Western
Technical College

2025 — 2028 THREE-YEAR FACILITIES PLAN

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SUBMITTED TO:
Wisconsin Technical College System Board
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Section 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025-2028, Western Technical College anticipates making capital expenditures of $3,000,000 for new or additional buildings and $4,200,000 for remodeling existing buildings.

There is a growing need for short-term (one year or less) programs that students can quickly finish to earn a college certificate or diploma. Students can enter the workforce quickly, with greater earning potential and career progression. These credits are transferable to associate and bachelor's degrees, allowing graduates to continue their training.

Western is developing program clusters to reflect the way several occupations interact in the workplace. The programs working together authentically in the classroom will teach students an understanding of the process. This will also allow Western to offer common core coursework for multiple programs efficiently.

Western is developing high school academies focusing on exploratory opportunities for grades 5–8 and credit opportunities for local high school students in grades 10–12. Academies serve a broad range of STEM opportunities, including manufacturing, electronics, IT, and building systems.

Major projects contemplated during this planning period include:

1. Sparta Public Safety Training Facility Simulation City
2. Sparta Public Safety Training Facility Walking/Running Path
3. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Tomah Regional Campus
4. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the Parking Ramp
5. Parking Lot K Renovations
6. Residence Hall Remodel (Phase I of II)
7. Relocate The Space to the Kumm Center
8. Administrative Center Masonry Restoration
9. Integrated Technology Center Cooling System Upgrade
10. Tomah Roof Replacement
11. Coleman Center Fire Alarm Upgrade
12. Automotive Technology Facility Footprint (Phase II of II)
13. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Black River Falls Regional Campus
14. Parking Ramp Maintenance
15. Kumm Center Solar Expansion
16. Residence Hall Remodel (Phase II of II)
17. Parking Lot Maintenance
18. Kumm Center Diagnostic Medical Sonography Lab

Western Technical College's process for planning facilities is a multi-stage procedure using a committee system. The process and facility projects are driven by the Strategic Directions and Personal and Organizational Commitments, essential features of Western's Strategic Plan, *Experience 2025*.

Any staff member, student, or administrator may propose projects. The Physical Plant evaluates all proposals to establish a cost estimate and technical feasibility. Next, the Facilities Planning Group proceeds through the first round of discussion. If approved, it will be moved forward to the Budget and Facilities Subcommittee for review. Once reviewed and if recommended, the subcommittee will bring it forth to the District Board. Finally, the District Board votes on projects as part of the three-year facilities plan.

Project proposals that deal with instructional requirements are chiefly studied and guided through the process by instructors, department heads, deans, and the vice president of academic affairs.

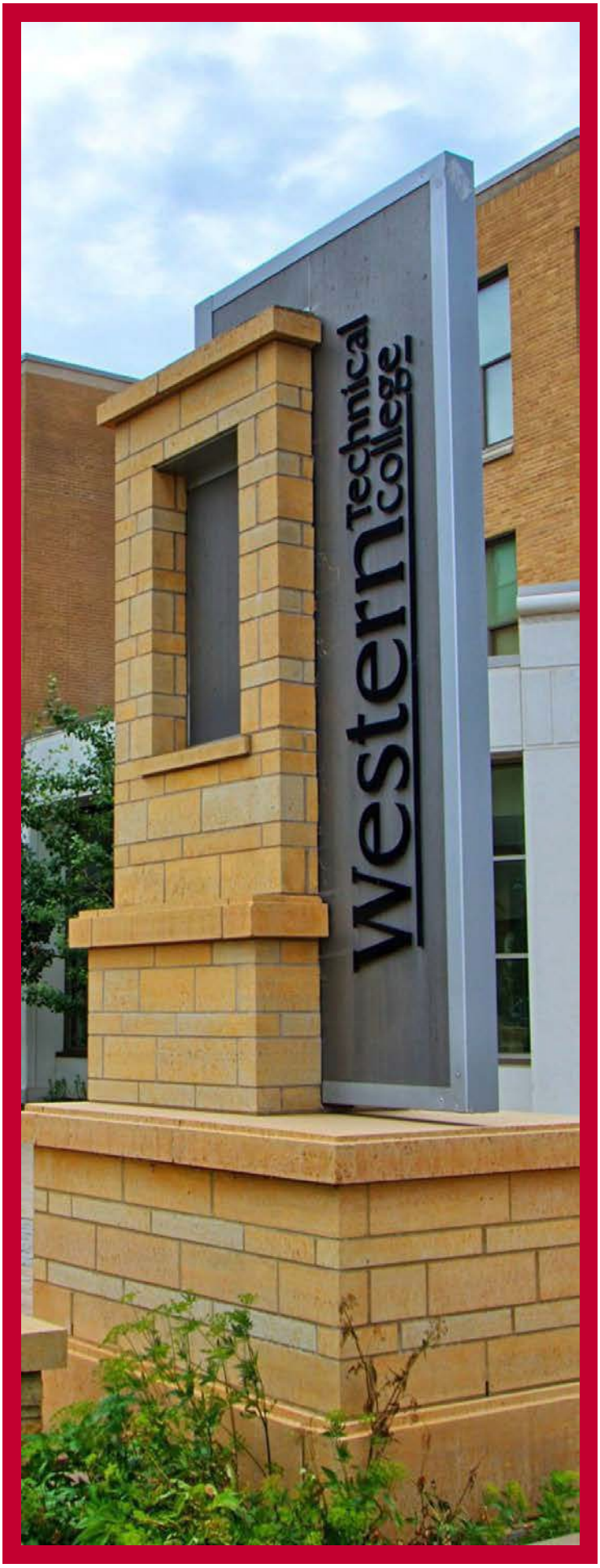
Project proposals that deal with infrastructure upgrades, elimination of safety hazards, and compliance issues are chiefly studied and moved through the process by staff members, the facilities project manager, the facilities director, and the vice president of finance and operations.

