

**State Academies****Projects Summary**

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Rank	Fund	Project Requests for State Funds			Gov's Rec	Gov's Planning Estimates	
			2026	2028	2030		2028	2030
Pre-Design: MSAD Student Center	1	GO	500	0	0	500	0	0
Pre-Design: MSAB Therapy Pool and Related Improvements	2	GO	450	0	0	450	0	0
Asset Preservation	3	GO	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,500
MSAB Library Renovations	4	GO	6,000	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Project Requests</b>			<b>9,950</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,500</b>
<b>General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total</b>			<b>9,950</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,500</b>

## AT A GLANCE

- The Minnesota State Academies oversees two schools - the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind (MSAB), and the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf (MSAD) on 2 campuses in Faribault, Minnesota.
- The Academies have provided educational services to blind/visually impaired (B/VI), deafblind (DB), and deaf/hard-of-hearing (D/HH) students since the 1860s. Many of our students also have additional disabilities and learning/communication needs.
- The Academies are a public school district, utilizing the same educational standards and expectations as other districts in the state. All of our students are special education students on Individual Education Plans.
- Students from over 60 different school districts attend classes at the Academies.
- The Academies are funded primarily through a biennial appropriation rather than by the funding formula that is applied to other districts in the state. The Academies are not able to issue any tax levies or bonding and rely on legislative action to fund all needs on our campuses.

## PURPOSE

The Minnesota State Academies contribute to the goals for education of providing a world class education, safe and nurturing environment, and caring and qualified teachers. Our school programs incorporate fully accessible and specially designed instructional services to our state's deaf, hard-of-hearing, deafblind, blind, and visually impaired students. We provide educational programming that ensures their full access to academics, language, social development, and mental health. Our mission is: "Minnesota State Academies empowers every student to achieve, care, and thrive in an ever-changing world." In our efforts to prepare students, we provide educational programming to support students in their development of knowledge, critical thinking, and skills necessary to become contributing members of Minnesota's economy, promoting transition skills to support successful employment, and independence after graduation.

Each student is provided with opportunities to maximize their education and skills so that they can reach their transition goals, in conjunction with their Individual Education Plans. Our students range in age from infants who participate in Early Childhood services through 22-year-old students who are working to meet graduation requirements and Individual Education Plan expectations beyond the usual four years of high school. During most years, we have approximately 140-160 students. Our numbers have recently declined somewhat due to the COVID-19 pandemic, similar to the experiences of many school districts in Minnesota. However, we have begun to see an uptick in enrollments and anticipate returning to our usual enrollment numbers within the next year or two.

In our educational programming, we incorporate instruction and training for families in supporting communication access and educational growth for their B/VI, DB, or D/HH child – this contributes to strong family connections and support for their child, and we are working to expand our services to support communities around the state. As a part of our legal obligations to be a resource to school districts, we also serve school districts statewide, providing support in staff training, assessments for students, and certain support services that are required by students' Individual Education Plans.

While D/HH or B/VI students are the majority of our enrollment, Minnesota State Academies also serves students who are both deaf and blind (DB), and many also have significant physical or cognitive disabilities. School districts usually have very few students with those disabilities and have collaborated with Minnesota State Academies to provide the best available and least restrictive educational environment because 1) the needs of the students are

met fully; 2) it is more efficient to enroll a student at Minnesota State Academies in an established program that is designed to meet their needs and has a larger critical mass of peers/students rather than trying to develop a minimally effective program for a small number of students with limited services and a much smaller critical mass; and 3) our staff members are highly trained in instructional methodology that matches the needs of our students – they are able to design effective and accessible lessons, using student-centered methods and appropriate technology/strategies, including full and direct communication in the students' most accessible language/mode of learning.

