Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

Fiscal Year FY 2027-2028

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
OPERATING REQUESTS *(FORM B1)*	X	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	X	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
		Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
NON-RECURRING REQUESTS *(FORM B2)*	X	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
		Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
		Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
CAPITAL REQUESTS *(FORM C)*	X	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
		Not requesting any changes.

	For FY 2027-2028, my agency is (mark "X"):	
PROVISOS *(FORM D)*		Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
		Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	X	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	Name	*Phone*	*Email*
PRIMARY CONTACT:	David Bailey	(864) 656-2423	dwbaile@clemson.edu
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Jessica Marchant	(864) 656-6695	jstoots@clemson.edu

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2027-2028 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	Agency Director	*Board or Commission Chair*
SIGN/DATE:	Benjamin C. Ayers (Sep 24, 2026 16:36:44 PDT)	Kim A Wilkerson
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Benjamin C. Ayers	Kim Wilkerson

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General
Agency Code:	H120
Section:	14

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Tuition Mitigation	24,352,597	0	0	0	24,352,597	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Clemson University National Security Institute	14,000,000	0	0	0	14,000,000	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
3	B1 - Recurring	College of Veterinary Medicine – SREB Phase Out & Vet Services Operating Support	6,250,000	0	0	0	6,250,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Clemson University Public Safety	2,057,000	0	0	0	2,057,000	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
5	B1 - Recurring	Clemson University Energy Center (CU-TEC)	4,500,000	0	0	0	4,500,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	B1 - Recurring	Rural Education and Workforce Development	2,500,000	0	0	0	2,500,000	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.50
7	B1 - Recurring	Center for Military and Veteran Excellence	5,000,000	0	0	0	5,000,000	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.00
8	B2 - Non-Recurring	Battelle Savannah River Alliance - SRNL	16,000,000	0	0	0	16,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	C - Capital	NextGen Computing Complex	45,000,000	0	0	0	45,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	C - Capital	Science-Lab Building Construction	35,000,000	0	0	0	35,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	C - Capital	Clemson Institute for Human Genetics, Building 2	20,000,000	0	0	0	20,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	C - Capital	National Security Institute Infrastructure	110,000,000	0	0	0	110,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	C - Capital	Capital Renewal and Maintenance Projects	32,010,000	0	0	0	32,010,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	C - Capital	Veteran and Military Engagement Center	37,500,000	0	0	0	37,500,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

15	C - Capital	Energy Infrastructure	13,800,000	0	0	0	13,800,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	B1 - Recurring	College of Veterinary Medicine Other Unrestricted Authorization	0	0	1,000,000	0	1,000,000	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
TOTALS			367,969,597	0	1,000,000	0	368,969,597	58.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.50

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

1

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Tuition Mitigation

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $24,352,597

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $24,352,597

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

0.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
X	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
X	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This base recurring funding increase request supports the University's enterprise objectives for Education, Training, and Human Development. It also enables the objectives of Clemson's ambitious strategic plan, ClemsonElevate, and reflects continued focus on retention, graduation, and supporting those areas that have been impacted by enrollment growth. These funds would allow Clemson to continue to freeze mandatory undergraduate tuition for in-state students, keeping higher education affordable in South Carolina. Clemson University is dedicated to contributing to an educated workforce in South Carolina and preparing students to lead in the future with knowledge, innovation, and technology.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

Funds received will be used to continue existing E&G operations, given no in-state