Western has developed a process whereby the roof of each building is replaced on a systematic basis. A specific schedule was established to identify the timing to replace each specific roof.

Project proposals that deal with new initiatives or cooperation with local communities or divisions of government are chiefly initiated by the college president. Appropriate division staff and administrators study and move the proposal through the process as necessary.

All projects listed in this plan are subject to change. The district board's approval of this plan does not guarantee that each project will happen. The Western Technical College board and, in certain situations, the Wisconsin Technical College System board require further approvals of individual projects.

Western needs to be nimble to respond quickly to the community's needs; some capital project needs may quickly arise that were unknown when the three-year facilities plan was approved. It is allowable for Western to move forward with those projects even though they were not included in the three-year plan. However, individual approvals noted above would still be needed.



Section 2

EXISTING FACILITIES

Owned Facilities

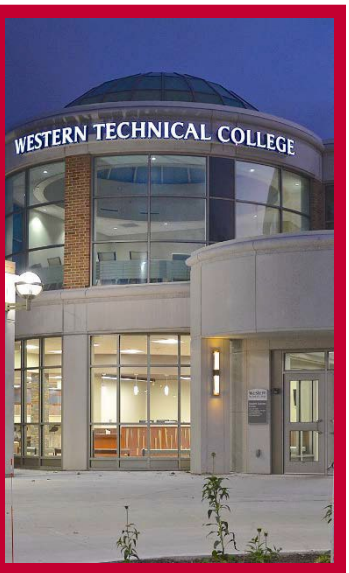
- Student Success Center
- Western Residence Hall
- Administrative Center
- Parking Ramp
- Integrated Technology Center
- Lunda Center
- Automotive Facility
- Truck & Heavy Equipment Facility
- Business Education Center
- Black River Falls Regional Location
- Coleman Center
- Independence Regional Location
- Center for Childhood Education
- Mauston Regional Location
- Sparta Public Safety Training Facility
- Kumm Center
- Tomah Regional Location
- Physical Plant
- Viroqua Regional Location
- Apprenticeship and Industry Training Center
- Horticulture Education Center

Leased Facilities

- Morrow Home Community
- La Crosse Diocese Gymnasium
- Health Science Center

The La Crosse campus consists of 16 buildings located in three areas of the city. The majority of the buildings are located downtown on the main campus. The Automotive Technology and the Truck and Heavy Equipment Technology Facilities are located in the city's Industrial Park. The Health Science Center is located five blocks directly east of the downtown campus. The Apprenticeship and Industry Training Center is located behind the Marcus Movie Theater on Ward Avenue. Following are descriptions of each of these facilities:

1. **Student Success Center**: Located at 716 Badger Street, this two-story masonry building was constructed in 1994. An addition was completed in 2008. This front door to the college covers 62,553 square feet. Here, you will find the Welcome Center services, the Campus Shop (bookstore), the Learner Support and Transition Division (GOAL, GED, and ELL), Assessment Services, student support areas, including Disability Services, Learning Commons (Library), Career Services, Community Engagement, Sustainability, general classrooms, and conference rooms. Skywalks connect this facility with the Wanek Center of Innovation and the Integrated Technology Center. In 2018, the college renovated the Veteran Military Center and the Learning Commons; in 2019, the remainder of the building was remodeled to create an open and accessible space.



Student Success Center

2. **Administrative Center**: Located at 111 7th Street North, this five-story masonry structure was purchased in 1971. The building is 41,757 square feet and was remodeled in 1983, 1993, 1996, 2010, and 2011. It houses the Wellness Center (fitness), gymnasium, District Board room, computer lab, and administrative offices for Human Resources, the President and Vice Presidents, Marketing and Communications, and Planning and Organizational Excellence, Payroll, and Business Services.

