



Lake Area Technical College Trades Center

One-Time Funding Proposal

South Dakota Board of Technical Education

\\ January 23, 2026



INDUSTRY DEMAND

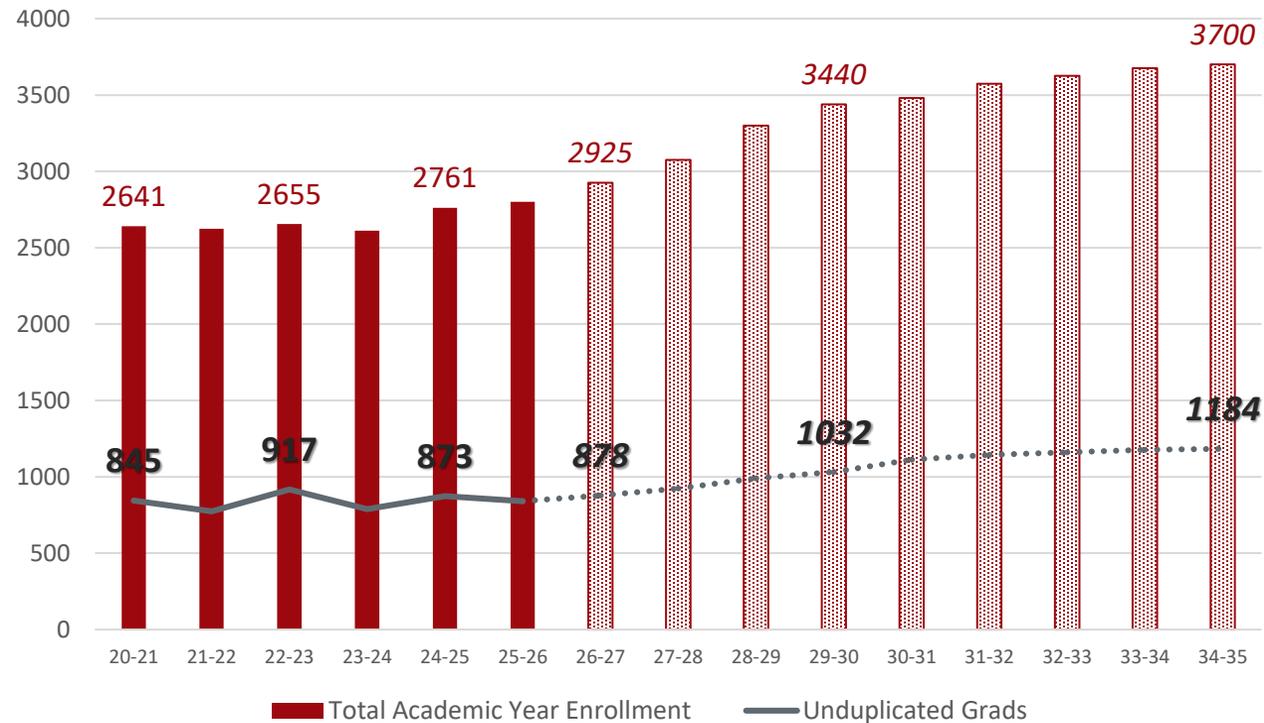
System Priorities: ALIGNMENT & ATTAINMENT



LATC PROJECTIONS

SMART GROWTH IN RESPONSE TO INDUSTRY NEEDS

Lake Area Tech Graduates & Enrollments



UNMET PROGRAMMING NEEDS

3 POTENTIAL NEW PROGRAMS AT LATC:

1. Industrial Refrigeration
2. Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC)
3. Water Treatment

HOW DO WE KNOW?

