

State of Wyoming

**2027-2028**

# Biennium Budget Request



## Agency 067: University of Wyoming

Prepared for the February 2026 Legislature.

*The information in this budget request has been developed in accordance with the agency plan prepared according to W.S. 28-1-115 & 28-1-116 [W.S. 9-2-1011(b)(vi)].*

### Submitted by:

Signature Edward Seidel

Name Edward Seidel

Title President, University of Wyoming

### Person(s) responsible for the preparation of this budget:

Alex Kean, Vice President Budget and Finance

Mike Smith, Vice President Government Affairs &  
Community Engagement



State Budget Department

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DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING							DEPT 067
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
DIVISION							
STATE AID	6700	401,227,647	398,833,433	21,885,783	420,719,216	(2,800,000)	417,919,216
SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES	6800	42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
TIER 1 ENGINEERING	6900	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
NCAR MOU	9600	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
ENDOWMENTS	9700	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
TOTAL BY DIVISION		553,098,474	440,054,260	53,975,783	494,030,043	(10,300,000)	483,730,043
OBJECT SERIES							
PERSONNEL	0100	67,692,862	69,798,648	0	69,798,648	0	69,798,648
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	485,405,612	370,255,612	53,975,783	424,231,395	(10,300,000)	413,931,395
TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES		553,098,474	440,054,260	53,975,783	494,030,043	(10,300,000)	483,730,043
SOURCES OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	534,098,474	440,054,260	53,975,783	494,030,043	(10,300,000)	483,730,043
OTHER FUNDS	Z	19,000,000	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL BY FUNDS		553,098,474	440,054,260	53,975,783	494,030,043	(10,300,000)	483,730,043
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES							
TOTAL AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES							

## **SECTION 1. STATE OF THE AGENCY**

### **Agency Overview**

**Vision** - Use our unique strengths to make Wyoming and the world a better place.

**Mission** - As Wyoming's university, we unlock the extraordinary in every person through education, research, innovation, engagement, and service.

**Values** - As Wyoming's only public university, we are committed to scholarship, outreach and service that extend our human talent and technological capacity to serve the people in our communities, our state, the nation and the world. We value:

- Access to affordable, high-quality education.
- Real-world education where students learn by doing.
- A welcoming and supportive learning community fostered by integrity, inclusivity, freedom of expression, and respect.
- The growth, health, and leadership capacity of all members of the university community.
- Wyoming's wild and working lands as an asset to be utilized, understood, stewarded, and treasured.
- Our partnership and engagement with Wyoming communities in the creation and exchange of knowledge and resources
- Our role as a catalyst for innovation and economic vitality.

### **Agency Background & Structure**

Founded in 1886, just four years before Wyoming achieved statehood, the University of Wyoming has long embodied the pioneering spirit of our state. As a land-grant institution, UW was established to provide accessible education, advance agricultural and mechanical sciences, and serve the public good. Over the decades, it has grown into a comprehensive research university, offering more than 200 areas of study and serving students from all 23 counties and beyond.

In September 1887, UW opened its doors to 42 students and 5 faculty members. As befitted the university of the Equality State, both the students and faculty included women from the first day. UW has produced generations of leaders, innovators, and public servants. Its alumni include governors, scientists, educators, and entrepreneurs who have shaped Wyoming's identity and contributed to its prosperity.

Given the University of Wyoming's nationally unique status as the only public university in the state, UW serves simultaneously as a land-grant, flagship, and research institution. Its commitments to scholarship, outreach and service extend to all corners of the state and require continuous assessment of the needs and values of a broad range of internal and external constituent and stake-holder groups.

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### Agency Challenges/Risks/Priorities

Rooted in the Morrill Land Grant College Act of 1862, the role of the University of Wyoming remains steadfast: to provide an education that empowers the people of Wyoming, however; UW faces, as does all higher education, headwinds but with Wyoming-specific challenges: a continually shifting budget landscape, evolving workforce needs, and the imperative to diversify both revenue and academic offerings. To meet these challenges head-on, UW continues to embrace transformation that honors our land-grant heritage while positioning the university as a driver of innovation, resilience, and opportunity across the Mountain West. Return on investment has become a central concern for students, families, and policymakers. Students specifically are evaluating college as a financial decision. UW continues to offer an exceptional value and 61 percent of graduates in 2024 had no student debt. That percentage increases to 67 percent for Wyoming residents that receive the Hathaway Scholarship. Although the return on investment does vary by degree type the reality remains that citizens that earn a bachelor's degree still earn significantly more than those with an associate's degree and nearly 85 percent more than those with only a high school diploma. To thrive in the future, UW must not only diversify its revenue sources, but also invest more heavily in student success, faculty retention, and a 21st century focus of excellence. UW must continue to identify efficiencies in resource use and redirect and pivot its investments into areas of education and research that will help drive Wyoming's innovation infrastructure and economic trajectory. UW is focused upon proactively and intentionally pivoting our focus to diversification of our revenues and educational offerings with clear future value to the state, region, nation and world. The university faces real challenges: demographic shifts, infrastructure gaps, and funding uncertainties. Yet, Wyoming ranks #2 nationally in science and engineering degrees as a share of total degrees, and UW is well-positioned to lead in areas like rural health-care, energy transition, and workforce development.

### Agency Successes and Efficiencies

#### 1. Carnegie R1 Research Status

- In 2025, UW earned the prestigious Carnegie R1 designation, placing it among the top tier of U.S. research universities.
- This recognition reflects significant growth in research activity, faculty scholarship, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

#### 2. Record Research Growth

- UW reported \$166 million in annual research expenditures.
- Major areas of growth include energy systems, artificial intelligence, agriculture, and biomedical sciences.

#### 3. Research and Innovation Excellence Awards

- In 2024, UW hosted its inaugural Celebration of Research and Innovation Excellence, recognizing outstanding contributions from faculty and departments.

#### 4. Student Success Programs

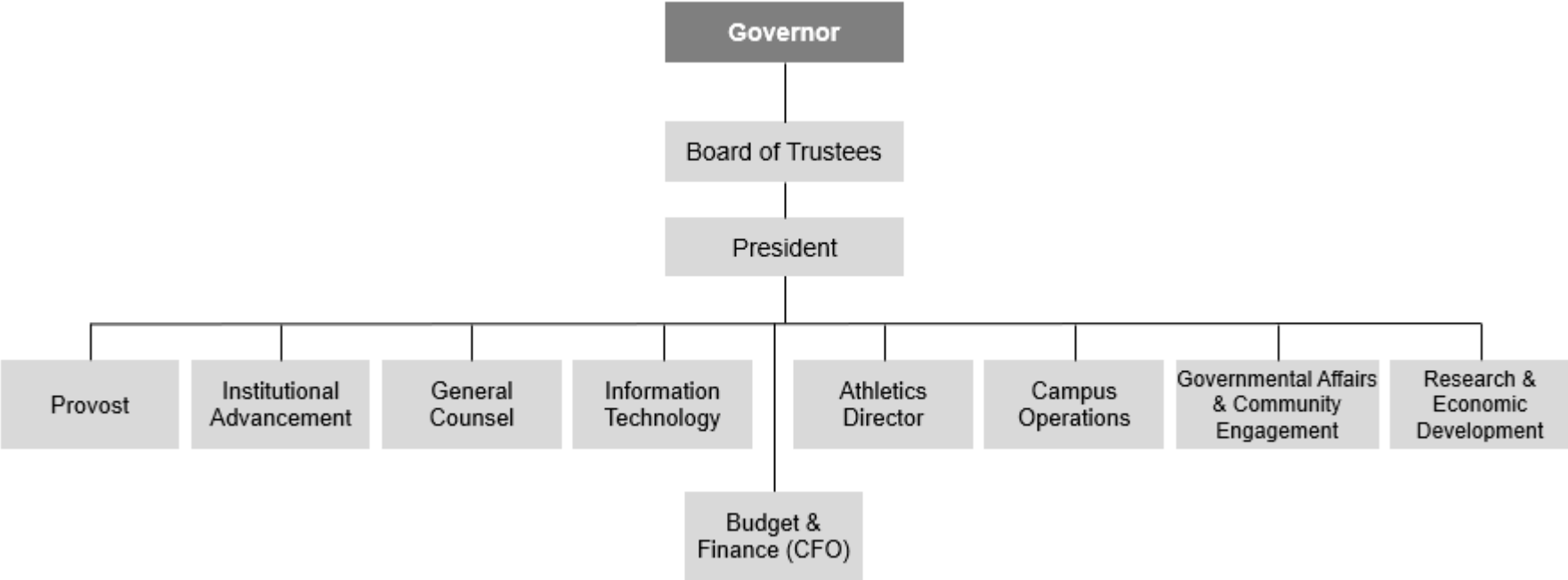
- The Saddle Up program, a pre-semester onboarding experience, has increased retention rate among participants two years in a row.
- UW also launched the Navigate app, enhancing academic advising and degree planning.

#### 5. Artificial Intelligence Initiative State Match

- UW launched a comprehensive AI Initiative, including:
  - New faculty and postdoctoral positions
  - Corporate partnerships
  - Campus-wide seed grants
- This initiative supports Wyoming's leadership in emerging technologies and workforce development.

These achievements reflect the University of Wyoming's proactive approach to institutional transformation and its unwavering commitment to serving the people of Wyoming. With continued legislative support, UW will build on this momentum to expand its impact across the state, region, and nation.

SECTION 2. DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



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**SECTION 3. DEPARTMENT STATUTORY AUTHORITY****WYOMING CONSTITUTION**

ARTICLE 7	EDUCATION; STATE INSTITUTIONS; PROMOTION OF HEALTH AND MORALS; PUBLIC BUILDINGS
SECTION 1	LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SECTION 15	ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY CONFIRMED
SECTION 16	TUITION FREE
SECTION 17	GOVERNMENT OF UNIVERSITY
SECTION 23	PERMANENT LOCATION

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CHAPTER 7	TEACHERS AND EMPLOYEES
ARTICLE 6	WYOMING TEACHER SHORTAGE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
CHAPTER 16	HIGHER EDUCATION GENERALLY
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ARTICLE 9	UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING ENDOWMENT FUND
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CHAPTER 19	HIGHER EDUCATION RETIREMENT
TITLE 9	ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
CHAPTER 2	AGENCIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENTS GENERALLY
ARTICLE 1	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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9-2-123	WYOMING INVESTMENT IN NURSING
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9-4-719	INVESTMENT EARNING SPENDING POLICY – PERMANENT FUNDS
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9-4-1003	SUPPLEMENTAL COVERAGE PROGRAM FOR UNIVERSITY REVENUE BONDS
TITLE 19	DEFENSE FORCES AND AFFAIRS
CHAPTER 14	VETERANS
19-14-106	FREE TUITION AND FEES FOR EDUCATION OF WAR ORPHANS AND VETERANS; DEFINITIONS
TITLE 41	WATER
CHAPTER 2	PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
41-2-125	OFFICE OF WATER PROGRAMS CREATED; DUTIES; ANNUAL REPORT

SECTION 4. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Strategic Plan and Key Performance Indicators

Forward for Wyoming: Honoring our Heritage and Creating our Future – A Strategic Plan for the University of Wyoming

In January 2023, the University formally launched its current strategic plan: Forward for Wyoming: Honoring our Heritage and Creating our Future – A Strategic Plan for the University of Wyoming. Given the rapidly changing environment of higher education, the plan does not have a definitive end date, but we anticipate it will be active for at least five years, ending in FY2027. The plan is comprised of five primary objectives and corresponding commitments and key execution strategies. The current report provides an overview of each objective as well as baseline data and progress made on each key execution strategy between January and July 2023. The FY 24 report will provide final Year 1 progress. It is important to note that the current strategic plan has a projected life span of at least five years. Given this, significant progress has not been made on all key execution strategies during the first six months of the implementation.

Objective 1: Enhance Student Success

Commitment: Integrate best practices in teaching and learning to produce skills required for life, work, citizenship, and adaptation to the needs of a changing world.