3. **Integrated Technology Center**: Located at 717 Vine Steet, this four-story masonry building was constructed in 1975, with the second floor added in 1994. The building was previously 55,414 square feet. The newly remodeled building has a total of 127,287 square feet. The primary goal of the Integrated Technology Center's design was the ability to use the building as a lab, reduce environmental impact, and create a space for world-class instruction. Additionally, programs of the same cluster were located closer together to increase synergies between programs. The extensive remodel of the first two floors, and the addition of two floors included rigorous efforts to increase energy savings and reduce the use of materials intended for landfills. The building is certified as LEED Platinum. This facility includes the Integrated Technology Division office and the following program areas: Agri-Business Science Technology; Architectural Technology; Automation Systems Technology; Building Construction and Cabinetmaking; Building Science & Energy Management; CNC; CAD Technician; Electromechanical Maintenance Technician; Electronic & Computer Engineering Technology; Farm Business & Production Management; Industrial Machine Controls; Landscape Horticulture Technician; Manufacturing Systems Maintenance Technician; Mechanical Design Technology; Precision Machining & Programming; Refrigeration, Air Conditioning & Heating Service Technician, Robotic Welding & Fabrication Specialist; Solar Installation Technician; and Welding & Fabrication. There are also 33 full-time faculty offices, nine adjunct faculty touch-down spaces, a faculty lounge, five computer labs, five lecture rooms, one distance learning room, 31 distinctive lab spaces, a green roof, and a living wall of plants. Additionally, many of the building's mechanical systems are exposed to facilitate student learning. The third floor includes a donor-funded robotics lab. The fourth floor includes a physics lab, a fusion lab, a pre-engineering classroom, and space for K-12 academies. The academy space focuses on exploratory opportunities with 5th to 8th graders and credit opportunities for sophomores through seniors from local high schools. Academies may serve a broad range of STEM opportunities, including manufacturing, electronics, IT, and building systems.

Integrated Technology Center

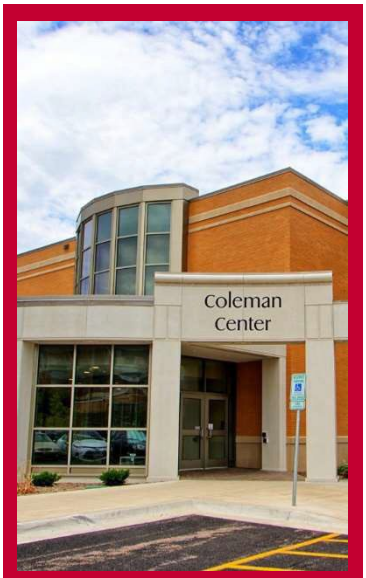
This area allows for future partnerships with four-year universities to provide full baccalaureate engineering completion on-site.

4. **Vehicle Technology Center.** The Vehicle Technology Center is home to the Automotive Technology Facility and the Truck and Heavy Equipment Facility. These one-story masonry and concrete buildings were purchased in 2003. Both buildings house faculty offices, general and specialty classrooms, a technical library, repair bays, labs, locker rooms, and storage areas. Located at 2721 Larson Street, the Automotive Facility is 39,771 square feet. This building was remodeled in 2007. In 2025, a fourth training bay was added, the main entrance, office area, and classrooms were renovated, and the exterior façade was updated. Located at 2719 Larson Street, the Truck and Heavy Equipment Facility is 51,162 square feet. A new addition to the Truck and Heavy Equipment Facility was completed with referendum funding in the summer of 2014. This building also has 75 kW solar arrays. In 2022, the exterior of the Truck and Heavy Equipment Facility was remodeled to align with the 2014 Truck and Heavy Equipment Annex to lower maintenance and repair costs and improve the building envelope's visual identity and energy efficiency. The interior was renovated to create a state-of-the-art integrated instructional space better aligned with industry expectations and projected job growth and to promote First Choice Service. A 3,168-square-foot expansion was added to provide an additional bay with another five trucks for instruction.

5. **Wanek Center of Innovation:** Located at 744 Badger Street, this two-story brick building covers an area of 52,870 square feet and has the potential for two additional floors of expansion. It was built in 1973 and underwent remodeling during the summers of 2013 and 2017. In 2025, the building was renovated to accommodate the Advanced Manufacturing laboratories. The project is a collaborative investment, with most of the project funded by a donor to transform the facility. The center also houses the Business and Industry Division, which promotes workforce growth through professional development and skills enhancement. The lower level of the building is home to the Information Networking Media Services (INMS) service counter and office complex.