## STRATEGIES

- Rather than serving one geographical location, the Academies serve B/VI, DB, and D/HH students from the entire state. The Academies provide a fully accessible educational environment that is designed specifically to meet their needs, serving as an additional option for districts which have very few deaf or blind students in their schools. Rather than hiring special education teachers and purchasing needed support services and equipment, especially with the limited number of qualified individuals available for those positions/services, the districts have the ability (with parental agreement) to send a student to the Academies with no tuition costs.
- The mission of the Academies is to empower students to achieve, care, and thrive in an ever-changing world. We meet the challenges of a student population with varied communication and learning needs through using state standards, Individual Education Programs (IEP), transition planning, and incorporation of research-based best practices for instruction of B/VI, DB, and D/HH individuals. We incorporate instruction in Braille, Orientation and Mobility, American Sign Language/English bilingual strategies, speech & language services, among others in ensuring that each of our students' needs are met both in the classroom and outside the classroom. We focus on the development of each child as a whole, enhancing opportunities for further success in life.
- The role of the Academies is to provide a comprehensive and appropriately designed educational program for our student population. We have a responsibility and obligation to provide top-quality education programming in an efficient and accountable way. Our teachers prepare lessons and instructional units to ensure that our students work towards achievement of Minnesota state standards and IEP goals established by their IEP teams. We provide professional development/learning opportunities for our teachers to maintain their knowledge and skills, ensuring that we continue to utilize research-based methodology and best practices for teaching blind and deaf students, including any additional needs that they may have. Outside of the classroom, we provide enrichment and extracurricular opportunities so that students can develop fully as a whole child (meeting their mental health, social, physical, and communication needs).
- In alignment with the expectations established by Minnesota's Olmstead Plan, our school supports students with coursework, experiential activities, work readiness, and independent living skills that support their ability to have an independent life after graduation that allows for them to choose a variety of occupations, living situations, and recreational/social opportunities. The Olmstead Plan is defined as a broad series of key activities our state must accomplish to ensure people with disabilities are living, learning, working, and enjoying life in the most integrated setting. This enhances their ability to be contributing neighbors and employees in Minnesota. We collaborate with other state agencies and school districts to provide a variety of transition programming.
- The Academies' special education program is involved in a continuous review cycle developed and overseen by the Minnesota Department of Education to ensure that we follow established processes and procedures to develop individual education plans and evaluations following the needs of each student. Our special education professionals have specific training and knowledge related to evaluations, teaching, and designing educational programming that matches our student population.
- Our Early Childhood services include instruction for students, starting as soon as the child is identified as B/VI, DB, or D/HH. We provide home-based services, supporting students and their families with communication, language, and learning access at home until the child becomes 2 years of age. At that

time, parents have the option of enrolling their children in our site-based early childhood classes for part-day/full-day instruction designed to maximize the students' learning and language opportunities. This supports the family structure and encourages continued communication and learning at home, outside of the classroom, which enhances further learning and academic success of the child.

- Lastly, we issue diplomas to students who have met the requirements for graduation, including special education goals. While working towards earning a diploma, each student receives individually designed educational programming, accommodations, and services to support his/her growth towards achieving transition goals established in their Individual Education Program.

Statutes applied to the Minnesota State Academies: M.S. 125A.61; M.S. 125A.62; M.S. 125A.63; M.S. 125A.64; M.S. 125A.65; M.S. 125A.66; M.S. 125A.67; M.S. 125A.68; M.S. 125A.69; M.S. 125A.70; M.S. 125A.71; M.S. 125A.72; M.S. 125A.73; M.S. 125A.74

## AT A GLANCE

The primary long-range strategic goal of the Minnesota State Academies (MSA) is to provide students who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, deafblind, blind, or visually impaired (including those with additional disabilities) with specialized and fully accessible instruction that is mandated in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

To achieve this, our governing board and MSA employees are:

- Continually reviewing and updating our operational processes and strategic plans to ensure consistency and adherence to our mission and vision statements in all the work we do on a daily basis.
- Overseeing long-term needs and maintenance of our facilities and equipment to ensure that our students have the necessary access to proper instructional activities.
- Overseeing current projects, including improvements outlined in previous Asset Preservation requests and completion of current bonding projects.
- Reviewing and prioritizing capital projects for 2026, 2028, and in the future.

## Factors Impacting Facilities or Capital Programs

The capital needs of MSA are extensive because many of our buildings are very old. Two of our buildings – Noyes Hall and Tate Hall – are on the National Register of Historic Places, and several others are also 75-100 years old. Many of our buildings, while beautifully constructed and still viable, need ongoing maintenance: roofs, heating/cooling systems, windows, tuckpoint of stone/brick work, and so forth.

