of the continued impacts of inflation and help with recruitment and retention efforts. Also, under the current structure of the UW state compensation plan, the state provides two-thirds funding for every compensation increase, with student tuition making up the rest. However, with frozen tuition, a partially funded compensation plan has created pressure on campuses to provide the one third needed for every increase. UW is the only state agency that does not receive a fully-funded pay plan from the state.

**PRIORITY 3:**
Reduce Cost and Time for Select Campus Building Projects

We are proposing a modification to current law to allow bonding authority for the UW Board of Regents. Building projects using this new mechanism would be paid for by UW-Madison, and the Department of Administration would continue to manage these projects.

UW System and the Board of Regents currently have the authority to approve and manage projects funded entirely through grants and private fundraising.
UW–MADISON CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST

UW–Madison’s capital budget request reflects a desire to produce more high-demand engineering talent; reduce future costs; stay competitive among peers and mitigate the risks of badly aging structures. By making an investment in UW–Madison’s capital building projects, the state is directly supporting Wisconsin’s future workforce and the educational outcomes of thousands of students.

UW–MADISON 2023–2025 CAPITAL BUDGET PRIORITIES

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING BUILDING: State support for a new College of Engineering building is a critical need for the university that will result in hundreds of additional Engineering graduates in fields that are vital to Wisconsin employers. The state-of-the-art engineering facility will help to attract and retain talented faculty members, enroll more students, and sustain the college’s top standing in research and graduate education.

Request: $347.34 M ($197.34 M GFSB / $150 M Gift)

CAMP RANDALL SPORTS CENTER REPLACEMENT ADDITION: This project, which uses residual (carryover) bonding and no taxpayer dollars, replaces the Camp Randall Sports Center (CRSC) with a new indoor football practice facility on the same site. It repurposes, expands, and renovates the McClain Athletic Facility and renovates select lower-level spaces in Camp Randall Stadium and the McClain Athletic Facility.

Request: $285.163M ($120M ex-PRSB / $165.163M Cash)

SOUTH CENTRAL CAMPUS STEAM UTILITY REPLACEMENT: The project completes critical central heating and cooling plant and utility distribution system repairs, required to maintain campus utility operations.

Request: $93.771M ($64.702M GFSB/$29.069M PRSB)

MUSIC HALL RESTORATION: This project repairs, restores and replaces interior and exterior spaces and systems within the 140+ year old building.

Request: $39.7417M ($9.741M GFSB/$30M Gift)

HUMANITIES ART DEPARTMENT RELOCATION & CONSOLIDATION: This project creates a new home for the School of Education’s Art Department, providing a critical step in the process of emptying the Humanities Building and reimagining its ideal central campus location.

Request: $169.0721M ($140.322M GFSB/$28.75M Gift)

KRONSHAGE-JORNS-HUMPHREY RESIDENCE HALLS: This project renovates Kronshage, Jorns, and Humphrey student residences to provide building code and infrastructure upgrades.

Request: $79.211M ($69.211M PRSB/$10M PR-Cash)

WHY INVEST IN UW–MADISON INFRASTRUCTURE?

• Risk of Aging Buildings: Many campus buildings are aging and in clear need of maintenance. Sixty-two percent of UW–Madison’s buildings are over 25 years old, and 40 percent are over 50 years old.

• Reduce Future Costs: As building costs increase amid inflation, and as structures continue to deteriorate, deferring maintenance and construction will only increase future expenses, while also robbing the state of spaces that educate students, advance research, and help the economy.

• Capital Investment is Needed to Stay Competitive: UW–Madison is falling behind our peers on capital investments in campus facilities. As other universities invest in projects – including new engineering buildings, innovation labs, athletic facilities and learning spaces – our ability to attract talent, research funding and to positively impact the state is threatened.