6. **Center for Childhood Education**: Located at 419 9th Street North, this one-story wood-frame structure was constructed in 1980, with an addition in 2000. The building is 9,801 square feet and houses Early Childhood Education and Foundations of Teacher Education classrooms. The facility includes a 9,801-square-foot fenced play area and storage garage. Western leases space to the YWCA for childcare services open to Western employees, students, and the public. Full- or part-time care is provided for children ages six weeks to five years old. Western students have the opportunity for experiential learning in this childcare setting.

7. **Coleman Center**: Located at 617 Vine Street, this three-story brick/masonry structure was constructed in five phases from 1923 to 1991. Then, in 2013, referendum funding allowed for a significant two-phase renovation. Phase one was completed in May 2015, and phase two in August 2016. The building is 184,909 square feet, including the Lunda Center.



Coleman Center

This building contains a Security office and 21 general-purpose classrooms for General Studies and the Business Division, Graphics, Early Childhood, Instructional Assistant, and Digital Technology. Six of the classrooms have computers at each student station. The building also features student sticky space, faculty and adjunct offices with a lounge, numerous conference rooms, a computer lab with approximately 21-24 stations, a mother's room, and office space for Western's Foundation and Alumni Association, Grants, Institutional Research, as well as Academic Excellence and Development.

8. **Lunda Center**: Located on the La Crosse campus at 333 7th Street North, the Lunda Center is a professional meeting and learning facility ideal for corporate and community meetings, conferences, and seminars. The Lunda Center is included in the Coleman Center's square footage.

9. **Health Science Center**: Located at 1300 Badger Street, this six-story concrete frame and masonry building was completed in August 2000. In 2025, a space was remodeled to accommodate a dental laboratory. Western occupies approximately 45,000 gross square feet and houses programs of the Health and Public Safety division, research labs, student health clinic, La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium (LMHSC) offices, and several University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (UWL) and Gundersen Health System departments. It is located on 4.15 acres, has an adjacent parking lot for 97 vehicles, and has a paved drop-off lane/area. This building is approximately five blocks east of the main campus. In 2020, ownership of the building was transferred from the state to the LMHSC.

10. **Kumm Center**: Located at 411 7th Street North, this five-story masonry structure was constructed in 1969. The building is 109,128 square feet and was remodeled in 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2001, 2010, and 2011, and a referendum-funded remodeling project was completed in the spring of 2017. The building houses the Health and Public Safety Division office and space for Central Service Tech, EMT, Health Information Technology, Medical Assistant, Medical Coding, Nursing, Respiratory Therapist, Surgical Therapist, and Culinary programs. Also, there are Student Life and Student Government offices, The SPACE (The Student Place of Action, Culture, and Empowerment), the Union Market, and a student lounge. The building had 11 classrooms, totaling 310 student stations, and 17 shops/labs, totaling 366 student stations.

11. **Physical Plant**: The 11,317-square-foot Physical Plant facility located at 505 9th Street North was originally constructed in 1992 and underwent two minor renovations in 1998 and 2000. The building underwent an interior renovation in 2022 that optimized the layout to utilize the existing space better. The scope of the project included updating storage systems, refining utilization of vehicle storage space, improving line of sight, renovating restrooms, aligning the safety and security systems with campus standards, an improved staff lounge, energy efficient lighting upgrades throughout, upgraded/more manageable to maintain finishes, space for an Emergency Operations Center "hot" room, and improved Wi-Fi/data network.

12. **Western Residence Hall**: Located at 820 La Crosse Street, this six-story, 73,429 square-foot structure was built in 2009-2010, with occupancy beginning in August 2010. The college partnered with a developer to build and lease the facility until December 2013, when the college purchased it. The residence hall houses 200 students in 50 four-person suites. There are two student lounges, a full kitchen, a front desk, laundry facilities, and a large meeting room. A private, full apartment is in the building for the live-in professional staff person. The adjacent parking lot contains 115 paved parking stalls designated for the residence hall.

Residence Hall

13. **Parking**: The total amount of off-street parking is approximately 1,150 stalls. The new parking ramp, completed in August 2014, accounts for 292 of the 1,150 stalls. The Coleman Center parking lot, completed in the fall of 2016, has 52 stalls. The remodeling of parking lots E, F, H, and L accounts for the remainder of the off-street parking stalls. There are approximately 301 street spaces available within four blocks of the campus. Some street parking numbers have been reduced as 8th Street was narrowed, and others have been changed to specially designated parking. Maintenance of parking lots is completed on an as-needed basis and included in the respective year's remodeling category. Effective May 2019, the City of La Crosse has implemented a pay-for-parking program, which includes some of these street spaces. The Automotive Technology Facility and Truck and Heavy Equipment Technology Facility in the city's Industrial Park have a dedicated parking lot with approximately 107 spaces. Western continues to offer free bus rides using the City MTU and the SMRT bus service from the following areas: Prairie du Chien, Sparta, Tomah, Viroqua, and West Salem. The Apple Express bus provides service from La Crescent, Minn.