The changing educational needs of our student population also affect the capital and facility requirements of the academies. Many students at MSA also have additional disabilities, including physical challenges, and MSA must provide a safe and fully accessible environment, as well as academic support. Other factors – such as the changing technological and employment issues facing our students – also affect the demand for improvements and changes to our facilities, and those are incorporated in our long-range strategic goals.

## Self-Assessment of Agency Facilities and Assets

The Minnesota State Academies provide educational services to deaf, hard-of-hearing, deafblind, blind, and visually impaired children from birth through age 22. We serve students from all parts of the state. Because of the geographical distance for many of our students, a residential component is necessary for both campuses. We have worked hard to create a home-like environment for children who reside at MSAB and MSAD during the week.

During the last 10 years, we have focused our capital plan on adapting facilities to meet the needs of students with multiple disabilities and students who are nearing transition age to further educational/employment skills. As a result of different projects that have been funded by capital appropriations, including asset preservation and Capital Asset Preservation and Replacement Account (CAPRA) funds, many of our buildings have been improved over the past few years. However, there is substantial work to be done in other buildings that have not yet been addressed.

School security is an area in which MSA continues to have room to improve. At the time when many of our buildings were built, security was not a great concern. Retrofitting buildings to achieve reasonable levels of security in our modern world is a costly necessity. This often requires reconfiguration or redesign of parts of our buildings to meet standards and expectations of school buildings today. Due to the changing requirements for

asset preservation funds, some of our projects have been requested as separate capital request/bonding projects rather than asset preservation projects.

In our recent Facilities Condition Assessment report (2025), approximately 45% of our Academies' square footage was rated as good or excellent, while the rest (about 65%) was rated as fair, poor, or crisis. To address some of those needs, we have identified 3 projects (MSAD student center; MSAB Pool Replacement; and MSAB Library) which will replace existing buildings and remove some current needs from our deferred maintenance list. To continue providing a safe, effective, and accessible environment for students, there is additional renovation that needs to be done, despite our great progress in improving the state's assets on both campuses. The Academies has developed an inventory and cost estimate for deferred maintenance projects, and the estimated cost for completing all of those identified projects in our inventory is currently approximately \$18-20 million dollars, depending on if projects are bundled into a construction project or funded via asset preservation funds. This does not account for inflationary increases if funding is not available in the 2026 bonding bill. This also does not account for necessary improvements that have already been bundled into approved capital request/bonding projects (i.e., our current dorm renovation project; Asset Preservation projects that have been funded/in progress).

### **Agency Process for Determining Capital Requests**

Capital requests are developed by our administration (leadership team) and reviewed/approved by our governing board. Our requests are based on needs identified in our 2012 Master Plan Consolidated Study as well as a self-study of asset preservation needs and a long-term assessment of deferred maintenance needs. We also consider the feasibility of renovating/repairing current buildings as compared to replacement. Assistance from architects and engineers during the predesign process helps us in making those decisions. We are now in the process of updating our Master Plan to ensure accuracy of information that is needed to make future decisions.

### **Major Capital Projects Authorized in 2024 and 2025**

2025: \$1 million in asset preservation funds

## Pre-Design: MSAD Student Center

AT A GLANCE**2026 Request Amount:** \$500**Priority Ranking:** 1**Project Summary:** The Minnesota State Academies are requesting \$500,000 to complete a predesign for the MSAD Student Center - with the goal of replacing up to 5 aging and inefficient buildings into a single accessible building that matches our current students' academic, physical, and transition needs.**Project Description**

To hire architects to evaluate our needs and recommend an energy efficient/low-maintenance building that is fully accessible and code compliant, potentially replacing up to 5 aging, high-maintenance buildings and outdated/inaccessible facilities. This center will incorporate our athletic/PE facilities; cafeteria; career/technical education; storage; and other needs on our MSAD campus.

Buildings that will be evaluated include Mott Hall (our outdated vocational instructional building); Lauritsen Gym (our outdated and inaccessible gymnasium and athletic facilities); Rodman Hall (our cafeteria and related spaces); Laundry Building (unsafe and unused); and Rodman Garage (storage space for our physical plant).

Additional considerations include physical access, ease of use, exterior spaces around this building, and additional athletic, educational, and transition needs.