Key Execution Strategies

Key Execution Strategy	Baseline	Year 3 (FY 25) Progress
Strategically grow enrollment	Current Enrollment (headcount Fall 2022) Undergraduate: 8,518 Graduate: 2,582 Total: 11,100	Current Enrollment (headcount Fall 2024) Undergraduate: 8,130 Graduate: 2,683 Total: 10,813
Build a student-ready, student-focused enterprise	UW’s primary focus has always been on the education and success of its students. A new strategic plan has identified new opportunities to enhance the way we support and prepare our students.	Implementation of key initiatives including Saddle Up orientation for first year and transfer students; Cowboy Coaching for all undergraduates; Navigate, a platform that supports success throughout the student life cycle. Data from students returning in fall 2024 indicates that 78.5% of first- time students who participated in Saddle Up are retained from first-to- second year versus 64.5% of students who did not participate. In Fall 2024, 87.1% of students who met with a Cowboy Coach at least twice were retained from first-to- second year.
Enhance graduate student support services	UW reformed the Graduate School in 2022 in order to centralize and enhance support services provided to graduate students.	Major enhancements include new professional development opportunities, student travel fund, and redirection of student fees to meet student needs.

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Increase enrollment and engagement with all student populations	Current Enrollment (headcount Fall 2022) Undergraduate: 7,941 Graduate: 2,522 Total: 10,463	President Seidel has charged a Strategic Enrollment Management Working Group to develop and execute strategies to grow enrollment. Completed strategies include enhancing New Student Days and university-wide advising processes.
Increase global engagement	In academic year 22-23, 542 students and 31 faculty members participated in study abroad. There was a total of 479 international students enrolled at UW during the same period. UW maintains 56 collaborative agreements with international institutions of higher education.	UW has formed a partnership with Shorelight to increase international student enrollment.  UW established a formal relationship with Cardiff University to strengthen teaching, learning, and research between the institutions.
Prepare students for life and adaptation to a changing and increasingly digital world	Primary programs and services include the School of Computing, Shell 3D Visualization Center, and Geographic Information System (GIS) certificate. UW endeavors to further integrate digital literacy into the student experience.	UW launched several degree programs related to digital skills including an Applied Computing B.S. and an M.S. in Artificial Intelligence. Additionally, UW is the recipient of several new grants, including a \$4 million grant from NSF to install a state-of-the-art research computing system.

Objective 2: Pursue Institutional Excellence

Commitment: Nurture a culture of diverse ideas and knowledge creation that promotes teaching, learning, community engagement, economic development, and world-class research.

## Key Execution Strategies

Key Execution Strategy	Baseline	Year 3 (FY 25) Progress
Raise UW's scholarly capacity and profile nationally and internationally	UW does not currently track the scholarly activity of faculty outside of the University.	UW faculty research is routinely featured in national and international journals and faculty are present regularly at high-profile academic conferences. UW faculty. UW has received the Carnegie R1 (Very High Research) Classification.
Value and reward all teaching, research, extension, engagement, innovation, inclusion, and service contributions to UW's mission.	UW has a long history of valuing and rewarding academic activity. With an increasingly mobile workforce and complex needs of the University and State, it is critical that the University invest in initiatives that value and reward outstanding contributions.	Major initiatives include a) the creation of endowments to support research and faculty excellence, b) Presidential Fellowships, Presidential Scholarly Achievement Awards, and Provost Term Professorships to reward outstanding faculty and c) Recognition from the Carnegie Corporation for recognition of excellence in community engagement.

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Celebrate and support free expression	UW has always been committed to creating an environment where diverse perspectives are heard and welcomed. This has been demonstrated through guest speakers, student organizations, tabling opportunities, and other activities.	UW continues to value and invest in initiatives related to free expression. UW has partnered with the Constructive Dialogue Institute to provide all employees and students access to a course related to constructive dialogue. UW has risen in several key rankings from the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE). Notably, UW is ranked #2 in the nation for tolerance for conservative speakers.
Strengthen relationships with UW's external partners and stakeholders	As Wyoming's land-grant and flagship institution, building relationships with external partners and stakeholders is at the core of fulfilling our mission. UW does not currently track that extensive engagement.	Key partnerships and activities include collaborations with Wyoming's Community Colleges through WIP; the creation of the Office of Industry & Strategic Partnerships; Launched inaugural Community Engaged Faculty Institute; Collaborations with City of Laramie through Town & Gown partnership.

Objective 3: Provide a Supportive Community

Commitment: Foster a culture of community that values and cares for students, faculty, and staff.

## Key Execution Strategies

Key Execution Strategy	Baseline	Year 3 (FY 25) Progress
Build opportunity ladders for staff	Providing staff with opportunities to enhance their professional skills and seek employment opportunities has always been a priority of UW.	UW continues to explore ways to enhance and create opportunities for staff to advance their careers and expand their leadership skills, including the creation of the Presidential Leadership Institute. Human Resources also offers multiple opportunities each month for employees to grow their skill sets.
Develop initiatives to hire, reward, and retain excellent staff and faculty	Recognizing the talents and contributions of UW employees is a critical part of a thriving university community.	UW has implemented several initiatives including: a) President's Scholarly Achievement Awards, b) Presidential Fellowships, c) Provost Term Professorships, d) Presidential Leadership Institute for faculty and staff, and e) Presidential Excellence Award for staff.
Invest in resources that enhance the health and well-being of the UW community	UW currently maintains a variety of resources including the following: University Counseling Center, The Psychology Center, Wellspring Counseling Center, Half Acre Recreation and Wellness Center, Employee Assistance Program	UW has launched an initiative funded in part by the State called Wellness in the WEST - Where Everyone Strengthens Together. This comprehensive wellness program is dedicated to supporting the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of our campus community.

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Expand efforts of accountability, inclusion, and transparency	UW has always strived to create and promote an environment that values accountability, inclusion, and transparency.	Major efforts include: a) regular town hall meetings with President Seidel, b) inclusion of Staff and Faculty Senates in leadership meeting agendas and notes, and c) the creation of a Shared Governance working group to enhance trust, transparency, and collaboration across campus.
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Objective 4: Engage with and Serve the State of Wyoming

Commitment: Sustain and enhance our extensive service to and engagement with the State to improve the mental, physical, and economic health of Wyoming and its residents.

Key Execution Strategies

Key Execution Strategy	Baseline	Year 3 (FY 25) Progress
Invest in and leverage UW Extension and Research & Extension Centers	UW currently maintains extension centers in all 23 Wyoming counties and also maintains R&E Centers in Laramie, Sheridan and Powell.	UW continues to serve the state of Wyoming through its Extension and Research & Extension Centers. From 4-H programming and pesticide safety education to food preservation and nutrition courses, Extension upholds the university's land-grant mission by offering learning opportunities for people of all ages
Grow health and well-being initiatives across the state	Health and well-being initiatives currently provided by UW include: a) Wyoming Institute for Disabilities, b) Community Health Worker Training Program, c) Family Medicine Programs, and d) Educational Health Center of Wyoming	UW continues to offer health and well-being services to the people of Wyoming through: a) Wyoming Institute for Disabilities, b) Community Health Worker Training Program, c) Family Medicine Programs, and d) Educational Health Center of Wyoming.
Expand the impact of the Wyoming Innovation Partnership	The Wyoming Innovation Partnership is intended to align education, workforce development, and industry to support Wyoming's economic development needs. Phase I of the WIP primarily focused on building state-wide infrastructure support for the initiative as well as energy and healthcare.	Phase III of WIP includes enhanced collaboration between UW and Wyoming's Community Colleges and focuses on areas critical to Wyoming's success including energy, entrepreneurship, and agriculture while transitioning to a sustainable, privately managed program.
Support Wyoming's economic and community development using the assets and expertise	UW maintains a variety of services to support economic and community development throughout the institution include IMPACT 307, Business Resource Network, Center for	UW continues to support economic and community development. Major activities include a) study by the Center for Business and Economic Analysis which indicated UW has a \$1.36 billion annual impact on Wyoming's economy, b) creation of an "Innovation Course" which

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of all colleges and schools	Entrepreneurship, and Innovation, and the Center for Business and Economic Analysis.	enables students to help Wyoming organizations solve real- world problems, and c) creation of a Community Engaged Faculty Institute.
Enhance UW's connections with and service to the people of Wyoming	UW's land-grant mission is to be a unifying force expanding intellectual opportunity, advancing economic and cultural vitality, and contributing to the well-being of the communities that call Wyoming home.	As Wyoming's land-grant and flagship university, UW is proud to serve the people of Wyoming through a variety of initiatives including the Wyoming Center of Aging, the Malcolm Wallop Civic Engagement Program, The Trustees' Education Initiative, and Center for Business & Economic Analysis. UW received the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement which recognizes UW's commitment to serving the people of Wyoming.
Grow educational opportunities for Wyoming	As the State of Wyoming's only 4-year, public institution, the University has a responsibility to serve the needs of the entire state. Current services include a) over ten fully online bachelor's degrees, b) Educational Opportunity Centers, and c) Student Educational Opportunity Program	UW continues to grow educational opportunities for the people of Wyoming. Examples include UW Extension, the Trustees' Education Initiative, the K-14 STEM Education Outreach Office, the Native American Summer Institute, and offering 11 fully online bachelor's degree programs.

Objective 5: Cultivate Financial Stability/Diversification

Commitment: Ensure the long-term vitality of UW through diversification and growth of revenue streams and effective application of resources, infrastructure, and processes.

## Key Execution Strategies

Key Execution Strategy	Baseline	Year 3 (FY 25) Progress
Audit business processes to ensure effectiveness	Business processes are primarily audited at the local level. In addition, the Office of Internal Audit conducts audits regularly to ensure UW is adhering to laws, policies, and procedures.	The Office of Internal Audit establishes an audit plan each year that includes annual and rotating projects, change in leadership audits and risk-based audits informed by an annual risk assessment.
Grow external funding for research and scholarship across all disciplines	In FY 23, there were a total of \$119 million in research expenditures across the University	In FY 24 (the most recent year for which data is available), there were a total of \$167 million in research expenditures across the university.
Leverage and grow corporate partnerships	UW has a long history of supporting corporate partnerships. Currently, support is disbursed throughout campus with multiple	UW launched an Office of Industry and Strategic Partnerships to connect industry to UW to create meaningful partnerships. These partnerships are opportunities for industry and strategic partners to

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	offices supporting this critical effort including the UW Foundation and Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.	create mutually beneficial relationships through research, education, and outreach.
Enhance the partnership between UW and the UW Foundation	A strong and enduring partnership existing between UW & the UW Foundation. The UW Foundation's mission is to raise, receive, and manage private gifts to maximize support for the University of Wyoming. The President and CEO of the UW Foundation serves on the UW President's Cabinet.	UW and the UW Foundation continue to build on their mutually supportive relationship. In FY 25, the Foundation raised a record breaking \$69.5 million. Recent collaborations include planning for a potential comprehensive campaign, visioning for UW's Artificial Intelligence Initiative, and the creation of Foundation Stewardship Awards.
Initiate planning for a comprehensive campaign	A comprehensive campaign is a strategic and collaborative fundraising initiative aimed at engaging as many stakeholders as possible to achieve fundraising goals. UW's last comprehensive campaign ended in 2005.	UW and the UW Foundation continue planning for a potential comprehensive campaign. UW and the UW Foundation collaborated with BWF Consultants to develop a Campaign Readiness Assessment.
Review UW budget model and program offerings	The current unrestricted operating budget is based on an incremental model where each year, the same allocation or cap is distributed with slight changes.	In FY 25 a Budget Model Working Group established guiding principles and built a framework budget model to test the impact of various model elements. The working group continues to meet and recommend modifications based on feedback from campus.
Develop campus energy plan	The University maintains a Campus Utilities Master Plan that was last update in 2020.	The university continues to identify ways to use energy efficiently on campus.
Refine UW positioning, brand strategy, and brand promise	UW's brand strategy and positioning has benefited from "The World Needs More Cowboys," and the "I Am A Cowboy" campaigns. In addition to winning national awards, a recent student survey shows the campaign resonated with existing students and half of all first-year students and sophomores in Fall of 2022 reported the campaign had a positive impact on their decision to attend UW. In addition, UW continues to fare well in national rankings when compared to its peer institutions.	UW is committed to building on past successes by constantly examining our brand, making changes as the market demands, and ensuring our marketing efforts highlight our unique culture and new and evolving programs important to tomorrow's students. A campus-wide brand summit was held in FY 25 as part of the activity of the newly-established One UW Council which brings marketing, foundation, alumni association, athletics and others together to coordinate messaging.