14. **Apprenticeship and Industry Training Center**: Located at 2860 21st Place South, La Crosse. The Western Technical College Foundation originally purchased this 22,437-square-foot, one-story metal building. The former manufacturing testing facility was extensively renovated in 2014 for the welding, fabrication, and apprenticeship programs to continue during the referendum-funded campus-wide renovations. Welding and Fabrication programs moved to the Integrated Technology Center, allowing for two new programs, YouthBuild and Business and Industry Training, to move into the current building. The following Apprenticeship programs are now utilizing the space: Construction Electrician, Industrial Electrician, Maintenance Mechanic Millwright, Maintenance Technician, Plumbing, and Steamfitter. In 2020, the building was remodeled to create state-of-the-art instructional spaces. These new spaces align better with industry expectations and projected growth. The new spaces include an additional computer lab, additional offices for instructors and adjunct instructors, additional parking, a dedicated welding lab for contract training, and plumbing and electrical labs that provide hands-on practice through installation. The facility maintains a flexible learning space capable of accommodating future programming in automation, construction, or any other need.


Apprenticeship and Industry Training Center

15. **Horticulture Education Center**: Located at 624 Vine Street, this 11,121 square foot facility was completed in 2015 (Headhouse 3,467 square feet, Greenhouse 7,654 square feet) allows access to Western programs, including Landscape Horticulture, Culinary, and Science. Western, GROWLa Crosse, and Mayo Clinic Health System-Franciscan Healthcare have developed a unique partnership with this facility to promote healthy eating habits and foster education about gardening, agriculture, and sustainable practices.


Horticulture Education Center

Owned Facilities at Regional Locations

Black River Falls: Located at 24 Fillmore Street, this 20,686 square foot single-story facility houses general classrooms, three distance learning classrooms, a distance learning conference room, two computer labs, Learner Support and Transition classrooms, a Nursing Lab and classroom, a student resource room, student lounge, large classroom, staffing offices, computer testing area, and the Workforce Connections office. Paved parking for 73 vehicles is adjacent to the building. This location also includes 14kW solar arrays.

Black River Falls

Independence: Located at 36084 Walnut Street, this single-story facility was constructed in 1979 and remodeled in 1995. An addition was completed in 2005. The building is 12,277 square feet and is on a five-acre site. The building houses general classrooms, three distance-learning classrooms, a distance-learning conference room, a computer lab, Learner Support and Transition classrooms, a health classroom, a student resource room, a student lounge, a large classroom, a testing area, the Workforce Connections office, and staff offices. Adjacent to the building is a utility storage building and a paved parking lot for 40 vehicles. This location also includes 10.44 kW solar arrays.

Mauston: Located at 1000 College Avenue, this single-story masonry building was constructed in 1994, and an addition was built in 1997. The building is 24,309 square feet on a 7-acre site. It contains general classrooms, three distance learning classrooms, two computer labs, Learner Support and Transition classrooms, a nursing lab and classrooms, a student resource room, a student lounge, a large classroom, staff offices, and the Workforce Connections office. Adjacent to the building is a paved parking lot for 90 vehicles and a small garage.

Sparta: Located at 11177 County Road A, this two-story masonry structure was completed in 1994. It is 47,490 square feet on a 168-acre site. The existing facility contains five standard classrooms, a forensic lab, a 32-station computer lab, offices, a large seminar room that accommodates up to 100 people, a full kitchen, and a large four-stall garage, which includes training props for confined space and toilet/shower rooms. The facility features a number of specialized training props/features, including a paved EVOC track and five outdoor firing ranges, a six-station indoor firing range, and a four-story burn tower. In 2018, a 5,400-square-foot storage facility was added to support the Burn Tower. The indoor firing range was completed in the summer of 2019. In 2021, the building was remodeled to create a state-of-the-art integrated instructional space better aligned with industry expectations and projected growth. The interior remodel included additional classrooms that can be configured into one large space, a flexible lecture space, an expanded weight room, additional offices for instructors and adjunct faculty, dedicated EMS classrooms, and storage. The exterior renovations provided an improved visual identity with a more identifiable Western Technical College entrance, lower maintenance and repair costs, and energy efficiency of the building envelope. The expansion included a 3,920-square-foot extension of the second floor and a 570-square-foot expansion of the fire bay.

