



Lincoln



Omaha



Kearney



Medical Center

The University of Nebraska's 2013-15 Biennial Budget Request

The University of Nebraska's 2013-15 biennial budget request reflects the university's commitment to controlled, sustainable spending growth. The request includes modest annual increases to support priorities such as need-based financial aid, quality academic programs, and other basic operating expenses.

Historically, the university has not submitted a formal salary increase until after collective bargaining negotiations have been completed. For planning purposes only, salary increase scenarios ranging from 0 percent to 3.5 percent are shown in the request. A formal salary request will be submitted once collective bargaining is complete.

Highlights of the request:

- With no salary increases, the university's state-aided budget would grow by 1.6 percent in 2013-14 and 1.5 percent in 2014-15. With 3.5 percent salary increases, the state-aided budget would grow by 4.2 percent in 2013-14 and 4 percent in 2014-15.
- The request includes a \$1 million annual increase for need-based aid, including Collegebound Nebraska, the tuition assistance program that guarantees that qualifying Nebraska students can attend the university and pay no tuition.
- The request includes annual increases of \$2.5 million for Programs of Excellence, high-quality academic programs in areas where NU is a leader, such as water and public health. This would bring the total investment in these programs from \$20 million in 2012-13 to \$25 million in 2014-15.
- Health insurance costs are projected to increase by 8 percent.
- Utility expenses are projected to increase between 5 and 6 percent during the biennium.

The university also will submit two capital construction projects for funding consideration:

- A new UNMC College of Nursing facility in Lincoln, the one element of the Building a Healthier Nebraska initiative that did not receive state funding this year and university's highest capital priority in the Legislature for the past two biennia. The new facility is estimated to cost \$17 million.
- Renovation of the military property on Military Avenue, which would allow the university to consolidate its computing staff in one location. The project would also free up space at Nebraska Hall, where some computing staff are now based, for research labs and classrooms.

