



Missouri State
U N I V E R S I T Y

July 28, 2016

Missouri Department of Higher Education
c/o Mr. Leroy Wade
Interim Commissioner of Higher Education
Missouri Department of Higher Education
205 Jefferson Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Wade:

Missouri State University is pleased to submit its Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Request for Operations. The request includes core funding and new funding decision items. We are providing this request in compliance with the policies and practice of the Coordinating Board of Higher Education. The total request of \$99,824,018 is comprised of the following:

Funding for Core Operations

1. Operating Appropriation Base (Fiscal Year 2017 Core with Performance Funding)	\$91,649,516
2. MSU Engineering Collaboration with Missouri S&T (Fiscal Year 2017 Core)	<u>1,000,000</u>
Funding for Core Operations – Total	\$92,649,516

New Funding Decision Item Requests

1. Performance Funding for Core Operating Support (5%)	\$4,582,476
2. New STEM Initiatives	916,495
3. Equity Funding for Missouri State University-West Plains	833,979
4. Mental Health Initiatives	<u>TBD</u>
New Funding Decision Item Requests – Total	<u>\$6,332,950</u>

Total Core and New Funding Decision Item Requests **\$98,982,466**

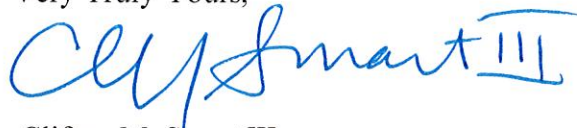
Debt Offset Tax Authority **\$300,000**
Missouri Returning Heroes Act **\$541,552**

Total Missouri State University Request **\$99,824,018**

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

The justification for each of our requests follows. This request seeks decision items for a 5% increase in Core Performance Funding, a 1% increase for specific STEM-related projects, equity funding for Missouri State University-West Plains consistent with the other public two-year colleges and funding for mental health initiatives if provided for in the budget. Missouri's public universities have been leading the nation in keeping tuition increases low. Over the past several years, tuition growth has been significantly below inflation, and among the top five lowest in the country. We believe our request is reasonable and reflects a commitment necessary to improve and advance the State of Missouri by developing educated citizens and a skilled workforce.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clifton M. Smart III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Clifton M. Smart III
President

Missouri State University Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations Request for Operations

Funding for Core Operations

\$92,649,516

The University's first priority for the fiscal year 2018 appropriation request is to maintain its base level of support. This support is critical to the University's mission as a comprehensive institution offering undergraduate and graduate programs, including the professional doctorate. The University educates students to be global citizen scholars committed to public affairs. This funding supports the University's Operating Fund for core student education and the mission of the University as well as administrative operations. The funding for core operations is comprised of two items: 1) \$91,649,516 which represents the fiscal year 2017 operating appropriation base and performance funding (improved outcomes) and 2) \$1,000,000 for the funding of the collaborative engineering program with Missouri University of Science and Technology. The funding for the collaborative engineering program was first appropriated in fiscal year 2017.

New Funding Decision Item Requests

\$6,332,950

In addition to core funding requirements, the University's appropriations request for operations focuses on new investments which will better position the University to contribute to the future economy of Missouri and the welfare of its citizens. These new initiatives would support attracting and retaining outstanding faculty, increasing the number of college graduates qualified to meet workforce needs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and supporting upgrades, expansion and maintenance of laboratory and classroom facilities and technology. The decision items are in priority funding order.

Decision Item 01: Performance Funding

\$4,582,476

The Performance Funding initiative was developed by the CBHE Performance Funding Task Force (2012) as a way to advocate for increased state appropriations to the base funding for institutions of higher education based upon institutional success on adopted performance measures. Prior legislation (SB 492 (2014)) formalized the performance funding process and provides up to 10% of appropriations to address inequitable state funding.

The University requests an increase in core operating appropriations of 5% for its fiscal year state appropriations as a placeholder for performance funding. This amounts to \$4,582,476.

Decision Item 02: STEM Funding

\$916,495

The University is requesting an appropriation increase of 1% for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives. For the last several years the University has experienced a steady, modest increase in STEM students. Improved funding would significantly enhance the number of undergraduate and graduate students completing degrees in these disciplines. Funds would be used as detailed below to keep pace with the demands for STEM graduates by expanding degree programs and attracting and hiring faculty needed to support program expansion.