Tomah: Located at 120 East Milwaukee Street, this three-story masonry building was constructed in 1990 and purchased by Western in 2009. In 2024, part of the basement was remodeled to accommodate an industrial lab. The building is 22,765 square feet on a .66-acre site in the center of the City of Tomah. The building houses general classrooms, three distance-learning classrooms, one distance-learning conference room, two computer labs, Learner Support and Transition classrooms, a health classroom, a student resource room, a student lounge, a large classroom, a computer testing area, Workforce Connections, and staff offices. There is paved parking for 108 vehicles.

Viroqua: Located at 220 South Main Street, this single-story masonry building was acquired and remodeled in 1994. Phase I of the two-phase project was completed in 2013. The second phase was completed in the spring of 2016. The building is 30,110 square feet and houses general classrooms, three distance-learning classrooms, one distance-learning conference room, two computer labs, Learner Support and Transition classrooms, a Nursing Lab and classroom, a student resource room, a pod room, a student lounge, large classroom, computer testing area, staff offices, Workforce Connections, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), and Viroqua Chamber/Partner office space. Western also constructed a new shared entry between the college and the McIntosh Memorial Library. Paved parking for 50 vehicles is adjacent to the building.

Viroqua

Location	Occupancy	Construction/ Protection	Total Building Sq. Ft.	Building Value
716 Badger Street	Student Success Center	Two-story masonry	62,553	$23,370,061
111 7th Street North	Administrative Center	Four-story brick, plus a lower level	41,757	$15,112,760
717 Vine Street	Integrated Technology Center	Four-story masonry and concrete	127,287	$43,452,630
2721 Larson Street	Automotive Facility	One-story masonry	39,771	$11,006,190
2719 Larson Street	Truck and Heavy Equipment Technology Facility	One-story masonry	51,162	$14,421,193
744 Badger Street	Wanek Center of Innovation	Two-story brick	52,870	$17,448,210
419 Ninth Street North	Center for Childhood Education	One-story wood and masonry	9,801	$2,257,970
617 Vine Street	Coleman Center (including Lunda Center)	Three-story brick	184,909	$60,126,820
411 7th Street	Kumm Center	Four-story brick and concrete, plus a lower level	109,128	$35,290,190
505 9th Street North	Physical Plant	One-story masonry	11,317	$1,836,250
725 Badger Street	Parking Ramp	Three-story precast concrete	95,390	$6,059,500
820 La Crosse Street	Western Residence Hall	Six-story plus basement, metal and masonry	73,429	$26,964,990
24 Fillmore Street	Black River Falls Regional Location	One-story masonry	20,686	$7,015,320
36084 Walnut Street	Independence Regional Location	One-story wood and masonry	12,277	$3,282,371
1000 College Avenue	Mauston Regional Location	One-story masonry	24,309	$6,361,290
11177 County Road A	Sparta Public Safety Training Facility	Two-story wood and masonry	47,490	$13,674,440
120 East Milwaukee Street	Tomah Regional Location	Three-story masonry, plus basement	22,765	$7,894,120
220 South Main Street	Viroqua Regional Location	One-story masonry	30,110	9,436,180
624 Vine Street	Horticulture Education Center	CMU and steel construction	11,121	$4,123,990
2860 21st Place South	Apprenticeship and Industry Training Center	One-story metal	22,437	$7,416,370
1300 Badger Street	Health Science Center (Western's space)	Six-story masonry	45,000	N/A
Grand Total			1,095,569	$316,550,845

Long-Range La Crosse Campus Boundary Map

In June 2010, the college developed the Vision 2020 Facilities Plan, which was approved by the voters in the November 2012 referendum. The Vision 2020 Facilities Plan included the recommendation that the Long-range La Crosse Campus boundary be adjusted in order to accommodate future growth. The District Board approved an updated campus boundary in 2014 and 2017.

Attached is a copy of the Long-range La Crosse Campus

Boundary map. The Campus Boundary does not indicate imminent action regarding facilities or property acquisition. It is intended to provide long-range direction for future planning.

Section 3

THREE-YEAR PROJECT SUMMARY

2025-2026

Acquisition/Building Construction

1. Sparta Public Safety Training Facility Simulation City: $1.4 million
2. Sparta Public Safety Training Facility Walking/Running Path: $100,000

Remodeling

1. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Tomah Regional Campus: $80,000
2. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the Parking Ramp: $20,000
3. Parking Lot K Renovations: $100,000
4. Residence Hall Remodel (Phase I of II): $750,000
5. Relocate The Space to the Kumm Center: $500,000
6. Administrative Center Masonry Restoration: $100,000
7. Integrated Technology Center Cooling System Upgrade: $200,000
8. Tomah Roof Replacement: $440,000
9. Coleman Center Fire Alarm Upgrade: $30,000

Rentals

1. La Crosse Diocese Gymnasium

Planning for Major Projects for 2025 – 2026

1. Sparta Public Safety Training Facility Simulation City: Western plans to introduce an emergency response course simulating real-world driving scenarios. A Tactical Village will mimic various city structures for training. The program aims to prepare emergency responders for cross-disciplinary scenarios, aligning with the future vision for the Sparta Public Safety Training Center.