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**SECTION 5. DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES**

067 - University of Wyoming 2027-2028 Biennium Priorities									
Priority	Division	Unit #	Program Name / Description	\$	GF	FF	OF	# of Positions	Describe the consequences if priority is cut.
1a	6700	6701-6708	University of Wyoming State Aid	\$366,578,277	\$366,578,277	\$0	\$0	N/A	Funding supports the State's only university established in 1886, as a land grant institution with teaching, research and public service responsibilities.
1b	6800	6801	School of Energy Resources	\$21,107,808	\$21,107,808	\$0	\$0	N/A	Provides nationally-competitive undergraduate and graduate instruction in energy-related disciplines; advances Wyoming's energy-related science, technology and economics research; and supports scientific and engineering outreach through dissemination of information to Wyoming's energy industries, companies, community colleges, and government agencies
1c	6900	6901	Tier I Engineering	\$18,584,703	\$18,584,703	\$0	\$0	N/A	Initiative provides for excellence in undergraduate education; world-class research and graduate education; productive economic development through partnerships and K-14 STEM education.



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1d	6720	6721-6723	Medical Education	\$17,453,547	\$17,453,547	\$0	\$0	N/A	Consortium of rural states that offers medical education through a partnership with the University of Washington School of Medicine and provides the opportunity for Wyoming residents to receive a medical education and to be trained as quality physicians in rural settings. Loan-for-service repayment dentistry program that contracts for educational services with schools of dentistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Creighton University in Omaha. Loan-for-service repayment nursing degree on an accelerated basis (BRAND) at the University of Wyoming.
1e	9600	9601	NCAR MOU	\$1,528,316	\$1,528,316	\$0	\$0	N/A	Pursuant to agreement, UW provides \$1 million on an annual basis for the operation of the NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center operated as a National Science Foundation-sponsored facility.
1f	6710	6711	UW Family Medical Residency Practice	\$14,801,609	\$14,801,609	\$0	\$0	N/A	The fundamental purpose is to educate family medicine physicians-residents through direct patient care. The UW Family Medicine Residency Programs (UWFMRP) are the only physician residency

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1g	9700	9705	Endowments and Matching	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A	programs in the State of Wyoming.
			Totals	\$440,054,260	\$440,054,260	\$0	\$0	N/A	These matching funds require at least a 1:1 match and are used for a variety of research and endowment opportunities.

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**SECTION 6. DEPT. EXCEPTION REQUEST PRIORITIES**

067 - University of Wyoming 2027-2028 Biennial Budget Request									
Priority	Unit #	Description	Department Request		Governor's Recommendation				
			Amount	Pos	Amount	GF	FF	OF	Pos
1	9705	Matching Funds - Endowment	\$20,000,000	0	\$12,500,000	\$12,500,000	\$0	\$0	0
2	6701	Career and Technical Education (CTE)	\$5,000,000	0	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0	0
		• Construction	\$1,000,000	0	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	0
3	6701	Athletic Operating Support	\$6,000,000	0	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$0	0
4	6701	Critical Minerals Initiative	\$300,000	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
		• Recurring	\$4,500,000	0	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$0	\$0	0
5	6701	AI Initiative	\$2,500,000	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
6	6701	Internship Program	\$2,300,000	0	\$2,300,000	\$2,300,000	\$0	\$0	0
7	6711	Clinician Assistant Professor - Casper Family Medicine	\$285,783	0	\$285,783	\$285,783	\$0	\$0	0
Totals			<b>\$41,885,783</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$31,585,783</b>	<b>\$31,585,783</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>
General Fund			\$41,885,783						
Federal Funds			\$0						
Other Funds			\$0						
<b>Total Request</b>			<b>\$41,885,783</b>						

067 - University of Wyoming - School of Energy Resources 2027-2028 Biennial Budget Request									
Priority	Unit #	Description	Department Request		Governor's Recommendation				
			Amount	Pos	Amount	GF	FF	OF	Pos
1	6801	Coal Pyrolysis Demonstration - Inflation (one-time) - Effective Immediately	\$2,090,000	0	\$2,090,000	\$2,090,000	\$0	\$0	0
2	6801	State Match - SER (one-time)	\$10,000,000	0	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$0	0
Totals			<b>\$12,090,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$12,090,000</b>	<b>\$12,090,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>
General Fund			\$12,090,000						
Federal Funds			\$0						
Other Funds			\$0						
<b>Total Request</b>			<b>\$12,090,000</b>						

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DEPT 067

**SECTION 7. LEGISLATIVE REPORTS****Federal Mineral Royalties Expenditure Report  
Pursuant to W.S. 9-4-601 (a)(iv)  
August 1, 2025**

The University of Wyoming (UW) receives six and three-quarters percent of the first two hundred million dollars of Federal Mineral Royalty revenue received by the State of Wyoming in each fiscal year. One percent of these revenues is credited to the general fund as an administrative fee prior to distribution. For the period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2049 the first \$8 million of the amount that would otherwise be distributed to the budget reserve account shall be distributed to a separate account for the University of Wyoming. In total UW receives an allocation of \$21,365,000 each fiscal year ending on June 30, 2049.

W.S. 9-4-601 (a)(iv) as amended in Chapter 40 Session Laws of Wyoming, 2011 stipulates that the six and three-quarters percent of the first two hundred million dollars may be used only for actual and necessary expenses of constructing, equipping and furnishing new buildings; the repairing of existing buildings; the purchasing of improved or unimproved real estate; the payment of principal and interest on securities issued to finance projects authorized by the legislature; or for the payment of principal and interest on securities issued to refund securities.

This amended statute requires that: "The trustees of the university shall report annually to the joint appropriations interim committee, the select committee on capital finance and investments and the governor on all expenditures under this paragraph."

W.S. 9-4-601(d)(ix) as amended in Chapter 40 Session Laws of Wyoming, 2019 redirected an additional \$8 million dollars of Federal Mineral Royalties annually to the University of Wyoming from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2049. These funds are continuously appropriated to the university upon deposit to the budget reserve account. A provision of this redistribution is that the University of Wyoming reduce its standard budget request through June 30, 2049 by an equal amount.

**During the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2025, the following expenditures were incurred for the above-named purposes:**

**Payment of principal and interest on securities:**

Bond Series 2021 – Refunding of Series 2010B, 2010C and 2011B; Purchase of Bison Run Village; Refunding of Series 2012A & 2012B	\$5,483,016
Bond Series 2016-Refund of Bond Series 2011A	\$604,450
<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>\$6,087,466</b>

**Other:**

Maintenance and Operation of Plan	\$7,277,534
Redirected funds to UW's standard budget	\$8,000,000
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>\$15,277,534</b>

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<b>Total Federal Mineral Royalty Expenditures</b>	<b>\$21,365,000</b>
FY 25 FMR allocation	\$13,365,000
FY 25 FMR's redirected to UW	\$8,000,000
FY 25 Interest earnings	\$110,470
<b>Carryover funds to future fiscal years</b>	<b>\$110,470</b>

#### University of Wyoming Hathaway Scholarship Program Reporting

	Hathaway Awards	Hathaway Dollars	Tuition Discount Awards	Tuition Dollars	All Other Scholarship Awards	All Other Scholarship Dollars	Total Scholarship Awards	Total Scholarship Dollars
0405 (FY05)	-	\$ -	1,948	\$6,152,267	10,597	\$18,090,552	14,389	\$27,631,107
0506 (FY06)	-	\$ -	2,106	\$7,233,034	10,796	\$18,992,515	14,754	\$29,435,539
05-06 Biennium Totals	-	\$ -	4,054	\$13,385,301	21,393	\$37,083,067	29,143	\$57,066,645
2023 (FY23)	3,922	\$10,667,295	356	\$3,759,041	15,316	\$43,123,998	19,594	\$57,550,334
2124 (FY24)	4,039	\$11,458,120	177	\$2,072,840	15,749	\$47,791,576	19,965	\$61,322,537
23-24 Biennium Totals	7,961	\$22,125,415	533	\$5,831,881	31,065	\$90,915,574	39,559	\$118,872,870

The above chart indicates the scholarship number of awards and funds in four categories:

- Hathaway
- Tuition Discounts
- All Other Scholarships
- Total Scholarship Awards/ Dollars

The Hathaway Scholarship Program continues to allow UW the ability to provide scholarship opportunities to all our students through the reallocation and use of supplementary scholarship funds. Those students who receive Hathaway scholarships are still able to benefit from additional scholarships based on merit and/ or need. In addition, the following types of students: Wyoming residents who do not qualify for Hathaway, high academic achievement students who did not enter as a freshman or transfer student on a scholarship, talent and merit students, continuing students, graduate students, non-resident students, and international students still to have an opportunity to receive scholarships. All scholarships are awarded according to unique scholarship program rules as funding permits and subject to the Cost of Attendance (see Appendix A).

“All Other Scholarship Dollars” have increased by 145% when compared to the FY05-06 Biennium to the Fiscal Year23-24 Biennium and our student loan debt continues to remain below the national average with 62% of UW students who began with UW do not borrow at all for their undergraduate degrees.

UW alumni are vigorously encouraged to contribute to scholarships through the Alumni Association quarterly newsletter, personal letters, and its website. Further, the UW Foundation invites alumni and the general public to make contributions to UW scholarships in numerous outreach activities.

#### Appendix A: The Cost of Attendance and Scholarship Awarding

The Cost of Attendance for a student is an estimate of budget components for a specific period of enrollment (normally a fall and spring semester) including tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, travel and miscellaneous expenses. The Cost of Attendance is the cornerstone of all financial aid packages at the University of Wyoming.

#### **Federal financial aid and the Cost of Attendance (COA)**

For federal funding, the COA sets the limit on the total aid that a student may receive during a specific enrollment period. The Federal Student Aid Handbook states: “An over award exists whenever a student’s award exceeds his or her cost of attendance.” An over award must be resolved in accordance with federal regulations or the school is liable for the overage in funds.

#### **Athletic aid and the Cost of Attendance**

Similarly, in the NCAA manual, By-Law 15.1 states:

A student-athlete shall not be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics if he or she receives financial aid that exceeds the value of the cost of attendance.

The NCAA manual, By-Law 15.1.1 goes on to talk about the exception for the Pell Grant:

A student-athlete who receives a Pell Grant may receive financial aid equivalent to the value of a full grant-in-aid plus the Pell Grant.

A conversation with personnel in the University of Wyoming Athletics Office verified that the Pell Grant is the only exception for a student athlete receiving aid over the cost of attendance.

**State Scholarships and the Cost of Attendance**

State scholarships are also dictated by the cost of attendance. The Hathaway Scholarship is a financial incentive for students to attend college and is legislated by the state of Wyoming. The legislature did not address costs that the Hathaway Scholarship are required to cover but did address the limitation of the scholarship. Article 13 Education, Chapter 16, Statute 21-16-1306 states:

- a. To the extent a scholarship under this article would, when combined with any grant or scholarship from a student financial aid program administered through the state or any state institution, in any semester exceed the cost of attendance at the eligible institution, the scholarship under this article shall be reduced by the amount necessary to not exceed that cost of attendance.

Other state scholarships including the Tuition and Fees for Survivors of Police, Fire, EMT (Section 21-16-150, the County Commissioners (Section 21-17-105), and Superior Student in Education (Section 27-17-114) are administered by the University of Wyoming consistent with the rules promulgated by the Wyoming Department of Education for the Hathaway Scholarship program.

In addition, the Wyoming Investment in Nursing (WYIN) established by the Wyoming legislature with the same constraint that the award should not exceed the cost of attendance for the program less other aid awarded.