**Project Rationale**

We have aging and inefficient buildings on our MSAD campus that do not match our current safety, accessibility, and educational needs. Multiple buildings are over 90 years old and we need assistance in determining if renovation or replacement is more feasible. We anticipate reviewing the use of 5 buildings and other facilities on the MSAD campus and potentially replacing them with a single building, saving costs in energy, maintenance, workmen compensation, and other related costs.

Our current buildings have been repaired/renovated numerous times, draining funds from our Asset Preservation and General Funds and we believe that replacement is a more cost effective approach towards having buildings on our campuses that match our students' current needs. An increasing number of students at MSAD have additional physical challenges and our current buildings are not fully accessible for them.

**Project Timeline**

After funding is obtained, we hope to consult with architects quickly and come up with a plan for consideration during the next legislative session.

**Other Considerations**

According to our most recent facilities condition report, the 5 buildings that we are examining in this process are either in Crisis or Poor condition. The deferred maintenance costs of those buildings add up to over \$9,000,000 - we believe that replacement with a modern, efficient, and low maintenance building will serve us better and reduce the use of future Asset Preservation/General Funds.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

Future savings will be determined during the design process. Significant savings are anticipated (energy, maintenance, asset preservation, staffing)

### **Description of Previous Appropriations**

This is a request that has not been funded yet. We have requested funds during previous legislative sessions, but this has not been included in previous bonding bills.

### **Project Contact Person**

Dan Haugen  
Physical Plant Director  
507-384-6770  
dan.haugen@msa.state.mn.us

### **Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$500 thousand in general obligation bonds for this request.

**State Academies****Project Detail**

(\$ in thousands)

**Pre-Design: MSAD Student Center****PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES**

Funding Source	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
<b><i>State Funds Appropriated and Requested</i></b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b><i>State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Already Committed</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS**

Cost Category	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS**

Cost Category	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0	0	0

**SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS**

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 500	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

## STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

Has the project owner requesting state funds reviewed and agree to meet the applicable capital requirements listed in the “Statutory Requirements” below and in the “Capital Budget Requirements” section of the MMB Capital Budget Instruction documents?	Yes
Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	Yes
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	No
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2030?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	N/A
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

(\$ in thousands)

**Pre-Design: MSAB Therapy Pool and Related Improvements****AT A GLANCE****2026 Request Amount:** \$450**Priority Ranking:** 2**Project Summary:** The Minnesota State Academies are asking for \$450,000 to complete a predesign plan for the replacement of our existing MSAB therapy pool/therapeutic hot tub and related campus/building improvements. This project will include building an addition to our MSAB instructional building to house a new pool/hot tub that is designed appropriately for our students' physical therapy needs-with the goal of improving the existing spaces for other academic needs.**Project Description**

To hire an architectural firm to investigate and evaluate our existing pool/building conditions and propose a new design and cost estimates for relocating and building an accessible, energy efficient, and low maintenance pool area, including renovations of the existing pool area for academic/transition spaces/performing arts center, relocation of utilities, parking spaces and roads, security measures, and other necessary site improvements required to relocate the therapy pool and therapeutic hot tub so that they are fully accessible and compliant with current codes. Aligned with this, anticipated changes in the layout of the building will require other upgrades to be completed (relocation of roads/parking spaces; power/water supply, security measures, etc.).

**Project Rationale**

We have a therapy pool/therapeutic hot tub that is aging (over 50 years old) - we have spent considerable time and funds trying to maintain and use the equipment/facilities and due to a variety of factors, it is our intent to replace them instead of continuing to invest additional funds/time. The current pool and hot tub are also minimally accessible, and it is difficult for our students to enter/exit the pool/hot tub. We need a fully accessible environment for our students, many of whom have numerous physical challenges requiring the use of assistive technology.

Furthermore, we anticipate expanding our academic/transition/performing arts courses for our students into the current pool area in order to meet our school's mission and goals. When designing and replacing the pool, we anticipate that this will require the removal of an existing road that passes through our campus to the Faribault Correctional Facility and will require additional site/campus improvements to ensure that our campus remains safe (fencing, cameras, lighting, etc.).

**Project Timeline**

After funding is obtained, we hope to consult with architects quickly and come up with a plan for consideration during the next legislative session.