- Watch trends over time – SD & 90-mile radius from Watertown
- Input from businesses
- Scale and growth of industries, wage potential for employees, advancement of technology

UNMET PROGRAMMING NEEDS

In the next 10 years, labor market projections forecast:

↑237

more HVAC
Technicians in SD
(131 in Central &
Northeast SD)

5th

fastest growing
professions in
SD (HVAC &
Refrigeration)

103

openings in
Water Treatment
per year
in SD & 0 tech
college programs

17.8%

growth in
SD professionals
needed for
these trades

New training facilities are necessary to develop the skilled professionals able to meet the demands of growing & changing industry requirements.

Source: Lightcast Labor Market Research (Jan 2026)

2035 LATC MASTER CAMPUS PLAN

Phase 1: ADD TRADES CENTER &
CENTRALIZE STUDENT SERVICES



2035 MASTER CAMPUS PLAN

The plan is designed with **THREE BROAD GOALS** in mind:

1. **Grow the number of LATC graduates** each year to at least 1,015 in 2030.
2. **Improve programs and facilities to aid in recruitment and retention** of both students and faculty/staff.
3. **Carry forward the momentum** on Lake Area Tech's campus.

These goals can be accomplished through **7 key efforts**:

Phased Projects

1. Student Center Updates & Cold Storage
2. Trades Center
3. Public Safety Training Center
4. Improved Campus Edges, Entrances & Parking
5. Program Hubs

