

FACT SHEET | Investing in World Class Colleges and Universities

2018 Public Works Bill for a Better Minnesota

Minnesota's public colleges and universities are training the next generation of Minnesota workers for good jobs and bright futures, while supporting economic opportunity for communities all across our state. This year, Governor Dayton's public works proposal would invest \$542 million in public higher education classrooms and facilities statewide. These investments would help ensure that all Minnesotans can access a world-class education no matter where they live.

Investing in Minnesota's Public Colleges and Universities

- **Investing \$299 Million in the University of Minnesota** – The University of Minnesota is our state's flagship higher education institution. Nearly 68,000 of students attend classes on the school's five campuses each year. In addition, the university anchors Minnesota's economy by developing innovations that create economic opportunity in every corner of the state. Governor Dayton's public works proposal would invest \$299 million in projects across all five of the University of Minnesota's campuses. This funding includes \$250 million to maintain and preserve existing infrastructure through projects such as roof repairs, heating and cooling system replacement, and electrical equipment upgrades.
- **Investing \$243 Million in the Minnesota State System** – Minnesota State is the fourth largest system of state colleges and universities in the nation with 30 colleges, 7 universities, and 54 campuses. They annually serve more than 375,000 students in every corner of Minnesota. This year, Governor Dayton's public works proposal includes \$243 million for urgently-needed classroom and facility improvement projects at Minnesota State campuses around the state, including \$180 million to maintain existing infrastructure. These infrastructure investments are essential to deliver world-class education for all Minnesotans.

Providing Modern Classrooms to Minnesota Students

- **Renovations at University of Minnesota Crookston Duluth, and Morris Campuses** – Modern classrooms, instructional laboratories, and collaboration spaces are essential to attract the best and brightest students and ensure students receive world class educations. The Governor's public works proposal includes \$10.5 million to build modern chemistry and biology labs in U of M Crookston's Owen Hall, and renovate U of M Duluth's A.B. Anderson Hall and U of M Morris's Humanities Building.
- **Modern Classrooms at Bemidji State University** – Nearly all Bemidji State University students spend time in Hagg-Sauer Hall to complete their first two years of general course requirements. Built in the 1960s, the hall lacks modern research labs and technology. This year, Governor Dayton has proposed a \$15.1 million investment to replace Hagg-Sauer with a new Academic Learning Center, which will include modern classroom, lab, and faculty office space. The Minnesota Legislature provided funding in 2014 for design of the new facility.
- **Classroom Renovations at Normandale Community College** – The College Services Building at Normandale Community College was constructed in three major phases – in 1967, 1990 and 1996. Enrollment at the school has increase 55 percent in just the last 13 years, with nearly all students taking a class in the building. Governor Dayton's public works proposal would invest \$8.4 million in a project to renovate classrooms, reorganize student support services, and reduce \$2.8 million in existing deferred maintenance.
- **Rochester Community & Technical College Memorial Plaza** – Rochester Community and Technical College is a critical workforce training hub for southeast Minnesota, and is the top provider of workers for Mayo Clinic. To help the college continue preparing students for 21st Century careers, Governor Dayton's public works proposal includes \$15.3 million to help renovate classrooms and create interactive learning environments that foster faculty-student collaboration.

- **Classroom Renovations at Vermilion Community College** – Located in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Vermilion Community College offers nearly 30 different programs – from Fisheries and Wildlife Management to preparing students to transfer to a four year college. This year, Governor Dayton has proposed a \$1.6 million investment to renovate classrooms originally built in the early 1970s. The funding also will allow the school to replace a leaking roof, which puts the laboratory space beneath it at risk of damage.
- **Modern Classrooms at the University of Minnesota** – The University of Minnesota is our state’s flagship higher education institution. Tens of thousands of students attend the school each year. In addition, the school anchors Minnesota’s economy by developing innovations that create economic opportunity in every corner of the state. The Governor’s public works proposal includes \$24 million to renovate historic Pillsbury Hall, originally built in 1887. The funding would allow the university to replace obsolete science facilities with flexible teaching, learning, and research spaces to serve more than 6,000 students.
- **Elementary Teacher Education at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College** – Minnesota has some of the largest opportunity gaps between white students, and students of color and American Indian students. Governor Dayton’s public works proposal includes \$1.2 million to help expand the Elementary Teacher Education program at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College from a two-year program to a four-year degree program. The investment also will support the development of the college’s Environmental Institute, which promotes the education and cultural growth of the community in natural resources and the environment. Collectively, these investments will help students become wicensed teachers and develop a better understanding of their cultural values and those of others.

Investing in 21st Century Science Labs and Classrooms

- **Clinical Research Facility at the University of Minnesota** – While Minnesota is the home to more than 400 biomedical companies, many do not work with the University of Minnesota Medical School on clinical research projects because of the lack of clinical researchers, adequate clinical research facilities, and access to enough patients to conduct clinical trials. As a result, many companies have developed partnerships with universities and research organizations outside Minnesota. Governor Dayton’s public works bill work begins to remove these barriers by investing \$10 million to begin designing a new clinical research facility, which includes integrated research, clinical exam, consultation, computational, office, collaboration space, and other Health Sciences support spaces.
- **Clinical Sciences Building at Minnesota State Mankato** – Minnesota State University Mankato is leading the way, training the workforce of tomorrow. Right now, they have 1,200 nursing or an allied health majors. But the facilities, like Wissink Hall are aging and inadequate for a growing student population. To help consolidate scattered classroom space, renovate an aging food lab, and create new trainings labs for the nursing program, Governor Dayton’s public works proposal includes a \$4.3 million investment.
- **Nursing Classrooms at Anoka-Ramsey Community College** – More than 12,300 students annually attend Anoka-Ramsey Community College, where they can take over 100 different courses and programs. This year, Governor Dayton has proposed a \$381,000 investment to help the school complete the design phase of a proposed project to modernize and expand nursing classrooms and labs. In addition, this project would allow Anoka-Ramsey to replace aging mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems in the building.
- **Teaching Labs at Northland Community & Technical College** – Governor Dayton’s public works proposal includes \$1.63 million to help expand health science education at Northland Community & Technical College. With this funding, the college plans to expand its Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Therapist Laboratory, and Pharmacy Technology programs. In addition, the college plans to create a new lab for its Occupational Therapy Assistant program and improve facilities for its Early Childhood and Paraprofessional program.

Investing in Engineering, Technology, and Industrial Education

- **Applied Technology Center at Century College** – Governor Dayton has proposed \$4.3 million investment to help Century College build a multi-disciplinary Engineering and Applied Technology Center. In the new center, students will develop skills for careers in advanced manufacturing, computer science, and engineering. It also will allow the school to expand the science tutoring center, which currently only has space for 12 students to visit at a time.
- **Trade and Industrial Education Center at Riverland Community College** – Riverland Community College's current Transportation, Trade and Industrial Education Center has not been significantly updated in nearly four decades. Businesses in the collision repair and trucking industries are concerned that students are not learning how to use modern technologies because the current facilities at Riverland are out-of-date. Governor Dayton's public works proposal includes \$6.8 million to design and construct a modern trade and industrial education hub to meet current workforce demands.

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For a full list of all higher education projects included in Governor Dayton's public works proposal, [CLICK HERE](#).