## **Other Considerations**

By replacing this pool, we will reduce the need for future Asset Preservation funds. The pool/hot tub have undergone numerous repairs/renovations over the past 8-10 years and have reached the end of its operational life.

## **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

Future savings would be determined through the design process. Significant savings are anticipated (energy, maintenance, asset preservation, safety).

## **Description of Previous Appropriations**

This request has not been funded yet. We have requested funds during previous legislative sessions, but this has not been included in previous bonding bills.

## **Project Contact Person**

Dan Haugen  
Physical Plant Director  
507-384-6770  
[dan.haugen@msa.state.mn.us](mailto:dan.haugen@msa.state.mn.us)

## **Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$450 thousand in general obligation bonds for this request.

**State Academies****Project Detail**

(\$ in thousands)

**Pre-Design: MSAB Therapy Pool and Related Improvements****PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES**

Funding Source	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
<b><i>State Funds Appropriated and Requested</i></b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 0	\$ 450	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b><i>State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Already Committed</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 450</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS**

Cost Category	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 450	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 450</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS**

Cost Category	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0	0	0

**SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS**

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 450	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

## STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

Has the project owner requesting state funds reviewed and agree to meet the applicable capital requirements listed in the “Statutory Requirements” below and in the “Capital Budget Requirements” section of the MMB Capital Budget Instruction documents?	Yes
Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	Yes
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	No
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2030?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	N/A
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

(\$ in thousands)

## Asset Preservation

AT A GLANCE**2026 Request Amount:** \$3,000**Priority Ranking:** 3**Project Summary:** The State Academies are requesting \$3 million in asset preservation funds to continue work on completion of projects and renovations to ensure compliance with ADA, safety/security concerns, and DHH/BVI accessibility needs on both campuses of the Minnesota State Academies. We are asking for continued funding to catch up with our backlog of necessary repairs/renovations.**Project Description**

The State Academies operate boarding schools for deaf and blind students that reside throughout the state of Minnesota on their two campuses in Faribault. The campuses both contain dorms, cafeterias, classrooms, gyms, and offices. Asset Preservation appropriations, along with operating funds, are the only source of money the Academies have for maintaining their historic and varied facilities.

Projects covered by this include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Replacement of deteriorated walks and drives
- Safety upgrades to doors and windows
- Tuck pointing
- Wheelchair lift project for accessibility
- Update restroom facilities to bring them up to current accessibility codes
- Accessibility upgrades to older buildings to support our students with physical challenges
- Security upgrades to improve the safety of our students on both campuses
- Replacement of heating boilers and piping
- Replacement of HVAC systems
- Playground accessibility/expansion

**Project Rationale**

Our capital needs are extensive because our campuses have multiple buildings that are aging and require continued attention and renovations to meet current safety and accessibility codes. Our student population is also changing and requires additional accessibility and safety features to be implemented. Several of our buildings are in Crisis, Poor, or Fair condition and need to be maintained/upgraded to ensure the safety and function of those buildings for our students' needs.

The money that we are requesting will allow us to address many projects that have been deferred over the years.

## **Project Timeline**

We will utilize the funds over the next 3-4 years to complete projects; however, the exact timing will rely on guidance from RECS and the overall bidding process.

## **Other Considerations**

Our student population includes students who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, deafblind, blind, and visually impaired. Many of those students also have additional physical, cognitive, and sensory disabilities which means that we need to continually evaluate and upgrade our buildings and facilities to ensure that our students are safe and supported appropriately during their educational activities on our campuses.

## **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

By improving the safety and accessibility of our buildings, we will reduce workmen compensation claims; avoid any litigation regarding accessibility; and ensure compliance with current laws, regulations, and codes. Some renovations will also reduce the manpower needed within our physical plant department to maintain our buildings.

## **Description of Previous Appropriations**

The State Academies received \$700,000 in 2014, \$2,000,000 in 2017, \$2,000,000 in 2018, \$3,150,000 in 2020, \$1,200,000 in 2023, and \$1,000,000 in 2025 for Asset Preservation.

## **Project Contact Person**

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## **Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$2.5 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$2.5 million for each planning period for 2028 and 2030.