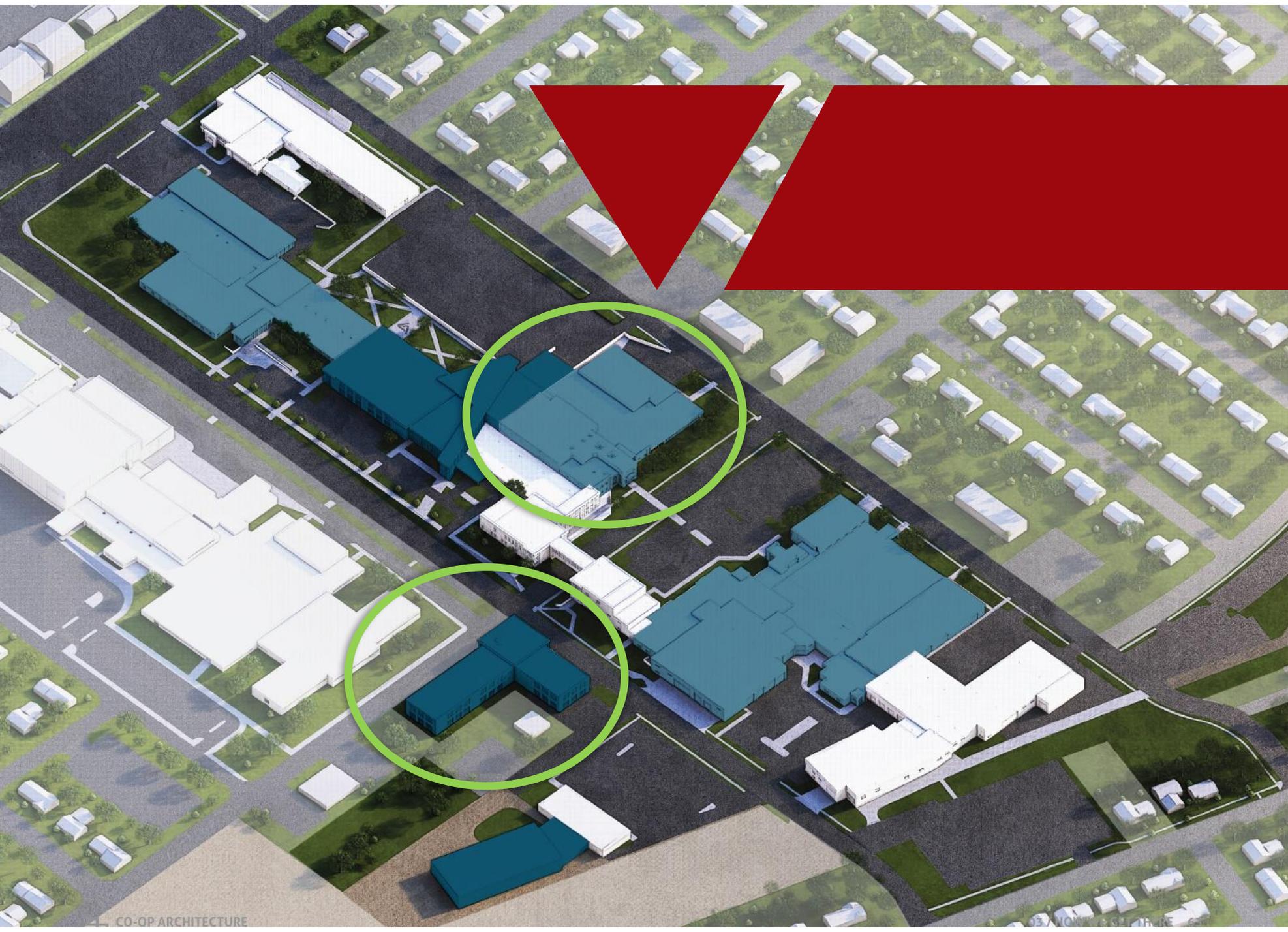
Independent Projects

1. Aviation Center
2. Student Housing Partnerships

April 2025



LATC CAMPUS 2035



PHASE I

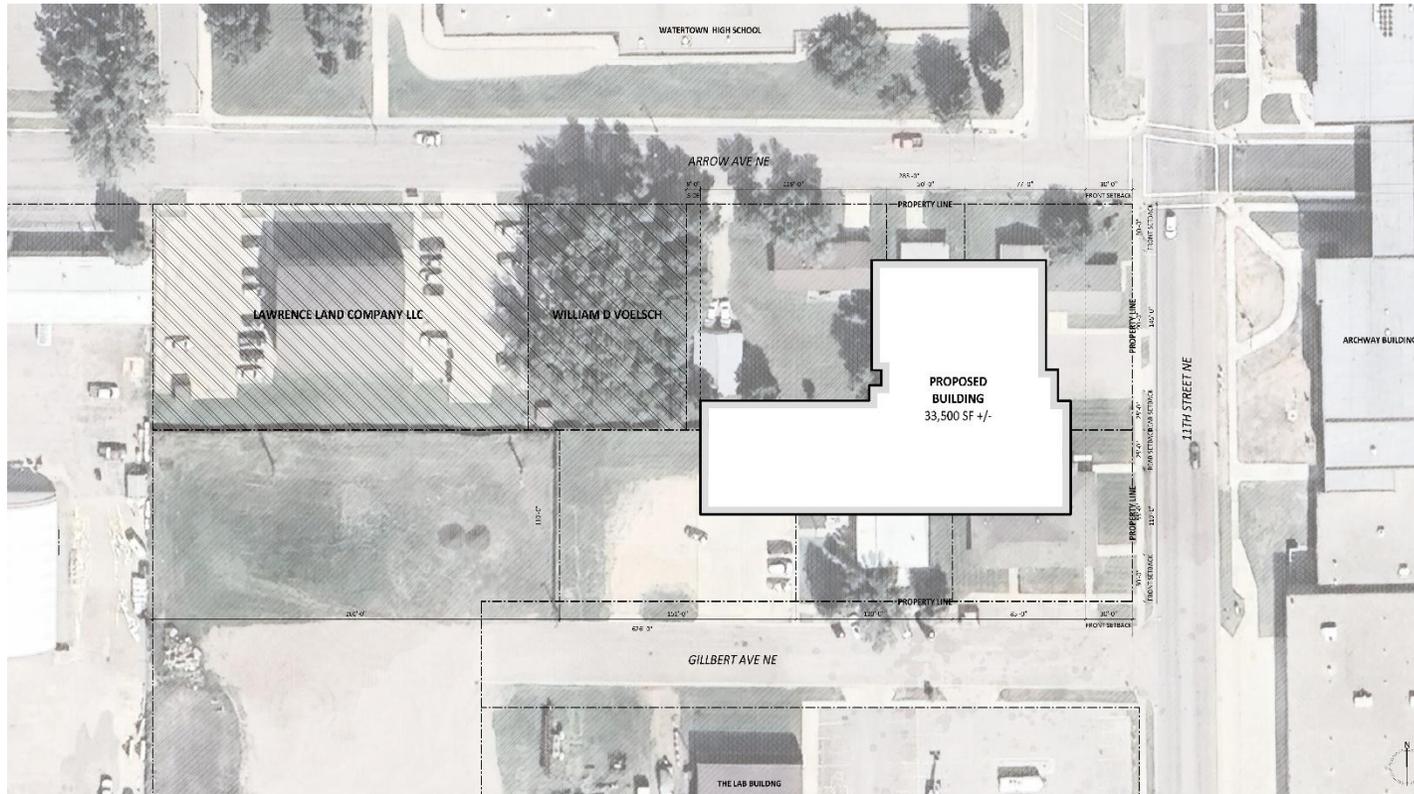
ADD TRADES CENTER



3 POTENTIAL NEW PROGRAMS:

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- Support existing programs (Ex. Energy, Agriculture, Diesel, Robotics)
 - Offer continuing education