2. Sparta Public Safety Training Facility Walking/Running Path: Western would like to add a paved walking and running path, 1 to 1.5 miles long, for year-round use in Public Safety and Training fitness programs. This path will facilitate UTV training and be cleared of snow for winter use.

3. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Tomah Regional Campus and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the Parking Ramp: Electric vehicle charging stations would create additional student transportation opportunities and support the College's 2030 Presidential Climate Commitment and the Resilience/Sustainability plan.

4. Parking Lot K Renovations: Parking Lot K is one of the oldest asphalt Lots on campus, and it needs to be renovated. The renovation plans would include updates to support current campus stormwater and security lighting practices.

5. Residence Hall Remodel Phase I of II: The Western Residence Hall, opened in 2010, requires replacement of its original carpet, paint, appliances, casework, and HVAC units. The 25-year facility plan recommends replacements around the 15-year mark. Phase I entails remodeling half of the apartments.

6. Relocate the SPACE to the First Floor of the Kumm Center: The relocation is strategic to enhance student experiences at Western Technical College. The Student Place of Action, Culture, and Empowerment (SPACE) offers a study area with computers and seating for meetings. It acts as a center for belonging, connecting diverse students through events promoting dialogue. The SPACE offers a relaxation zone for students to recharge and reflect on their identity and culture. Situated in the Kumm Center with the Student Life Office and Student Government, it supports Western's mission to enhance student lives, improve access to involvement, and foster community change on campus and in the community. The Kumm Center also houses the Union Market for convenient dining and Cavalier Arena for ESports, creating a vital student experience in one location.

7. Administrative Center Masonry Restoration: The overall condition of the Administrative Center Masonry requires restoration to maximize the building's useful life.

8. Integrated Technology Center Cooling System Upgrade: The chilled water system at the Integrated Technology Center struggles with humidity and temperature during extreme heat. This project will add a bypass loop, control valves, and sensors to enhance the system. Additionally, the aging water heater will be replaced by utilizing the building's heating system for domestic hot water through piping, controls, valves, and an indirect heat exchanger.

9. Tomah Roof Replacement: This project aligns with the existing roofing plan developed and maintained by Garland Industries, the college's RFP roofing vendor.

10. Coleman Center Fire Alarm System Upgrade: The Coleman Center's fire system, installed in 2009, is nearing the end of its life and should be replaced soon to prevent major issues.

THREE-YEAR PROJECT SUMMARY

2026-2027

Acquisition/Building Construction

1. Automotive Technology Facility Footprint (Phase II of II): $1.5 million

Remodeling

1. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Black River Falls Regional Campus: $80,000
2. Parking Ramp Maintenance: $500,000
3. Kumm Center Solar Expansion: $350,000
4. Residence Hall Remodel (Phase II of II): $750,000
5. Parking Lot Maintenance: $100,000

Rentals

1. La Crosse Diocese Gymnasium

Planning for Major Projects for 2026 – 2027

1. Automotive Technology Facility Footprint (Phase II of II): The vision of the Automotive Center renovation project is to create a state-of-the-art integrated instructional space that is better aligned with industry expectations and job growth projections and promotes First Choice Service. The project includes an expansion of lab and service bays to accommodate larger equipment assembly/disassembly areas, improved acoustics, upgraded infrastructure for upcoming vehicle technologies, improved line of sight for instructors and students, upgraded/easier-to-maintain finishes, and expanded storage. Other work includes aligning the safety and security systems with campus standards.
2. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the Black River Falls Regional Campus: Electric vehicle charging stations would create additional student transportation opportunities and support the College's 2030 Presidential Climate Commitment and the Resilience/Sustainability plan.
3. Parking Ramp Maintenance: This project aligns with the manufacturer's recommendations regarding essential basic maintenance to maximize its useful life.
4. Kumm Center Solar Expansion: Installing solar panels on the roof of Kumm continues the College's practice of onsite electrical generation by utilizing solar energy. The Kumm solar panel installation is similar in scope (output and design) to the proposed system in Black River Falls. This project is mindful of both the College's sustainability practices and the goal of being carbon neutral.
5. Residence Hall Remodel Phase II of II: The Western Residence Hall, opened in 2010, requires replacement of its original carpet, paint, appliances, casework, and HVAC units. The 25-year facility plan recommends replacements around the 15-year mark. Phase II entails remodeling the remaining half of the apartments.
6. Parking Lot Maintenance: This project aligns with the existing seal coat and striping plan to maintain campus parking lots.