2A. Expansion of STEM programs-Springfield Campus

\$770,420

The College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS) located on the Springfield Campus plays a role in supporting the state's economic growth and development in STEM fields with over 350 STEM majors (undergraduate and graduate) completing degree programs each year. Studies indicate that Missouri has a need for STEM graduates to meet the needs of the business community. Needs are especially acute in computer science, computational science in all disciplines, and actuarial science. Funds would be used to hire additional faculty and staff to expand the number of graduates from 350 to over 400 and to develop a new certificate program in computational science with a goal of completing at least 20 certificates each year. It is anticipated that these funds will generate the following:

20 additional Bachelor of Science computer graduates by fiscal year 2020

5-10 additional Bachelor of Science in actuarial mathematics by fiscal year 2020

20 graduates with a Computational Science Certificate by fiscal year 2021

25 additional Bachelor of Science biology graduates by fiscal year 2020

Until faculty hires are completed to expand programs, funds will be used to assist in renovating Cheek Hall (math and computer science) and the Plaster Center (engineering) in preparation for the enrollment growth.

2B. Expansion of STEM programs-West Plains Campus

\$146,075

Support is sought for a full-time, tenure-track physics faculty position plus laboratory equipment to support physics and other STEM-related courses. Increased demand for physics courses is expected as more Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP) students prepare for STEM related certificates and associate and bachelor's degrees. Students preparing for engineering, engineering technology, math, chemistry, physics, computer science, and other STEM-related degrees are the target market for these courses. MSU-WP STEM students in AAS-Technology, AS in Pre-Engineering and the AA in General Studies programs will, in particular, benefit from these classes. It is anticipated that these funds would generate an additional 17 students in specific physics courses after three years.

Decision Item 03: Equity Funding for West Plains Campus

\$833,979

Missouri State University-West Plains is one of fourteen public two-year colleges in Missouri. The college is located in the 17th poorest congressional district and, unlike community colleges, it does not receive property tax revenue to support its operations. For the past two years, the thirteen other public two-year colleges have received equity funding above their core appropriations. MSU-WP was the only public two-year college not to receive equity funding. The University requests that MSU-WP receives the same level of equity funding that State Technical College of Missouri, the only other public two-year college in Missouri that is not a community college, received during the past two years—\$833,979.

Should public two-year colleges receive equity funding in fiscal year 2018, the University requests that MSU-WP receives its share of such funding.

Decision Item 04: Mental Health Initiatives

To-Be-Determined

Should funds be available for mental health initiatives, the University requests an equitable share of funds to support the following types of initiatives:

Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis - Funds will be used to increase the number of graduates of the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis program. These professionals are needed to provide intervention services for individuals with learning, emotional, or developmental disabilities.

Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology - Funds will be used to create a Mental Health Scholars program for Speech Language Pathology students to increase the number of graduates who are interested in working in a mental health setting.

Nursing - Funds will be used to improve the mental health knowledge and skills of all students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. A Mental Health Scholars certificate will be awarded to students who choose to complete the equivalent of nine credit hours of focused mental health training.

Master of Occupational Therapy - Funds will be used to enhance the preparation of all students in the Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) program and create a Mental Health Scholars program to increase the number of MOT graduates who are interested in working in a mental health setting.

Doctor of Physical Therapy - Funds will be used to increase the interprofessional mental health preparation for all students in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program by creating integrated clinical experiences focused on developmental disabilities. Scholarships will be offered to those who are interested in completing specialized clinical internships in a mental health setting.

Debt Offset Tax Authority

\$300,000

This represents the current amount the University receives for the tax refund offset appropriation.

Missouri Returning Heroes Act

\$541,552

The University is requesting additional appropriations equivalent to tuition waived in FY2009 through FY2016 for the Missouri Returning Heroes Education Act. This act limits the amount of tuition charged to combat veterans who meet certain criteria but provides that institutions may request the tuition waived in the following year's appropriation request. Since the request was not funded in previous years, all years are included. Based on the most recent data available, 169 unduplicated students have benefited from this program.