**Private (internal UW or external sources) scholarships and Cost of Attendance**

The Trustees' Scholars award given to a number of Wyoming's top resident graduating seniors for their academic achievement. The Trustees' Scholars award, when combined with the Hathaway Honors award, provides the equivalent cost of tuition and mandatory fees (up to 15 credit hours per semester), double occupancy room and an unlimited access dining plan. As stated on UW's Admissions website and in UW's Financial Aid Policy and Procedure Manual: "No student shall be awarded scholarships that exceed the student's total cost of attendance." This is reiterated in the letter sent to Trustees awardees with the following wording:

The combination of your Trustees' Scholars Award plus other scholarships cannot exceed the cost of attendance. Therefore:

- Any available Hathaway Scholarship award will be applied to your educational costs as part of the Trustees' Scholar Award.
- The Trustees' Scholars Award will replace your Cowboy Commitment.

Prudent scholarship policy that is administered at UW, along with most other 4 year public universities, uses the COA as the maximum amount a student is eligible to receive for departmental and external scholarships in combination with all other funding.

**Exceptions**

Departments can use a stipend to pay students for their research endeavors at the University of Wyoming. These stipends are not considered a financial aid award since they are paid through the Payroll Department.



DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING							DEPT 067
DIVISION STATE AID							DIV NO 6700
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Division	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
UNIT							
BASE FUNDING	6701	357,880,611	355,486,397	21,600,000	377,086,397	(2,800,000)	374,286,397
STATE MATCHING FUND - ATHLETIC COMPETITIVENESS	6704	10,200,000	10,200,000	0	10,200,000	0	10,200,000
BRUCellosis TESTING RESEARCH	6708	891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880
UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY PRACTICE (UWFMRP)	6711	14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392
WWAMI MED ED INSTRUCTION/CONTRACT	6721	14,228,818	14,228,818	0	14,228,818	0	14,228,818
DENTAL CONTRACTS	6722	3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729
ACCELERATED NURSING DEGREE PROGRAM	6723	200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000
TOTAL BY UNIT		401,227,647	398,833,433	21,885,783	420,719,216	(2,800,000)	417,919,216
OBJECT SERIES							
PERSONNEL	0100	67,692,862	69,798,648	0	69,798,648	0	69,798,648
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	333,534,785	329,034,785	21,885,783	350,920,568	(2,800,000)	348,120,568
TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES		401,227,647	398,833,433	21,885,783	420,719,216	(2,800,000)	417,919,216
SOURCES OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	401,227,647	398,833,433	21,885,783	420,719,216	(2,800,000)	417,919,216
TOTAL BY FUNDS		401,227,647	398,833,433	21,885,783	420,719,216	(2,800,000)	417,919,216

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION STATE AID

UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6701 001 670

## **SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** In general, the block grant funding supports the state's only university, established in 1886, as a land-grant institution with teaching, research and public service responsibilities. The university serves enrolled undergraduate, graduate and non-degree students, continuing education participants, high school students, alumni, business assistance clients, community assistance clients, clients requesting information, agricultural assistance clients, research clients, health care patients, cultural programs patrons, athletics fans and other Wyoming citizens.

University enrollment is predominantly on the Laramie campus (over 76 percent of federally reported enrollment on a student headcount basis), with the remainder of enrollment occurring through online/distance programs and UW-Casper. A significant number of students throughout the state are also provided with professional development offerings. Final Fall 2024 headcounts, including professional development, outreach and online students were 10,813. There were 586 international students enrolled, with 1,434 new first-time students and 826 undergraduate students transferring to UW. Approximately 400 student athletes participate in 17 intercollegiate varsity sports in the NCAA Division I, Mountain West Conference. Students enjoy a low 13:1 student-faculty ratio. In 2023-2024, UW awarded 2,885 degrees. UW has updated and refined its capital facilities plan and is now able to closely align its fundraising strategies and budget requests with its near and long-term capital facilities priorities in the context of a campus master plan. UW receives significant funding from external research awards, \$167.3 million in expenditures in FY24, and its foundation.

The Budget Division Adjustments to the Base reflect standard changes applied to the university in the same manner as other state agencies. The changes include, but may not be limited to, additions for continuing salary and benefits obligations.

In accordance with W.S. 9-4-601 (ix) The University of Wyoming acknowledges a reduction of \$8,000,000 per fiscal year in its standard budget.

**Part B. Revenue:** None.

## **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

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SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST

PRIORITY # 2 – Career and Technical Education

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Initiative supported by the Trustees Education Initiative (TEI) at the University of Wyoming is dedicated to increasing the number of CTE teachers to support career opportunities and meet workforce demands in Wyoming. By retaining local talent, supporting businesses, and promoting educational advancement, the initiative contributes to the economic and social stability of the state. Business and industry partners across Wyoming have repeatedly emphasized the need for hands-on, lab-based learning in the preparation of future educators. This message has been echoed by a wide array of stakeholders, including CTE groups, who have urged the University to develop modern training facilities that mirror real-world environments.

To deliver on this initiative the University is requesting \$6,000,000 of one-time funds to enhance CTE and Agricultural Teacher Education facilities at the University of Wyoming. The funding will be used to acquire modern equipment and repurpose existing campus spaces to create comprehensive, hands-on training environments that strengthen educator preparation and workforce readiness—both in alignment with Wyoming’s key economic priorities.

To ensure our teacher candidates are career-ready upon graduation, it is essential that they be trained on the same industry-grade equipment they will encounter in the field. The modernization of this facility will align teacher preparation with current Wyoming workforce demands and meet the Professional Teaching Standards Board (PTSB) requirements for CTE endorsements.

This initiative not only upgrades traditional capabilities in woodworking, metals, and agricultural clusters, but also introduces state-of-the-art instructional technologies including robotics, CNC machining, industrial automation, and geospatial surveying tools. These additions will enable UW to prepare teachers who are well-equipped to lead programs aligned with both traditional trades and emerging high-skill, high-wage sectors.

Use of requested funds:

\$1,000,000 will be used for the acquisition and installation of a comprehensive suite of CTE instructional equipment. The following table provides a list of equipment to be acquired

Item Description	Quantity
UW Wood Production Package/Stationary Wood Equipment	1
Exterior Dust Collector and Duct System	1
Drone Program (6 Classroom Drones)	1
Surveying Drone (DJI Mavic 3 Enterprise)	1
Surveying Base and Rover System (V90 GNSS RTK)	1
Stabila LAR 350 Surveying Laser Level Package	1

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UNIT BASE FUNDING

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VLS6.75 Platform Laser System (32"x18")	1
Graphic Design Training Package (CorelDraw)	1
Roland VersaSTUDIO BD-8 UV Printer	1
Roland VersaSTUDIO BN2-30 Eco-Solvent Printer	1
Ink, Heat Press, Supplies for Printing	1
Laser Fume Extraction Blower	1
FiberLaserPro 24"x18" Enclosed Fiber Laser Cutter	1
Sphero BOLT Power Pack (30 Students)	1
NRL Robot Kit - Mobile Robots	6
Residential Plumbing Trainer	2
Residential Wiring Trainer	2
HSFV ATC 48"x96" CNC Router System	1
36" CNC Wood Lathe	1
JWL-1221VS 12"x21" Wood Lathe with Stand	2
SurfPrep Sanding Bundle	2
DeWALT DWS780 Miter Saw with Stand	2
Router Table Kit with Bosch Router	1
Milwaukee Cordless Tool Pack (6 tools)	6
Non-Flammable Storage Cabinet	1
Lumber Rack (144"x41"x94")	1
Electronics Bench with Tools and Accessories	2
Greene Work Bench with Storage (36"x96")	2
4-Student Workstation with Lockers	1
4-Student Workstation Open Base	2
5-Drawer Tool Storage Box	5
Quincy 5-HP 80-Gallon Air Compressor	1
CNC Router and Dobot Robot System	1
Robotic Welding System	1
Shipping & Handling (Estimated)	1
Installation & On-site Warranty	1

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION STATE AID

UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes

DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

Construction equipment is also needed to support instruction in carpentry, concrete, structural systems, and applied building sciences as is safety training equipment and materials to train all future CTE and Ag students in OSHA regulations and industry recognized credentials.

\$5,000,000 is allocated to repurpose and upgrade existing spaces within the Education Building to support programs in welding, mechanics, agriculture, construction, wood processing, and emerging technical studies. This investment focuses on maximizing the use of existing square footage to improve functionality and efficiency.

The University is currently conducting Level I and Level II analysis to assess renovation needs. While final cost estimates are still in development, a prior Most Cost Effective Remedy Study completed in 2020 offers valuable insight into the likely expenses associated with renovating an 80-year-old facility. As more detailed assessments are completed, the University will provide updated estimates for building system upgrades and necessary room modifications.

#### B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments (One-Time Construction)	\$5,000,000	100% General Fund
2	0626 - Grant Payments (Equipment)	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	100% General Fund
	Total	\$6,000,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** By investing in this modernization effort, the university will reaffirm its commitment to workforce development, CTE and Agriculture teacher excellence, and State and local economic growth. This facility will serve as a model for 21st-century CTE and Agriculture teacher preparation in Wyoming and beyond.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

#### GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION

*I recommend approval of \$6,000,000 for this one-time request as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6701 001 670

### **PRIORITY # 3 – Athletic Operating Support**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** The University respectfully requests \$3,000,000 in recurring annual state support to sustain and strengthen its Division I athletics programs. This request is driven by new financial obligations resulting from the House v. NCAA settlement, approved on June 6, 2025, as well as rising operational costs and the need to remain competitive in a rapidly evolving collegiate athletics landscape.

The settlement fundamentally reshapes the financial structure of college athletics, requiring institutions to directly support student-athletes through compensation, expanded benefits, and compliance measures. UW's projected obligations include:

- NCAA Distribution Reduction: Loss of approximately \$550,000 annually in NCAA revenue.
- Scholarship Expansion: Targeted increase of \$350,000 annually in women's sports scholarships to meet Title IX compliance.
- Post-Eligibility Support: Estimated \$350,000 annually for health care and academic benefits for student-athletes after eligibility ends.
- New media rights agreement: Estimated decrease of \$1,000,000 per year as a result of changes in conference membership.
- Operational Cost Increases: The remaining \$750,000 annually will offset rising costs in travel, medical care, nutrition, equipment, facilities maintenance.

State investment in UW Athletics is a strategic commitment to Wyoming's identity, students, and national visibility. UW's athletics programs:

- Serve as a statewide unifier, fostering pride and engagement across communities.
- Enhance student recruitment and retention, including for non-athletes.
- Drive economic activity through tourism, media exposure, and alumni giving.

### **B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments	\$6,000,000	100% General Fund
	Total	\$6,000,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** Without additional investment, UW risks falling behind peer institutions in the Mountain West Conference and beyond—jeopardizing its ability to recruit top talent, comply with federal mandates, and maintain the quality and integrity of its athletics programs. UW's athletics programs are a vital part of the state's identity and higher education.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

DEPARTMENT   UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
DIVISION   STATE AID  
UNIT   BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

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**GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of \$6,000,000 for this ongoing request as submitted.*

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 UNIT BASE FUNDING

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#### **PRIORITY # 4 – Critical Minerals Initiative**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** Wyoming's mineral industry plays a pivotal role in the state's economy and the nation's strategic resource landscape. Wyoming contains abundant reserves of trona, uranium, and critical minerals which include rare earth elements (REEs). Wyoming's critical mineral deposits have not been adequately developed, and much of this potential resource remains in the ground. Because global markets for processing and refining many of these minerals are highly concentrated outside USA (e.g., China refines 80% of rare-earth oxides), Wyoming's development of extraction, processing, refining, and use of these resources takes on additional strategic importance to reduce the reliance on other countries. With US importing about \$500 billion of critical minerals raw materials and intermediate products (such as magnets), Wyoming has unprecedented opportunity to capture a significant fraction of this market in the nation-wide effort of reducing reliance on imports of minerals and using domestic supplies. These markets are not only huge, but they are also projected to experience remarkable growth. For example, the market for sodium batteries has recently seen early commercial products and is expected to grow by more than 20% annually for the next decade. Markets for new products using magnetic and quantum materials are also projected to grow explosively in the next decade. In short, supporting resource extraction is essential to maintaining both the state's financial health and national security.