THREE-YEAR PROJECT SUMMARY

2027-2028

Acquisition/Building Construction

N/A

Remodeling

1. Kumm Center Diagnostic Medical Sonography Lab: $100,000

Rentals

1. La Crosse Diocese Gymnasium

Planning for Major Projects for 2027 – 2028

1. Kumm Center Diagnostic Medical Sonography Lab: Diagnostic sonography technician (ultrasound) programs are in demand across most healthcare organizations and clinics in our area, yet we do not offer this program. This profession is growing, with strong job opportunities and competitive pay for newcomers. Sonography is linked to radiography, which we provide, but requires a separate two-year associate degree. Starting this program could benefit Western and help us support our healthcare partners. Both local healthcare providers and students have expressed interest in establishing the program, as the nearest option is currently at CVTC.

THREE-YEAR PROJECT SUMMARY

Major Projects Beyond 2028

Planning for Major Projects Beyond 2028

1. Viroqua Shell Space: Western is looking to do further analysis to determine how best to use the shell space at the Viroqua Regional Location.

2. Athletics Facility: For nearly 30 years, Western has rented the Seminary's only basketball court for $13,000 a year for practice and games. The current court is not regulation size, and the restrooms and building access do not meet ADA standards. Colleges nationwide and in our area have invested in athletic facilities to comply with Title IX and enhance recruitment. The proposed Athletic/Wellness facility will expand the existing parent-child center to create a regulation gymnasium for various sports at the center of campus. This facility will also move the Wellness Center there and include a community resource space. Adequate parking is available for patrons and students next to parking lot H.

3. Property Acquisition – ELL/GED Center in Arcadia: Key industries in the Arcadia area have increasing ELL/GED workforce needs. A physical presence is necessary for Western to help with this need successfully. In preparation for a physical location, a property must first be acquired.

4. Horticulture Education Center Grow Table Capacity Upgrades: The 2014 referendum equipment needs an upgrade due to deterioration. Improvement plans include modifying heating systems for each grow table to increase capacity and energy efficiency by improving the flow through the finned tube heating elements.

5. Eighth Street Renovations from Pine Street to Vine Street: The project would complete the 8th Street renovation work. This work was designed to improve pedestrian safety and was part of the College's commitment to reducing stormwater runoff.

6. Climate and Sustainability Initiatives: Western was an inaugural signatory of what is now the President's Climate Commitment in 2007 and has since led sustainability and climate action efforts. Initiatives include building LEED-certified structures, implementing energy-saving automation systems, installing solar panels, and promoting clean transportation through partnerships with La Crosse MTU, Drift Bike Share, and EV charging stations. To maintain its leadership among two-year colleges and achieve carbon neutrality by 2035, future projects should focus on:
    - Eliminating the use of natural gas in operations by electrifying how we heat and cool our buildings through technology like heat pumps.
    - Establish a microgrid on the main La Crosse campus, supported by battery storage.
    - Develop the capacity to generate our own energy through solar photovoltaic systems.

7. Kumm Center Health Simulation Space Remodel: Our healthcare simulation lab at Western supports many health and public safety programs. However, we have outgrown our current space and technology and need expansion and updates. Expanding this department will enhance teaching and learning for our students and assist our local healthcare partners. Health simulation is vital for learning, as it can reduce the need for clinical placements, which are becoming harder to secure. The expansion will include both high-fidelity and low-fidelity simulators, virtual reality, augmented reality, and role-playing simulations. It is important for us as an educational institution to teach with the latest standards and use up-to-date equipment. The physical space has not been updated for about 15 years.

8. Student Green Space/Outdoor Recreational Space: Create outdoor spaces for student gatherings and recreation. These areas may include features such as a sand volleyball court, a basketball court, outdoor seating areas, and open lawn spaces.

9. Seventh Street Pedestrian Refuge Island: Western's campus is divided by an uncontrolled state highway, raising pedestrian safety concerns. To improve this, Western plans to update the Seventh Street crossing with a pedestrian island, replacing the 2010 bump-out design. This island will slow vehicle speeds and give pedestrians a safe refuge to cross in two phases.

10. Property Acquisition—Tomah Regional Location: Western's Tomah Regional Location has seen growing student enrollment and instructional offerings, reaching its instructional and practical space capacity. Future growth may require exploring the purchase or lease of additional space at the adjacent Tomah Area Community Theater.

11. Lunda Center Roof Replacement: This project aligns with the existing roofing plan developed and maintained by Garland Industries, the college's RFP roofing vendor.

12. Independence Roof Replacement: This project aligns with the existing roofing plan developed and maintained by Garland Industries, the college's RFP roofing vendor.