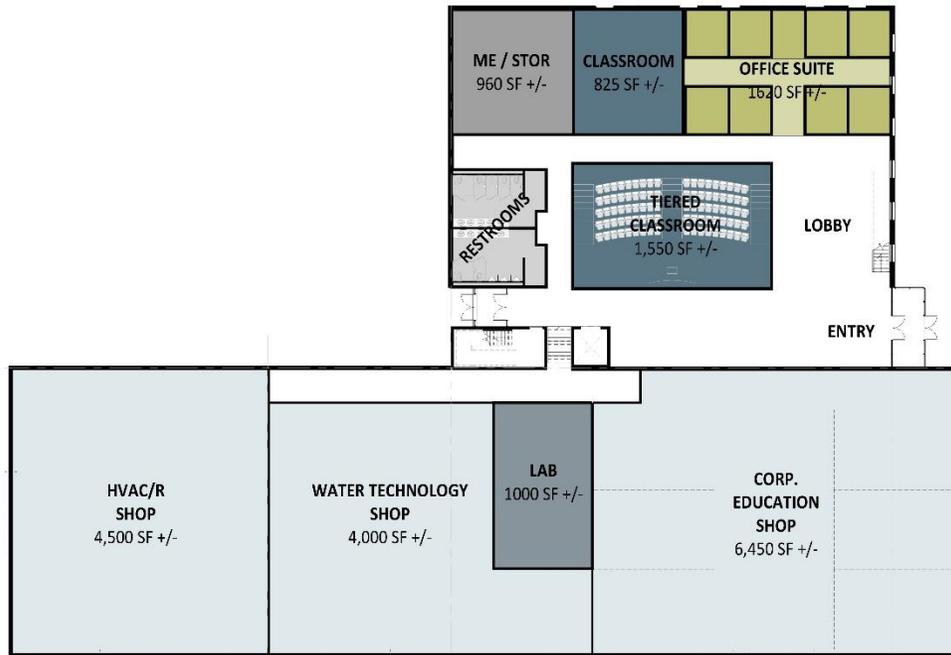
ADD TRADES CENTER



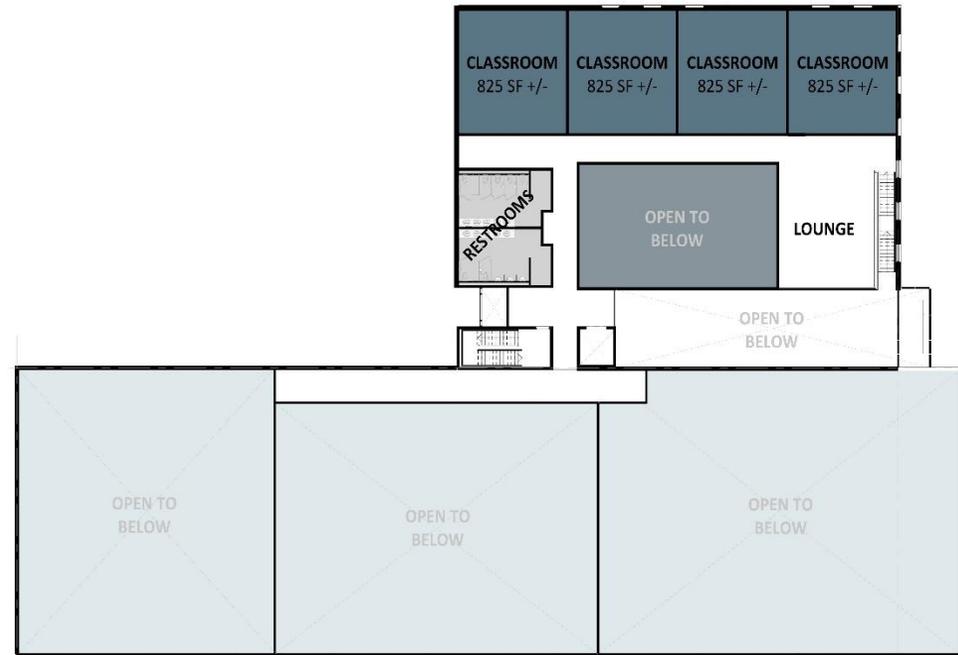
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ADD TRADES CENTER



N
FIRST LEVEL FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"