Wyoming's mineral resources are extracted and then exported for further processing and use in advanced products. Creating new uses for Wyoming minerals and enhancing their value will increase state revenues. To best serve the state, UW now needs to support interdisciplinary research and education focused on technologies that use Wyoming minerals. This requires that UW strengthen its facilities for advanced materials research and develop technologies such as sodium batteries (that will use trona), advanced magnets, and quantum computers and sensors (that will use Wyoming rare earth elements). AI and robotics enabled design, synthesis, and production processes will ensure that these innovations can grow WY economy over time. Advanced computing technologies in AI and simulation/modeling will enhance UW's ability to carry out this work and be more competitive for federal and corporate funding in these areas. Currently UW does not have the necessary number of investigators in these areas that creates a barrier for establishing a center of excellence in minerals-based advanced technologies and attracting processing industry to the state. These innovations will spur new industries in Wyoming, strengthened via collaborations with neighboring regions, thus keeping UW graduates in the state and nearby. Wyoming's geological wealth, infrastructure, and pro-mining policies make it a promising candidate to support and attract investment in this growing tech sector.

UW is seeking \$4,500,000 one-time funding (\$2.5 million in FY2027 and \$2 million in FY2028) and \$300,000 recurring support on biennium basis for the university's minerals research programs and to strengthen facilities for research and education in advanced technologies, like magnets, quantum materials and sodium batteries, that use Wyoming minerals. It further aligns numerous engineering, basic science, and computing programs across multiple units and now brings in the science institute for a more comprehensive university approach to underpin this once-in-a-generation opportunity for enhancing the state's economy. This request is collaborative, synergistic, and complementary to any requests by the Energy Resource Council for SER, which supports this request. These funds will expand UW capacity to serve the minerals industry by establishing a Minerals Assay Lab and strengthening UW's industry partnerships.

#### **Minerals Assay Lab**

WY State Law (Article 30-1-127) establishes the expectation that the University of Wyoming provide assay services to Wyoming residents and industries for Gold, Silver, Copper, and Lead in rock samples. To comply with the law, UW needs to provide these services for the State. Currently UW does not have adequate facilities to provide these services. A lab capable of analyzing these elements is also capable of analyzing ALL critical minerals in rock samples. This lab can address essential current needs of mining companies in the State. We are requesting funds to upgrade and equip an existing lab space into a Minerals



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DIVISION	STATE AID	DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT	BASE FUNDING	067	6700	6701	001	670

Assay Lab, which will strengthen ties between industry and the university, enhance research and education on campus, and bring UW in compliance with the legislative intent.

Mining companies use assay labs like the one proposed here for thousands of samples. Currently, Wyoming-based mining companies send millions of dollars out of state (or out of the country) every year to perform these analysis. Similarly, mining researchers at UW, including in SER, use facilities outside the state or in Canada to conduct these assays. The Wyoming State Geological Survey (WSGS) as well as many Wyoming-based mining companies have enthusiastically support UW’s plans to establish a state-of-the-art facility to assay various minerals. A Wyoming-based facility will decrease costs of shipping, facilitate additional exploration of new deposits, enhance Wyoming’s reputation in the mining industry, and develop greater collaborations between UW and industries. In addition, the facility will allow UW students to obtain valuable, industry-relevant experience.

Advanced Materials Lab

The requested funds will support the establishment of an Advanced Materials Lab that will use AI- enabled design and experimentation for the synthesis of advanced materials that utilize Wyoming minerals. The new Advanced Materials Lab focuses on AI-enabled experimental labs and AI-enabled computational materials research. The equipment purchased from the state investments will allow UW to be the premier institution for designing new materials using robotics and AI-enabled design and operations, thus increasing the volume and speed for materials design and synthesis needed to remain competitive in the global minerals R&D landscape. Specifically, the Advanced Materials Laboratory will leverage AI-driven computational modeling to design novel materials, structures and devices utilizing Wyoming's critical minerals, targeting applications in magnets, batteries, and quantum computing and sensing technologies. Robotic systems will precisely synthesize and assemble these quantum materials and structures, ensuring accuracy, repeatability, and scalability. Following synthesis, robotic characterization platforms guided by advanced AI algorithms will rapidly evaluate material performance and properties. AI-driven analytics will iteratively refine and optimize material compositions and structural designs based on characterization results.

This seamless integration of AI computation and robotics experimentation will significantly accelerate the discovery, demonstration, and commercialization of innovative materials and devices developed from Wyoming’s valuable mineral resources. While we are already doing relatively well in investing in the upstream R&D of Wyoming minerals like extraction and separation, *it is essential that we develop value added downstream applications right here in Wyoming, instead of shipping the raw materials out of the state, having others make them into products and shipping back to us for use.* A perfect example of such would be rare earth permanent magnets used in electric motors and generators. They are imported from overseas to fill needs in Wyoming’s energy industry. Wyoming is in a unique position due to its proximity to the next center of quantum revolution and due to the availability of mineral resources (Na and rare earths). Indeed, we have well educated workforce, conducive environment, and the resources to be at the forefront of the next generation technology revolution. The establishment of the Advanced Materials Lab is a necessary step toward this goal.

Use of Requested funds:

- \$2,500,000 one-time funds in FY 2027 for equipment purchase, refitting of the existing lab space, and salary of one technician for the first two years. The revenues generated by the facility will support the technician’s salary in the future. The income will also be reinvested in the facility to expand throughput and capability as we pay for operational costs (e.g. supplies).

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION STATE AID

UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes

DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

- \$150,000 on an annual recurring basis (\$300,000 for the biennium) to support recruitment of Minerals Assay Lab Director. A permanent faculty scientist position with expertise in analytical geochemistry is needed as a dedicated director for keeping the facility state-of-the-art, stable, and responsive to the needs of the state. This position needs to be tenure-track to attract qualified candidates.
- \$2.0 M one-time funding in FY2028 for an AI-enabled materials design and synthesis facility in existing space on campus. It will be one of the facilities through the Center for Advanced Scientific Instrumentation, thus providing business support for managing the facility as a revenue generating entity on campus. UW faculty, students, industry, and other universities will use this facility on a fee for service basis. UW will use existing funds and open positions to recruit faculty with expertise in materials research that will utilize Wyoming minerals to create intermediate products, like magnets, sodium batteries and quantum materials.

**B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments (Recurring)	\$300,000	100% General Fund
2	0626 - Grant Payments (One-Time)	<u>\$4,500,000</u>	100% General Fund
	Total	\$4,800,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** This request is consistent with UW strategic plan goals: (2) Pursue Institutional Excellence; (4) Engage with and Serve the State of Wyoming; and (5) Cultivate Financial Stability and Diversification. Without this support, UW will not be able to assist in increasing value of Wyoming minerals, address the priorities of Trump administration in minerals, AI and quantum computing, thus missing out on the federal funding opportunities. UW students will not be able to get training in these technologies and thus will miss out on job possibilities in the region.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

**GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of \$4,500,000 as a one-time request. I further recommend denial of the ongoing \$300,000 request.*

DEPARTMENT   UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
DIVISION   STATE AID  
UNIT   BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

**PRIORITY # 5 – AI Initiative**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming how businesses operate, how work is performed, and the very nature of employment. From automating routine tasks to enabling data-driven decision-making and creating entirely new industries, AI is reshaping economic competitiveness and workforce demands across every sector. Recognizing these profound shifts, the University of Wyoming’s AI Initiative is a university-wide, people-centered effort that positions Wyoming to thrive in an AI-driven world by fostering innovation, workforce development, and ethical AI practices. The initiative will ensure that UW graduates are getting ready for the jobs of the future that are enhanced by AI capabilities in every sector in Wyoming.

At UW, AI expertise is needed in all colleges and schools. The School of Computing focuses much of its efforts on AI applications and education. The College of Engineering and Physical Sciences conducts in foundational AI research and education; the College of Agriculture, Life Sciences and Natural Resources can support AI applications in areas like precision agriculture and invasive species monitoring; the College of Education can explore AI-powered tools to personalize learning and streamline processes such as special-education Individualized Education Programs; and the College of Health Sciences can pilot AI for rural healthcare access and diagnostics. The College of Law and the College of Arts and Sciences can contribute critical expertise in AI ethics, policy, and the societal implications of emerging technologies. Through interdisciplinary research seed funding, programs like the WyAI ethics series, and curricular innovation including an MS in AI, the AI Initiative reflects UW’s commitment to ensuring AI serves Wyoming communities while building a skilled, ethically grounded AI-ready workforce.

In the last year, the University of Wyoming has made significant AI-focused investments to bolster its research and infrastructure capacity.

- In 2024, UW requested funding for UW’s AI Initiative. Wyoming legislature appropriated \$2.5 M to match investments from non-public sources. In less than one year, UW obtained over \$5 million in non-public funding from large corporations, small businesses, philanthropic foundations, and individuals to support AI applications in energy, land management, wildlife monitoring, and other Wyoming-relevant areas. This success demonstrates that private sources are keenly committed to incorporating AI in technology applications and management decisions and are interested in working with UW to conduct AI applications projects.
- In 2025, UW launched a faculty hiring effort to recruit up to 5 new positions in agriculture, engineering, and computing by using UW’s existing funds. UW received well over 200 applications and succeeded in recruiting two faculty members. This effort demonstrates UW’s competitiveness in attracting faculty with AI expertise.
- In August 2024, UW secured a nearly \$4 million grant from the National Science Foundation’s Major Research Infrastructure program for the AI4WY project—funding a state-of-the-art high-performance computing testbed featuring NVIDIA Superchips. This investment positions UW as the Rocky Mountain region’s hub for advanced AI and modeling across domains like agriculture, environment, energy, and public health. UW has also established collaboration with the University of Utah and National Center for Atmospheric Research to institute a federated computing environment, thereby allowing AI-based collaboration using a wider range of computing resources.
- Following up in January 2025, UW’s Board of Trustees approved a new seed-funding program that allocated approximately \$367,000 to support thirteen interdisciplinary faculty-led AI projects—each receiving up to \$30,000—to catalyze externally funded research in areas from greenhouse optimization to telehealth speech therapy and digital humanities.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION STATE AID

UNIT BASE FUNDING

**Wyoming On Line Financial Codes**

DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

**Use of requested funds:**

\$2,500,000 is requested for building artificial intelligence expertise at UW. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any individual, partnership, corporation, joint stock company or any other association or entity, excluding all public entities. The State appropriated funds can be used for matching expendable or endowment funds from non-public sources.

**B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1 0626 - Grant Payments	\$2,500,000	100% General Fund
Total	\$2,500,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** To be a leader in AI applications research relevant to Wyoming, UW will continue to increase the critical number of faculty with AI expertise using the existing resources. This will make UW competitive in addressing Trump administration's priority on AI R&D by creating federal funding programs at DOE, NSF, and other federal agencies. These much-needed enhancements in UW's expertise will help attract corporate and private funding as well (as demonstrated by success in matching state appropriations last year).

This exception request is consistent with UW strategic plan goals: (1) Enhance Student Success; (2) Pursue Institutional Excellence; and (5) Cultivate Financial Stability and Diversification. Without this support, UW graduates will be at a competitive disadvantage seeking jobs and UW will not be able to take advantage of federal and corporate funding opportunities. Currently, UW does not have sufficient critical number of faculty with AI expertise, thereby hampering student success, research competitiveness and faculty retention.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

**GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend denial of this exception request as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6701 001 670

### **PRIORITY # 6 – Internship Program**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** Multiple reports, including those from the Lumina Foundation, Strada Education Foundation, and the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), underscore the significant role of internships in promoting student retention in colleges and success after graduation. Research shows that students who complete internships—especially paid, career-aligned ones—are more likely to secure full-time employment upon graduation, receive higher starting salaries, and report greater job satisfaction. Strada Education Foundation's research highlights that internships are a key strategy in reducing underemployment among college graduates by ensuring students gain relevant work experience that aligns with their field of study. In their research, 73% of graduates who completed a paid internship have a first job that requires their degree, compared to 44 percent of those who did not complete an internship. These experiences increase the return on investment (ROI) of a college education by enhancing employability, shortening the job search period, and improving long-term earnings potential. The reports indicate that graduates with internship experience are less likely to end up in jobs that do not require a college degree—a common issue that diminishes educational value. By connecting academic learning with practical application, internships help students build career-aligned skills, clarify their goals, and transition more effectively into meaningful, well-compensated employment.

