Grand Valley State University
Digital Learning Center

Construct active learning classrooms, teaching labs, faculty offices, and student study spaces for digital learning

Design and construction of a new building

Digital learning across the curriculum

Due to significant investment by employers in computer based systems, digital learning at all levels is critical. All employees in every sector at all levels need a deep understanding of digital systems. In particular, information security has become a priority for data companies, hospitals, and private industries. Computer based employees are in high demand currently with expectation of increasing need.

GVSU is an academic institution whose growth in digital and computer information training fields has increased dramatically to meet the local employment market.

Yes, this is a stand alone facility. It will be connected to an existing University funded building so utility resources can be shared and avoid some duplication of services.
How does the project support investment in or adaptive re-purposing of existing facilities and infrastructure?
Not applicable

Does the project address or mitigate any current health/safety deficiencies relative to existing facilities? If yes, please explain.
No, not applicable

How does the institution measure utilization of its existing facilities, and how does it compare relative to established benchmarks for educational facilities? How does the project help to improve the utilization of existing space and infrastructure, or conversely how does current utilization support the need for additional space and infrastructure?
New structure use will exceed the established benchmarks; existing buildings, which house these programs, exceeds 70% utilization and are used 7 days per week

How does the institution intend to integrate sustainable design principles to enhance the efficiency and operations of the facility?
GVSU has established LEED Silver as a minimum goal. We have 24 LEED certified buildings, which represent nearly 30% of GVSU operated space.

Are match resources currently available for the project? If yes, what is the source of the match resources? If no, identify the intended source and the estimated timeline for securing said resources.
The land is University owned, matching resources will come from a combination of Campus Development Fund and University Donor Funds.

If authorized for construction, the state typically provides a maximum of 75% of the total cost for university projects and 50% of the total cost for community college projects. Does the institution intend to commit additional resources that would reduce the state share from the amounts indicated? If so, by what amount?
GVSU, as in recent projects, will provide funding in excess of the $30 million State funding cap.

Will the completed project increase operating costs to the institution? If yes, please provide an estimated cost (annually, and over a five-year period) and indicate whether the institution has identified available funds to support the additional cost.
Yes, estimated operating costs for 5 years is expected to be $744,188 (based on 2019 adjusted dollars). Funding is available for the operations and maintenance of the proposed building.

What impact, if any, will the project have on tuition costs?
GVSU tuition will not increase as a result of this building coming on line.

If this project is not authorized, what are the impacts to the institution and its students?
Students interested in this programming will be unable to enroll in the expanding programs, and students will be deprived of adequate space to train and study.

What alternatives to this project were considered? Why is the requested project preferable to those alternatives?
Without the proposed space, the University will not have the academic classrooms and lab space for the expanding program. There is no space at the Allendale campus which could support this proposed program expansion. Some space located in 1960 era buildings could be made available, but the electrical and mechanical systems of those spaces are not suited for the proposed use. Where possible the University has converted single classrooms to the proposed new use, however these conversions tax the existing electrical and mechanical system of the exiting buildings.