N
SECOND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

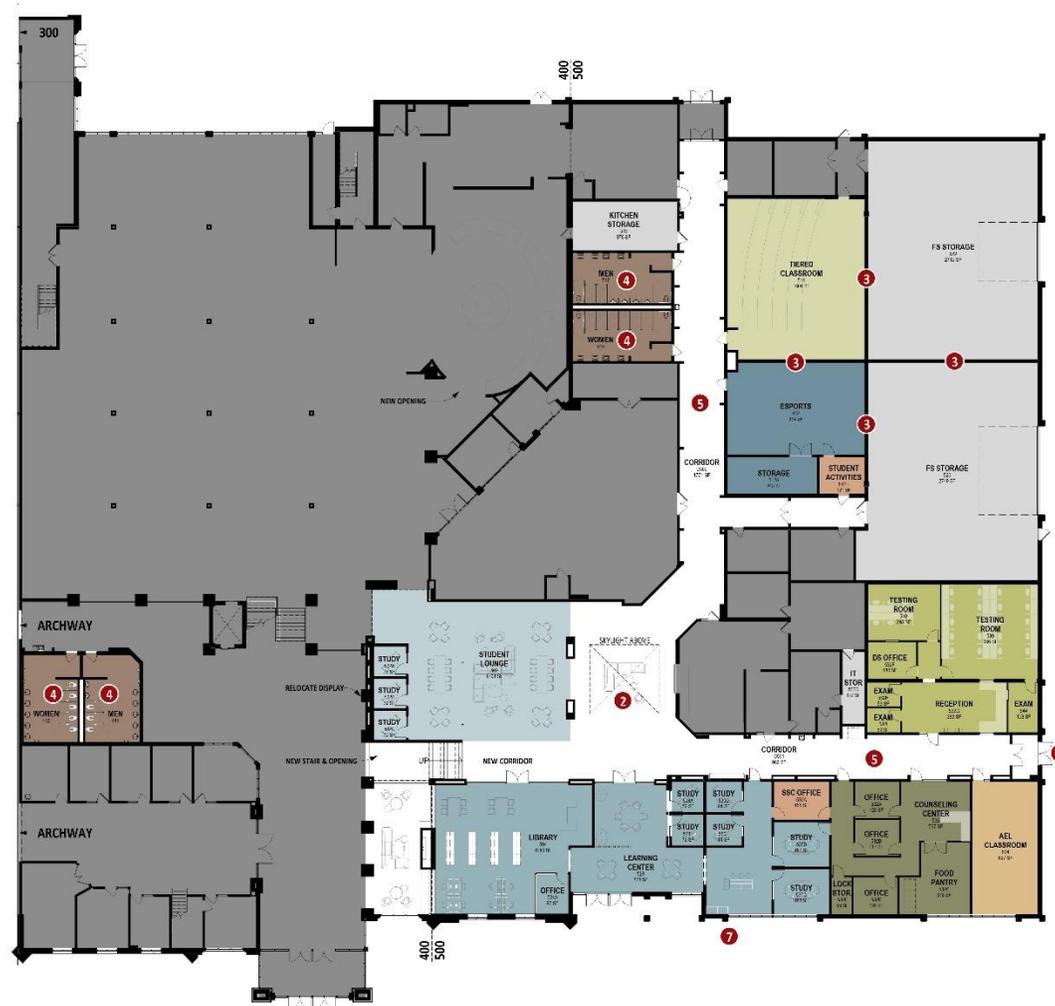
CENTRALIZE STUDENT SERVICES



RENOVATE 400/500 BUILDINGS:

1. Library
2. Tutoring Center & Study Rooms
3. Testing Center
4. Counseling Center
5. Campus Life
6. Adult Education

CENTRALIZE STUDENT SERVICES



PROJECT GOALS:

1. Centralize student services
2. Adjust spaces to reflect projected student body
3. Update spaces to campus standards

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE:

TRADES CENTER

- DESIGN: June – October 2026
(Programs & Building)
- PROGRAM FINALIZATION: October 2026
- BIDDING: November 2026
- CONSTRUCTION: April 2027 – July 2028
- OPEN: Fall 2028

STUDENT CENTER

- DESIGN: April – July 2026
- BIDDING: August 2026
- CONSTRUCTION: September 2026 –
December 2027
- OPEN: January 2028

PROPOSED FUNDS

System Priority: AFFORDABILITY



PROPOSED FUNDING MODEL

NO BURDEN | NO DEBT | WINS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

TOTAL EST. COST = \$16.69 M

Add Trades Center = \$12.1 M

Centralize Student Services = \$4.59 M



PROPOSED FUNDING MODEL

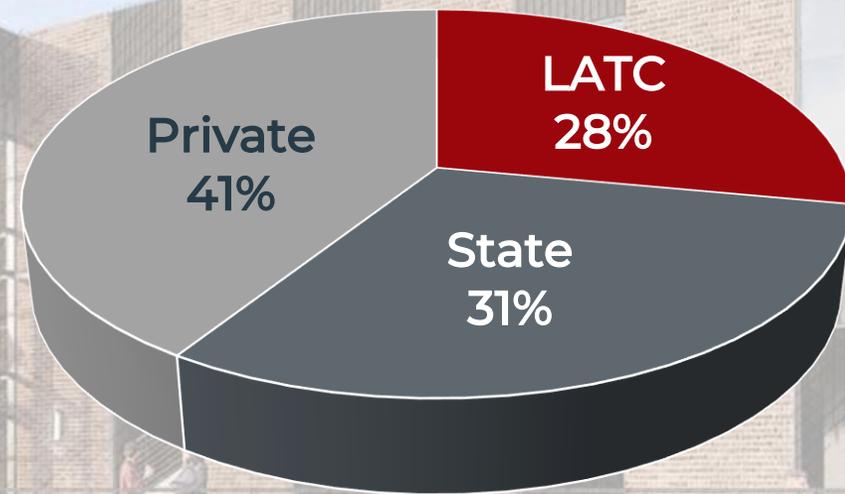
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TOTAL EST. COST = \$16.69 M

LATC Investment = \$4.59 million

Private Investments = \$6.9 million

Proposed State Special Appropriation =
\$5.2 million





THANK YOU