Wyoming employers across both business and non-business sectors increasingly recognize the value of internships in addressing workforce needs and developing a talent pipeline tailored to the state's unique economic landscape. Businesses in energy, agriculture, technology, finance, and tourism seek interns to support operations, gain fresh perspectives, and build a future workforce with local ties. At the same time, non-business employers—including government agencies, healthcare providers, schools, and nonprofits—require interns to assist with public service delivery, community programs, and administrative support. Many of these organizations face challenges in attracting and retaining skilled workers, especially in rural areas, and view internships as an opportunity to engage students early and encourage them to stay in Wyoming after graduation. To meet these needs, employers emphasize the importance of practical, project-based experiences that align with both academic preparation and regional workforce demands. UW has signed a MOU with Wyoming Business Alliance to establish a collaborative effort meeting the internship needs of Wyoming businesses. Indiana has established 'Work and Learn Indiana' program which can serve as a model for developing a Wyoming version for retaining Wyoming students as interns with Wyoming employees, thereby increasing chances of reducing brain-drain. UW is committed to providing internship opportunities to all students with potential employers in their career paths. There is strong interest from UW's student population; Associated Students of University of Wyoming (ASUW) has committed \$250,000 next year in support of providing financial support for internships. This commitment from UW and its students increases UW's attractiveness in increasing enrollment while enhancing the value of UW education for its graduates.

Based on the ASUW input, a large fraction of UW's 11,000 students would like to undertake internship experience, yet only ~450 students a year receive opportunities for paid internships on campus or outside. Our goal is to raise resources to support coordination and partial funding of internships for an additional 300 students every year. The Department of Workforce Services has an internship program that is focused on supporting Wyoming businesses. They provide funds to businesses to support ~115 interns every year. These interns are from all educational institutions in Wyoming and is only open to businesses but not to other types of organizations that UW students might be interested in pursuing. Thus, the DWS' internship program provides an important but insufficient resource for internship support to UW students.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION STATE AID

UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes

DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

**Use of requested funds:**

\$2,300,000 recurring funds per biennium:

- \$150,000 annually for the campus-wide internship coordination efforts (1) One Internship Director in UW's Research and Economic Development Division for coordinating the internship activities across the campus and among the potential employers in the state. The Director and his contacts in colleges/schools will work closely with Wyoming business and non-business employers to develop student experiences that advance student careers while meeting expectations of the employers. The staff will also assist the employers in obtaining internship funds from the Department of Workforce Services. A campus-wide coordination will allow increase the quality of internship experiences, characterized by clarity, oversight, and skill-development as part of an internship. The Director will also spearhead private fund-raising from individuals and industry to support internships in collaboration with UW Foundation and Office of Industry and Strategic Partnerships.
- \$1,000,000 annually for supporting intern stipends with up to 50% amount from the requested funds with the remaining funds contributed from the internship hosts (such as businesses, government agencies, K-12 schools, etc.). Criteria and processes will be developed to provide support in areas where paid internship opportunities are not readily available or the internship payments from the employers are not sufficient for a student to avail the opportunity without financial hardship (e.g., additional commuting or housing costs). This funding will be used only for internships in Wyoming, particularly in critical needs areas such as teaching interns in schools. Despite the importance of internships, the current supply of internships is insufficient, creating deep inequities in access, particularly in rural areas. In 2023, while an estimated 8.2 million learners wanted to intern nationwide, only 3.6 million had the opportunity, and just 2.5 million had a quality internship experience. State support will create additional internship opportunities in Wyoming for UW students.

The requested investments are expected to support at least new 300 internship opportunities for UW students. Currently approximately 450 UW students work as interns every year; the additional investments will maximize opportunities to over 750 students per year.

**B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments	\$2,300,000	100% General Fund
	Total	\$2,300,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** This exception request is consistent with UW strategic plan goals: (1) Enhance Student Success; (2) Pursue Institutional Excellence; and (4) Engage with and Serve the State of Wyoming. Without this support, UW graduates will be at a competitive disadvantage in seeking internship opportunities and Wyoming business and non-business employers will not be able to get interns and recruit qualified employees among their interns.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
DIVISION STATE AID  
UNIT BASE FUNDING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6701	001	670

D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY: N/A

E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE): N/A

GOVERNOR’S RECOMMENDATION

*I recommend approval of \$2,300,000 for this ongoing request as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION		UNIT	
UNIT		067		6700		6701	
STATE AID						001	
BASE FUNDING						670	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
EMPLOYER PD BENEFITS	0105	0	75,000	0	75,000	0	75,000
EMPLOYER HEALTH INS BENEFITS	0196	67,692,862	69,723,648	0	69,723,648	0	69,723,648
PERSONNEL	0100	67,692,862	69,798,648	0	69,798,648	0	69,798,648
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	290,187,749	285,687,749	21,600,000	307,287,749	(2,800,000)	304,487,749
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	290,187,749	285,687,749	21,600,000	307,287,749	(2,800,000)	304,487,749
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		357,880,611	355,486,397	21,600,000	377,086,397	(2,800,000)	374,286,397
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	357,880,611	355,486,397	21,600,000	377,086,397	(2,800,000)	374,286,397
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	357,880,611	355,486,397	21,600,000	377,086,397	(2,800,000)	374,286,397
TOTAL FUNDING		357,880,611	355,486,397	21,600,000	377,086,397	(2,800,000)	374,286,397



DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT STATE MATCHING FUND - ATHLETIC  
 COMPETITIVENESS

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6704 001 670

## **SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**PART A. Narrative:** The University is requesting \$10,000,000 of state general funds as a permanent increase to UW's operating budget to be used by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics to be matched by the Cowboy Joe Club and the Department of Athletics.

This fund request started in 2015 and continues to be a necessity due to the escalating costs of maintaining a NCAA Division I Athletics Program competing in the Mountain West Conference. The annual cost of summer school, 5<sup>th</sup> Year scholarships, nutrition, medical services (including concussion protocol/ technologies and mental health), team travel, recruiting travel, and the cost of bringing teams to Laramie, Wyoming has escalated dramatically – primarily due to de-regulations of the NCAA rules beginning in 2015. If you take an annual estimate of inflation at 3.15% from 2015 to 2025 – the value of the \$5,000,000 (annual match) now has the equivalent purchasing power of \$3,400,000. This creates extreme challenges for athletics to operate with a competitive budget.

This support has allowed UW to graduate student-athletes at a much better rate than in the past and has allowed UW to provide the services to support student-athletes equal to other Mountain West Conference. An important but secondary impact has been our improvement from a competitive standpoint at the Mountain West Conference.

The \$10,000,000 match paid enormous dividends in the early years as you look at the Mountain West Conference Men's Basketball Championship in 2015: Football made bowl games in 2016, 2017, 2019. It provided a significant increase in our competitive position in the early years, however; the lack of additional investment in recent years has made it more challenging.

UW Athletics provides opportunities for over 400 student-athletes who achieve academically at a higher rate than the general student-body and who provide a unifying force for the residents of the great state of Wyoming. Wyoming football serves as a great opportunity for residents from all four corners to come together and celebrate Wyoming.

### **Important Facts:**

UW offers 17 sports

UW Athletics engages over 400 student athletes who annually have a higher average GPA than the overall UW student-body

UW Athletics operates on \$44,000,000 annual budget and has an enormous economic impact on SE Wyoming

**Part B. Revenue:** None.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
DIVISION STATE AID  
UNIT STATE MATCHING FUND - ATHLETIC  
COMPETITIVENESS

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6704	001	670

**GOVERNOR’S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

**SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

No exception request for this unit.

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT		067		6700	6704	001	670
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING		STATE AID					
STATE MATCHING FUND - ATHLETIC COMPETITIVENESS							
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	1,200,000	1,200,000	0	1,200,000	0	1,200,000
UW-GRANTS & AID PAYMENTS	0667	9,000,000	9,000,000	0	9,000,000	0	9,000,000
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	10,200,000	10,200,000	0	10,200,000	0	10,200,000
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		10,200,000	10,200,000	0	10,200,000	0	10,200,000
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	10,200,000	10,200,000	0	10,200,000	0	10,200,000
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	10,200,000	10,200,000	0	10,200,000	0	10,200,000
TOTAL FUNDING		10,200,000	10,200,000	0	10,200,000	0	10,200,000

DEPARTMENT   UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION   STATE AID

UNIT   BRUCELLOSIS TESTING RESEARCH

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6708	001	670

**SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

**SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** Continuation of the standard budget funding for brucellosis testing research is needed for the fundamentals of the brucellosis testing and research work to continue.

**Part B. Revenue:** None.

**GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

**SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

No exception request for this unit.

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION		UNIT	
UNIT		067		6700		6708	
BRUCELLOSIS TESTING RESEARCH				001		670	
1		2		3		4	
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880
TOTAL FUNDING		891,880	891,880	0	891,880	0	891,880

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY  
 PRACTICE (UWFMRP)

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6711 001 671

## **SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative: Graduate Medical Education:** A physician's training cumulates in residency and fellowship training after completion of medical school. The physician resident/fellow acts like an apprentice in their chosen specialty by providing direct patient care under the supervision of attending physicians as they progress to independent practice. Physicians must complete an accredited residency and/or fellowship program to become board certified in their practice specialty. The UW Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs include two core Family Medicine Residency Programs, one Family Medicine Rural Training Track, one Geriatric Fellowship, and one Clinical PharmD Residency. UW GME programs are located in Casper, Cheyenne and Thermopolis. While these GME programs' fundamental purpose is to train physicians, the programs also provide clinical training for students pursuing other health professions. The Educational Health Center of Wyoming (EHCW) clinics in Cheyenne and Casper serve as the primary practice sites for faculty and resident physicians, who account for the vast majority of patient care and clinical income for the EHCW.

The fundamental purpose of the UW Graduate Medical Education and the Family Medicine Residency and Geriatric Fellowship programs is educational - to provide physician training through direct patient care. As studies have demonstrated a strong correlation exists between the state and region in which a physician is practicing and the geographic area in which the physician completed residency/fellowship training, an anticipated outcome of these programs is that several graduates will remain in Wyoming to practice, and many do. Over one hundred graduates of UW GME programs are currently practicing across the state.

Additional objectives of the UW GME programs are to participate in inter-professional clinical training with other health professional students and to serve as a resource for university research and service. Many College of Health Sciences' professional students (nurses, pharmacists, social workers, etc.) and medical students from WWAMI and other medical schools have received training and educational experiences in the team-based environment of the UW GME programs. The UW GME programs are the principal teaching sites in Wyoming offering this multidisciplinary educational environment to students pursuing careers in health professions.

The final purpose of the UW GME programs is to provide safety-net health care to the people of Wyoming. Since their establishment in the late 1970s, the UW Family Medicine Residency Programs in Casper and Cheyenne have provided essential medical care for citizens, regardless of their ability to pay. Both programs and their associated EHCW clinics are important safety-net providers for, and essential parts of, their communities and provide medical care access to patients who are unable to access or afford care from other community providers.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY  
 PRACTICE (UWFMRP)

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6711 001 671

**Educational Health Center of Wyoming:** In February 2013, the University of Wyoming and the Board of Directors of the Educational Health Center of Wyoming entered into a Co-Applicant Agreement to form a Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) approved Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Application for FQHC status was made to HRSA in September 2013, a HRSA site visit was conducted in January 2014, and the application for FQHC status was approved on August 1, 2014. The FQHC status provides several financial benefits including: increased reimbursement rates from Medicare and Medicaid, the opportunity to apply for federal grant funding, FQHC GME federal payments, the ability to participate in the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) malpractice coverage, and federal student loan repayment opportunity for physicians and other providers via the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). For patients, the FQHC status provides sliding scale discounted care for uninsured patients, lower cost prescriptions for Educational Health Center of Wyoming patients through Pharmacy 340b pricing, and access to multiple adjunct services to the full-spectrum primary care including obstetrics, hospital care, geriatrics, behavioral health, dental, laboratory and x-ray, case management, office-based procedures, and more. Training physicians and healthcare professionals in a FQHC setting provides a broad-scope medical experience in a multidisciplinary team format and develops a skillset in caring for patients with limited resources, whether financial, social, or geographic.

