

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



For the third consecutive year, the Southern University System has benefitted from the reinvestment in Louisiana's public postsecondary education institutions. Once again, we are poised to benefit from support in the proposed budget for FY 2022-2023. With this continued investment, Southern University strengthens our foundation for long-term sustainable growth.

The proposed FY 2022-23 state general fund budget dedicates \$31.7 million for higher education faculty pay raises, in addition to an increase of \$97.2 million in other funding increases.

The budget proposal includes an increase of \$5 million for Title IX offices across the state, \$15 million increase in GO Grants, and \$25 million into the Higher Education Initiatives fund. The proposal also includes depositing \$10.5 million into the MJ Foster Promise Program Fund, which provides financial support for non-traditional students to earn credentials from community and technical colleges that align to high-demand jobs in growing industry sectors across Louisiana.

The SU 2022 legislative priorities focus on investments that are critical to our ability to continue providing excellence and meaningful service to students and communities across Louisiana, the nation, and the world.

Thanks to support from the Louisiana Legislature and other stakeholders, Southern University is now ranked among the top 20 HBCUs in the nation by U.S. News and World Report and became one of 10 HBCUs to achieve the highly sought R2 Carnegie Classification.

OUR PRIORITIES ARE:

- Continued Overall Investment
- Faculty Salary Increases
- Continued Investment in Capital Outlay
- Equitable Land-Grant Funding
- Support for Deferred Maintenance

Continued Overall Investment

Increasing investments in education for college and university faculty while also increasing the funding formula for higher education is the key to addressing many of our state's problems. For FY 2022-2023, we are requesting:

Support of the proposed funding for postsecondary education that includes funding for unfunded mandates, and Go Grants

Faculty Salary Increases

Competitive compensation for Southern University faculty is essential to our state's success as these employees generate a talented and qualified workforce for our state's economy. In order to recruit, retain, and replace our valued faculty, we are requesting:

Support of proposed funding for compensation increases for SU faculty System-wide



Continued Investment in Capital Outlay

Learn more at - <https://tinyurl.com/2p9d4z25>

- \$32M** Bluff and Riverbank Stabilization, SUBR
- \$55.9M** New K-12 Laboratory School, SUBR
- \$22M** New College of Business building, Year-2 funding, SUBR
- \$18M** STEM Building additional funding, SUBR
- \$2M** A.O. Williams Hall (East Side), SUAREC
- \$10M** Mega Disaster Shelter, SUAREC
- \$7M** New Cafeteria Building, SUNO
- \$25M** School of Nursing and Allied Health, SUNO
- \$20M** Academic/General classroom Buildings, SUNO
- \$9M** New Student Physical Education/Recreational Facility, SUSLA
- \$19M** Workforce Development Building, SUSLA

Deferred Maintenance Projects

- \$76M** SU System, All campuses - Major repairs and deferred maintenance of buildings and facilities/site infrastructure, including ADA upgrades, re-roofing, mechanical HVAC and energy management controls, mechanical plumbing, electrical power/lighting/fire protection systems/streets and storm drainage upgrades

Support for Deferred Maintenance

Deferred maintenance for facilities has plagued higher education in Louisiana since 2007. For the Southern University System, the cost for deferred maintenance is approximately \$108 million. As a result, we are requesting:

Funding to address the entire deferred maintenance backlog or funding to address the most critical projects

Equitable Land Grant Funding

The SU Agricultural Research and Extension Center must establish a base budget of \$10 million. To achieve this amount, we are requesting:

An additional \$3.1 million in State General Funds for the Southern University Research and Agricultural Extension Center

Also, funding is requested for Southern University and A&M College for the College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences in the amount of \$711,000 for agricultural instruction, graduate programs, and student stipends.

Please note: *The requested funds should not be appropriated with a required "matching stipulation." The stipulation negated the SUAREC's ability to receive these funds last fiscal year for enhancing the fulfillment of our statewide agricultural land grant mission of teaching, research, and extension.*