**State Academies****Project Detail**

(\$ in thousands)

**Asset Preservation****PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES**

Funding Source	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
<b><i>State Funds Appropriated and Requested</i></b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 5,350	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
<b><i>State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Already Committed</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,350</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS**

Cost Category	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 5,350	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,350</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>

**IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS**

Cost Category	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0	0	0

**SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS**

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 3,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

## STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

Has the project owner requesting state funds reviewed and agree to meet the applicable capital requirements listed in the “Statutory Requirements” below and in the “Capital Budget Requirements” section of the MMB Capital Budget Instruction documents?	Yes
Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?	Yes
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	N/A
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	No
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2030?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

(\$ in thousands)

## MSAB Library Renovations

AT A GLANCE**2026 Request Amount:** \$6,000**Priority Ranking:** 4**Project Summary:** The Minnesota State Academies is requesting \$6 million for predesign, design, and renovations of the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind Library building that was previously vacated by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). The space was previously leased by MDE and called the Minnesota Talking Book and Braille Library.**Project Description**

To design and renovate the MSAB Library building to match our students' current needs. The predesign plan, along with the overall design will allow us to maximize the use of the building, ensure safety and accessibility, increase energy efficiency, reduce maintenance needs, and remedy asbestos and any other potentially dangerous materials in the building. We are requesting funds to design and implement upgrades to make the building accessible and functional for our students' use.

The upgrades include building a connection between the library and the main instructional building for safety/security reasons; adding a new boiler/mechanical room to serve the heating and cooling needs of the entire campus; and demolition of another building (Industrial Building) after the functions of this aging building are transferred into the renovated library building. By removing this other building once renovations are complete, it will give us the ability to relocate services, activities, and essential functions. By doing this, our maintenance, energy, upkeep, and staffing needs will be reduced, supporting our current and long-term budget and staffing needs.

**Project Rationale**

The MSAB Library building previously housed the Minnesota Talking Book and Braille Library that is managed by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). After MDE made the decision to relocate their services to Minneapolis, this building became vacant. We need to ensure that the building is safe and designed appropriately for our students to use.

We want to preserve the building and move classes, services, and other functions from another aging building so that our needs are better served. By connecting the library building to the main instructional building, we will enhance the safety/security of all students, staff, and visitors to our campus. This is especially critical as we are located adjacent to the Faribault Correctional Facility, and we want to ensure that our students and staff are safe.

**Project Timeline**

After funding is obtained, we hope to start the project within one year. The anticipated duration of the project is also approximately one year.

## **Other Considerations**

We are hoping to reduce the square footage that we are required to maintain (staff, heating/cooling, energy use, cleaning/maintenance, and so forth). By improving the quality and function of this library building, we believe we can become more efficient and use our state funding more wisely, setting us up well for the future.

## **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

By improving the safety and accessibility of this building, we will reduce workmen compensation claims; avoid any litigation regarding accessibility; and ensure compliance with current laws, regulations, and codes. Some renovations will also reduce the manpower needed within our physical plant department to maintain buildings on our campuses. Demolition of an existing aging building after this building has been renovated will reduce the square footage that we need to maintain.

## **Description of Previous Appropriations**

This is a request that has not been funded yet. We requested funds during the previous legislative session, but this has not been included in previous bonding bills.

## **Project Contact Person**

Dan Haugen  
Physical Plant Director  
507-384-6770  
[dan.haugen@msa.state.mn.us](mailto:dan.haugen@msa.state.mn.us)

## **Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor does not recommend capital funding for this request.

**State Academies****Project Detail**

(\$ in thousands)

**MSAB Library Renovations****PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES**

Funding Source	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
<b><i>State Funds Appropriated and Requested</i></b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 0	\$ 6,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b><i>State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Already Committed</i></b>				
<b><i>Non-State Funds Pending</i></b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS**

Cost Category	Six Prior Years	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 450	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 0	\$ 384	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 101	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 0	\$ 4,400	\$ 0	\$ 0
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 60	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 180	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 425	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS**

Cost Category	FY 2026	FY 2028	FY 2030
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0	0	0

**SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS**

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 6,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

## STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

Has the project owner requesting state funds reviewed and agree to meet the applicable capital requirements listed in the “Statutory Requirements” below and in the “Capital Budget Requirements” section of the MMB Capital Budget Instruction documents?	Yes
Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	Yes
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	No
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	No
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2030?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A