Requested Legislative Information per 2019 Session, Chapter 40, Section I:

(d) The University of Wyoming family medicine residency program shall include within the university's biennial budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013 a report specifying at a minimum:

(i) The financial condition of the clinic and all money received and expended;

**FY2025 Educational Health Center of Wyoming**

**FY2025 Graduate Medical Education**

Summary Level Natural Accounts	Total Actuals	Summary Level Natural Accounts	Total Actuals
Sales of Goods & Services	\$16,259,889	Other Operating Revenue	\$17,146
Grants & Contracts	\$1,205,354	Appropriations	\$8,027,817
Total Revenue	<b>\$17,465,243</b>	Total Revenue	<b>\$8,044,963</b>
Expenses Before Transfers		Expenses Before Transfers	
Salary, Wages, & Benefits	\$10,041,363	Salary, Wages, & Benefits	\$8,081,607
Support Costs	\$9,656,293	Support Costs	\$23,839
Total Expenses Before Transfers	<b>\$19,697,656</b>	Total Expenses Before Transfers	<b>\$8,105,446</b>
Statement of Activities Net Result	<b>(\$2,232,413)</b>	Statement of Activities Net Result	<b>(\$60,483)</b>

(ii) Patient demographics;

**DEPARTMENT** UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
**DIVISION** STATE AID  
**UNIT** UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY  
 PRACTICE (UWFMRP)

**Wyoming On Line Financial Codes**  
**DEPT** **DIVISION** **UNIT** **FUND** **APPR**  
 067 6700 6711 001 671

*\*Data as of July 2025*

Job Name	Position Code	Total Actuals		Job Name	Position Code	Total Actuals
Resident Physician I	1418	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5509	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	6993	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5508	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	6996	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	1058	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	5502	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	1323	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	1416	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5510	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	6994	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	1746	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	6995	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5511	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	3606	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	0544	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	6997	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5501	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	1414	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5507	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	1430	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	5503	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	1641	\$59,640		Resident Physician III	0556	\$63,432
Resident Physician I	0579	\$59,640		Resident Physician III/Chief Resident	1327	\$68,604
Resident Physician I	1424	\$59,640		Resident Physician III/Chief Resident	5512	\$68,604
Resident Physician I	5504	\$59,640		Resident Physician III/Chief Resident	5513	\$68,604
Resident Physician II	7814	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1419	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1432	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1462	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1358	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1576	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1391	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	0883	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1338	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	5505	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1643	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II	1654	\$61,440				
Resident Physician II/Chief Resident	0833	\$66,612				



**DEPARTMENT** UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
**DIVISION** STATE AID  
**UNIT** UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY  
 PRACTICE (UWFMRP)

**Wyoming On Line Financial Codes**  
**DEPT** **DIVISION** **UNIT** **FUND** **APPR**  
 067 6700 6711 001 671

Resident Physician II/Chief Resident	1393	\$66,612				
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(iv) Federally qualified health center compliance;

The Health Resources and Services Administration conducted an Operational Site Visit of the Educational Health Center of Wyoming on May 11-13, 2021. It was determined that the Educational Health Center of Wyoming is in full compliance with the standards set by the Health Resources and Services Administration.

(v) Quality metrics.

### **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

### **SECTION 3. SPECIAL REVENUE FUND HISTORY**

Special Revenue no longer is appropriated, due to the transfer back under the University of Wyoming. Financial information can still be reviewed under the standard budget narrative per the 2019 Session, Chapter 40, Section I.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY  
 PRACTICE (UWFMRP)

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6711 001 671

#### **SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

##### **PRIORITY # 7 – Clinician Assistant Professor - Casper Family Medicine**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** The University is requesting an additional Clinical Assistant Professor for the Casper Family Medicine Program. The position request stems in part from the 2016 budget reductions which resulted in the elimination of several faculty positions at the time. Between 2016 and 2025, ACGME accreditation standards have evolved and have shifted from fixed faculty-resident ratios to competency-based supervision models that account for trainee level, case complexity, and patient acuity. In addition, updated standards strengthen expectations for faculty qualifications, protected time for program leadership, and institutional resources to ensure faculty sufficiency. These changes increase the need for dedicated clinical faculty to maintain compliance and program quality.

##### **B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	<b>Object Code</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
1	0626 - Grant Payments	<u>\$285,783</u>	100% General Fund
	Total	\$285,783	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** The requested position will help restore critical capacity lost during the 2016 reductions while aligning our faculty resources with current accreditation requirements.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

#### **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of \$285,783 for this ongoing request as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION		UNIT	
UNIT		067		6700		6711	
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING						FUND	
STATE AID						001	
UW FAMILY MEDICAL RESIDENCY PRACTICE (UWFMRP)						APPR	
						671	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392
TOTAL FUNDING		14,801,609	14,801,609	285,783	15,087,392	0	15,087,392

DEPARTMENT	UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DIVISION	STATE AID	DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT	WWAMI MED ED INSTRUCTION/ CONTRACT	067	6700	6721	001	672

SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY

W.S. 21-17-109

SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST

**Part A. Narrative:** WWAMI is a consortium of rural states (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) that offers medical education through a partnership with the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM). The WWAMI Medical Education program provides an opportunity for Wyoming residents to receive a medical education and to be trained as quality physicians in rural settings. As of October 2024, 356 Wyoming students have graduated from UWSOM, 262 WWAMI graduates have finished residency training, and 162 (61.8%) have returned to Wyoming to practice medicine. The remaining 100 students (38.1%) who are not practicing medicine in Wyoming are repaying the funds expended on their medical education, with interest, pursuant to WWAMI's loan-for-service component. An interactive state map showing practicing Wyoming WWAMI physicians can be viewed at [www.uwyo.edu/wwami/interactivemap/index.html](http://www.uwyo.edu/wwami/interactivemap/index.html) Even though Wyoming does not spend money on non-Wyoming WWAMI students, a benefit of the program is that WWAMI students from other states have an opportunity for doing clinical rotations in Wyoming, thus exposing them to Wyoming communities. To date, 13 WWAMI students from other states practice in Wyoming, meaning that 175 WWAMI graduates are practicing or have practiced in Wyoming and fulfilled their contracts.

From 1996, the inception of WWAMI, until August 2019, Wyoming WWAMI delivered the first year of the four-year WWAMI medical education program on the University of Wyoming campus. Until August 2019, the second year of the medical school program took place in Seattle where Wyoming students trained alongside other UWSOM students. Beginning August 2019, Wyoming will join all the other WWAMI states (Alaska, Montana and Idaho) in hosting the first two years on the home campus (i.e. at the University of Wyoming). Students rotate through clinical training sites located across the five-state region during their third and fourth years of medical school are required to train at Seattle quaternary care facilities in at least one-third of their core clinical rotations. The state of Wyoming pays the full tuition and fees associated with the 2nd- 4th year Wyoming medical students. Under the WWAMI Medical Education program contract with students, a student pays an annual tuition fee to the University of Wyoming and agrees to return to Wyoming to practice medicine for a three-year period after their residency is completed or repays the funds expended for the student's medical education, with interest.

WWAMI program operational costs for year one of medical school currently include salaries for Wyoming's WWAMI program director (1.0 FTE), an assistant director (1.0 FTE), one anatomy faculty member (1.0 FTE), one clinical skills faculty member (0.8 FTE), , a program and business services manager (1.0 FTE), two administrative support staff (2.0 FTE), a learning specialist (1.0 FTE), a laboratory manager (1.0 FTE), six curricular faculty block leads, three curricular faculty thread leads and five part-time, AWEC employees (physicians) to assist with mentoring and teaching efforts. Program costs also include contract payments to other departments and faculty at the University of Wyoming for teaching first year courses. Other operational costs include office expenses and supplies; travel to clerkship sites and to Seattle; human anatomy lab costs including cadaver purchases and dissection supplies; funds for replacement/ updating and repair of teaching microscopes; professional development for faculty and staff; human clinical exam models; AV equipment; clinical preceptor costs; rural medicine training; and books and other electronic resources. Second year operational costs (i.e. instructional personnel and related support) are covered by tuition revenues and interest from the Medical Student Fund – fiscal reports from these revenue reports are detailed in the annual WWAMI Program Report to the Joint, Labor, Health and Social Services Interim Committee pursuant to W.S. 21-17-109.

DEPARTMENTUNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISIONSTATE AID

UNITWWAMI MED ED INSTRUCTION/  
CONTRACT

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6721	001	672

Part B. Revenue:

	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	
General Fund	12,534,081	11,478,870	13,058,818	14,228,818	Rev Code 1001
Special Revenue	953,683				Rev Code 9201
Special Revenue	2,110,408				Rev Code 5009 *Estimate

GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

SECTION 3. SPECIAL REVENUE FUND HISTORY

Special revenue will no longer be appropriated, due to the transfer back under the University of Wyoming. Information on special revenue can still be reviewed in the legislative report presented to the Joint Labor, Health & Social Services Committee.

SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST

No exception request for this unit.

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT		067		6700	6721	001	672
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
AIDS (TO/BEHALF OF)	0608	13,058,818	13,058,818	0	13,058,818	0	13,058,818
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	1,170,000	1,170,000	0	1,170,000	0	1,170,000
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	14,228,818	14,228,818	0	14,228,818	0	14,228,818
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		14,228,818	14,228,818	0	14,228,818	0	14,228,818
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	14,228,818	14,228,818	0	14,228,818	0	14,228,818
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	14,228,818	14,228,818	0	14,228,818	0	14,228,818
TOTAL FUNDING		14,228,818	14,228,818	0	14,228,818	0	14,228,818

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION STATE AID

UNIT DENTAL CONTRACTS

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes

DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6722	001	672

**SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

W.S. 21-17-119

**SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** In 2007 the Wyoming Legislature authorized a loan-for-service repayment program for students pursuing a degree in dentistry. The program is administered by the University of Wyoming through the College of Health Sciences. The program contracts for educational services with schools of dentistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Creighton University in Omaha. The program offered admission to five students at each institution in 2007, 2008, and 2009. The seats were reduced to 6 (3 per institution) as a result of the budget cuts of 2009 for students entering 2010 and later. The original goal was to support 40 students when the program is fully loaded (5 students per institution x 2 institutions x 4 years), but restrictions on funding as a result of inflationary effects on a static budget allows 4 new students to enter each year but may be reduced to 2 if the budget is not adjusted.

Currently the status of WYDENT students and graduates is:

119 students have started WYDENT (through fall of 2025) less than 3 withdrawals:

105	Graduates (through August 2025)
89	Practicing in Wyoming, Includes 81 Completed Service Requirement or paid and then returned to practice in WY.
10	Practicing Outside of Wyoming, Includes 5 Paid in Full
0	Enrolled in Specialty Residency
6	Grace Period

12 Currently enrolled in dental school:

6	Creighton University
6	University of Nebraska

Their obligation for repayment will begin one year after completion of their dental education (grace period). This may include allowing for a residency and/or fellowship.

**GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
DIVISION STATE AID  
UNIT DENTAL CONTRACTS

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6700	6722	001	672

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**SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

No exception request for this unit.



DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION		UNIT	
UNIT		067		6700		6722	
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING		STATE AID		FUND		001	
DENTAL CONTRACTS		APPR		672			
1		2		3		4	
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729
TOTAL FUNDING		3,024,729	3,024,729	0	3,024,729	0	3,024,729

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION STATE AID  
 UNIT ACCELERATED NURSING DEGREE  
 PROGRAM

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6700 6723 001 672

## **SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** Legislative action during the 2009 session of the Wyoming Legislature authorized a loan-for-service repayment program for students pursuing a nursing degree on an accelerated basis. Known as the Bachelors Reach for Accelerated Nursing Degree, or BRAND, the University of Wyoming was authorized to provide five loans of up to \$25,000 each for full-time students enrolled in the program. The funding is divided over a four-semester period. Students receiving support from the state are then obligated to engage in professional practice as a registered nurse in the State of Wyoming for two years or repay all amounts expended by the state for the student's education with interest.

The BRAND graduates are high quality nurses. They do very well with an NCLEX (national nursing licensure examination) pass rate of between 88 to 100% over the last three years. Moreover, the BRAND program attracts a diverse student pool with an increasing number of men and women of color graduating from the program.

The BRAND program has been quite successful in accomplishing its goals. The State of Wyoming and health care employers are experiencing the impact of the loan repayment program. As of September 2020, all graduates who have received loans have either completed their payback with service in Wyoming (32 graduates) are in the process of paying back the loan through service in the state (8 graduates) or repaid the loan in cash (2 students). Moreover, a variety of Wyoming cities have benefited from a BRAND graduate, including: Cheyenne, Jackson, Riverton, Cody, and Rock Springs.

## **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

## **SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

No exception request for this unit.

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION		UNIT	
UNIT		067		6700		6723	
ACCELERATED NURSING DEGREE PROGRAM						001	
1		2		3		4	
Description		Base Budget		Standard		Total Dept	
Code		2027-2028		Budget		Exception	
						Request	
						Total Budget	
						Request	
						Governor's	
						Exception	
						Changes	
						Governor's	
						Recommendation	
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000
TOTAL FUNDING		200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING							DEPT 067
DIVISION SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES							DIV NO 6800
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Division	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
UNIT							
SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES	6801	42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
TOTAL BY UNIT		42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
OBJECT SERIES							
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES		42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
SOURCES OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	23,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
SIPA	S13	19,000,000	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL BY FUNDS		42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
DIVISION SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES  
UNIT SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes				
DEPT	DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
067	6800	6801	001	680

**SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

**SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** First authorized and funded by the Legislature in the 2006 budget session, the School of Energy Resources has three primary objectives: (1) provide nationally-competitive undergraduate and graduate instruction in energy-related disciplines, (2) advance Wyoming’s energy-related science, technology and economics research and (3) support scientific and engineering outreach through dissemination of information to Wyoming’s energy industries, companies, community colleges, and government agencies. These objectives align with the overall mission of the university and include scholarship, research and service in the energy resource area.

**Part B. Revenue:** None.

**GOVERNOR’S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES  
 UNIT SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6800 6801 001 680

#### **SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

##### **PRIORITY # 1 - SER – Coal Pyrolysis Demonstration - Inflation**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** In the 2022 Budget Session \$8,000,000 was appropriated to the School of Energy Resources to be used for "coal refinery research, pyrolysis demonstration, or large-scale pilot project..." The costs for this request were developed in 2021; since 2021 the Nation has experienced historic inflation that has impacted the School of Energy Resources' costs for both contract services and capital equipment. Procurement and construction of the pyrolysis demonstration are underway at the Wyoming Innovation Center in Campbell County, Wyoming and this request will cover the impact of inflation for this one-time project completing it as designed.

##### **B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments	<u>\$2,090,000</u>	100% General Fund
	Total	\$2,090,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** Additional funding is required to offset inflation and complete the project.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

#### **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of \$2,090,000 for this one-time request as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES  
 UNIT SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6800 6801 001 680

## **PRIORITY # 2 - SER – State Match**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** Matching funds will enable the School of Energy Resources (SER) to raise more support for its Wyoming energy-focused instruction, outreach and research programs from philanthropic sources as well as research opportunities that require cost share or matching funds. These matching funds require 1:1 match from a non-state source (no in-kind).

For the research funding, the match is limited to research focused on the production or consumption of Wyoming coal, oil, natural gas (as defined by the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission), rare earth elements and critical minerals (as defined by the US Secretary of Interior). Uses of matching funds must be approved by the Energy Resources Council and the legislative Management Committee.

## **B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments	\$10,000,000	100% General Fund
	Total	\$10,000,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

**C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:** SER will have a decreased ability to be opportunistic to raise both philanthropic as well as competitive research funds. SER will also not be able to bring as many competitive research, development and demonstration projects to Wyoming, which is especially important given the alignment between SER's research program and the current federal administration's energy dominance goals. Notably, these funds will not only be restricted to internal SER use, but will be used to support faculty, staff and students across the University of Wyoming who can benefit Wyoming's energy sector – as is consistent with SER's mission.

**D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY:** N/A

**E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE):** N/A

## **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of \$10,000,000 for this one-time request as submitted.*

DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION		DEPT		DIVISION		UNIT	
UNIT		067		6800		6801	
				FUND		001	
						APPR	
						680	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	23,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	23,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808
SIPA	6617	19,000,000	0	0	0	0	0
SIPA	S13	19,000,000	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FUNDING		42,857,808	21,107,808	12,090,000	33,197,808	0	33,197,808



DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING							DEPT 067
DIVISION TIER 1 ENGINEERING							DIV NO 6900
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Division	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
UNIT							
TIER 1 ENGINEERING	6901	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
TOTAL BY UNIT		18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
OBJECT SERIES							
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES		18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
SOURCES OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
TOTAL BY FUNDS		18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION TIER 1 ENGINEERING  
 UNIT TIER 1 ENGINEERING

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 6900 6901 001 690

## **SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** This request is for the continuation of the standard budget for the Tier 1 Engineering initiative at the UW College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

The Governor, the Legislature and the Wyoming Governor's Energy, Engineering, STEM Integration Task Force (WGEESIT) brought forth a vision of a nationally recognized College of Engineering and Applied Science reflecting academic excellence and world-class research. The Tier 1 initiative would provide greater opportunities for students to work with world-class faculty in nationally ranked programs and engage in cutting-edge research and learning. The key strategic goals are: 1) Excellence in undergraduate education; 2) World-class research and graduate education; 3) Productive economic development through partnerships and 4) K-14 STEM education.

In April 2013, the university provided a response to the WGEESIT report of December 2012 to ramp up a new funding for academic programs in UW's College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS). Subsequently, a detailed budget was formulated, and funding of \$8 million of General Fund appropriation for Phase I of the initiative was requested by the Governor and appropriated by the Legislature.

The Budget Division Adjustments to the Base reflect standard changes applied to the university in the same manner as other state agencies. The changes include, but may not be limited to, additions for continuing salary and benefits obligations. The university makes a contribution to this initiative with internal resources.

**Part B. Revenue:** None.

## **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

## **SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

No exception request for this unit.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION	TIER 1 ENGINEERING	DEPT		DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT	TIER 1 ENGINEERING	067		6900	6901	001	690
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703
TOTAL FUNDING		18,584,703	18,584,703	0	18,584,703	0	18,584,703

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING							DEPT 067
DIVISION NCAR MOU							DIV NO 9600
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Division	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
UNIT							
NCAR MOU	9601	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
TOTAL BY UNIT		1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
OBJECT SERIES							
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES		1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
SOURCES OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
TOTAL BY FUNDS		1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

DIVISION NCAR MOU

UNIT NCAR MOU

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 9600 9601 001 960

## **SECTION 1. UNIT STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

See Department Statutory Authority Narrative.

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

**Part A. Narrative:** Pursuant to Article V of the Agreement between the University of Wyoming, Wyoming Business Council and University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), dated May 18, 2010. UW is appropriated \$1,802,339 per biennium but will continue to provide \$1 million to UCAR on an annual basis in the initial year (2010) and for nineteen (19) years thereafter so long as the NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center (NWSC) is in operation as a National Science Foundation-sponsored facility. The University Consortium for Atmospheric Research and the National Center for Atmospheric Research (UCAR/NCAR) will use the \$1,000,000 annually in the following way:

- 75% or \$750,000 will go into an account toward purchase of the next computer. NCAR replaces the top-line computer every 3-4 years.
- 25% or \$250,000 will aid in purchasing mass storage required to maintain a fully functioning High Performance Computer. Load balancing the computer's processing capability with the correct amount of data inflow is a significant issue. As computers become more powerful and faster, mass storage must keep pace.

**Part B. Revenue:** None.

## **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of the standard budget as submitted.*

## **SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

No exception request for this unit.

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION	NCAR MOU	DEPT		DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT	NCAR MOU	067		9600	9601	001	960
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316
TOTAL FUNDING		1,528,316	1,528,316	0	1,528,316	0	1,528,316

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING							DEPT 067
DIVISION ENDOWMENTS							DIV NO 9700
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Division	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
UNIT							
MATCHING FUNDS	9705	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
TOTAL BY UNIT		88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
OBJECT SERIES							
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
TOTAL BY OBJECT SERIES		88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
TOTAL BY FUNDS		88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000

DEPARTMENT UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
 DIVISION ENDOWMENTS  
 UNIT MATCHING FUNDS

Wyoming On Line Financial Codes  
 DEPT DIVISION UNIT FUND APPR  
 067 9700 9705 001 970

## **SECTION 2. STANDARD BUDGET REQUEST**

There is no standard budget for this unit.

## **SECTION 4. EXCEPTION REQUEST**

### **PRIORITY # 1 – Matching Funds**

**A. EXPLANATION OF REQUEST:** The Wyoming state matching program began more than 20 years ago with the intent of incentivizing major gifts to the University of Wyoming. It was expanded from matching endowments to athletics facilities and then to academic facilities. The overwhelming success of the program is a testament to the dedicated investment of the state leadership and the enthusiastic commitment of UW supporters and has provided more than \$227 million in matching funds to the university which includes more than 700 matched endowments and facilities funds. The program encourages private support of Wyoming's university by doubling donors' gifts. However, the impact of the program is beyond measure and ripples through generations. Thanks to the state's investment, the University of Wyoming endowment is approaching a billion dollars—far surpassing our sister schools in the Mountain West and approaching that of much larger institutions. The university is requesting a matching pool of \$20 million for the FY2027-2028 biennium for an extension of the University Endowment Challenge Program in accordance with W.S. 21-16-901. This request follows the recent success of matching \$10,000,000 in FY2025-2026 matched to \$20,000,000 through the establishment of 42 new student success funds and 13 new Faculty Excellence Funds.

### **B. REQUEST BY OBJECT CODE, FUNDING AMOUNT & FUND SOURCE:**

	Object Code	Amount	Funding Source
1	0626 - Grant Payments	\$20,000,000	100% General Fund
	Total	\$20,000,000	100% Revenue Code 1001 - General Fund

### **C. JUSTIFICATION / CONSEQUENCES:**

### **D. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT OR MAINTENANCE OF EQUITY: N/A**

### **E. ETS APPROVAL NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE): N/A**

### **GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

*I recommend approval of \$12,500,000 for this one-time request as submitted. Of this \$12,500,000, I recommend \$2,500,000 be specifically designated for matching grants for the College of Agriculture for the Governor's Agriculture Initiative. I further recommend denial of \$7,500,000 for this request.*



DEPARTMENT		Wyoming On Line Financial Codes					
DIVISION	UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	DEPT		DIVISION	UNIT	FUND	APPR
UNIT	ENDOWMENTS	067		9700	9705	001	970
MATCHING FUNDS							
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Code	Base Budget 2027-2028	Standard Budget	Total Dept Exception Request	Total Budget Request	Governor's Exception Changes	Governor's Recommendation
EXPENDITURES							
GRANT PAYMENTS	0626	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
GRANTS & AID PAYMENT	0600	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
EXPENDITURE TOTALS		88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
SOURCE OF FUNDING							
GENERAL FUND	1001	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
GENERAL FUND/BRA	G	88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000
TOTAL FUNDING		88,900,000	0	20,000,000	20,000,000	(7,500,000)	12,500,000