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	undergraduate tuition or mandatory fee increases. Clemson will follow state hiring practices to ensure all guidelines are met when hiring and recruiting for requested positions and will adhere to state procurement policies and procedures for any acquisition of goods and services with these funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	To mitigate tuition costs and continue to ensure an affordable and safe educational environment for in-state students, Clemson University respectfully requests an increase of $24,352,597 to the recurring state appropriations base budget. This would enable the University to continue to partner with the state and freeze mandatory undergraduate tuition and fees for in-state students for the 8th consecutive year. Clemson has demonstrated a continued commitment to access, affordability, and excellence for South Carolinians and continues to remain affordable for in-state students while offering a top-quality public education without having to leave the state of South Carolina. Academically, Clemson continues its tradition of excellence, ranking among the top public universities and as a Research 1 university. Clemson continues to create strong student outcomes with an 87.5% 6-year graduation rate, far exceeding the national average of 63.8%. A significant challenge with providing these levels of services without increasing in-state undergraduate tuition is that it puts inflationary pressures on the University's E&G budget. Areas that have seen significant inflation and cost increases include commodities, utilities, insurance premiums, contractual agreements, software licenses, information technology needs, and employee compensation and benefits. Compensation costs have been increasing not only due to state-mandated cost-of-living adjustments but also due to the need to compete nationally and globally for a talented workforce to educate South Carolinians. **Methods/Details for Calculations:** Total FY27 E&G Unrestricted Operating Expense Budget (includes scholarships/waivers but excludes Restricted funds, Auxiliaries, and PSA) $952.7M Total above multiplied by the HEPI 2026 forecast of 3.6% $34.3M Total above ($34.3M) multiplied by the % of in-state undergraduate students vs total undergraduate students (~60.7%) $20.8M Add a 1% COLA, excluding the partial funding the state would provide $3.5M Total Tuition Mitigation Request ($20.8M + $3.5M) **$24.4M**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**2**

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	**Clemson University National Security Institute**

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	**General: $14,000,000** **Federal: $0** **Other: $0** **Total: $14,000,000**

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	**10.00**

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
X	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

The funding request supports Clemson University's strategic objective to lead in research, education, and workforce development. The funds will be allocated to support the Clemson University National Security Institute (CU-NSI) and its mission to drive innovation in advanced materials, national security, and related technologies.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

The funds will support the Clemson University National Security Institute (CU-NSI) and its mission to advance research, innovation, workforce development, and technology translation in areas critical to national security. Investments will strengthen research

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	infrastructure, recruit and retain top-tier faculty and technical talent, and expand interdisciplinary capabilities across Clemson's main campus, CU-ICAR, and other affiliated locations. Resources will be strategically directed to key NSI-aligned research areas where Clemson has demonstrated strength and national competitiveness. CU-NSI will leverage these investments to expand partnerships with the Department of War, federal laboratories, and aligned national security industry partners, strengthening pathways from research to deployment and from education to high-demand national security careers. The investment will provide the sustained capacity needed to attract and leverage substantially greater federal and industry funding, creating a multiplier effect through research growth, technology transition, workforce development, high-value job creation, and economic development in South Carolina. All expenditures will comply with applicable state and University requirements and will be managed with appropriate oversight, transparency, and accountability.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

Clemson University has a proud military heritage and a long tradition of service, leadership, and innovation in support of the nation. The Clemson University National Security Institute (CU-NSI) builds on that legacy by bringing together the University's nationally recognized capabilities in defense-related research, education, workforce development, and technology translation. CU-NSI is positioned to strengthen South Carolina's role in national security while creating high-value jobs, developing a highly skilled workforce, attracting federal and industry investment, and advancing technologies critical to U.S. security and competitiveness.

Clemson enters this effort from a position of demonstrated strength. Its Department of War-oriented research portfolio already exceeds $30 million in annual research expenditures. Clemson has also demonstrated its ability to build major national security programs at scale. The Virtual Prototyping of Ground Systems (VIPR-GS) initiative with the Army Research Laboratory has generated more than $100 million in research funding while building a strong ecosystem of faculty, students, federal agencies, and industry partners.

Since the original CU-NSI state investment request was developed, Clemson's strength and national reputation have been further validated by significant new federal defense funding actions. Clemson-led Department of War priorities totaling $45 million have advanced across three strategically important initiatives: Digital Transformation for Integrating Human Ground-Air Machine Formations ($15 million); Advanced Laser Systems ($15 million); and Large Format Metal Additive Manufacturing for Ground Vehicle Fleet Sustainment ($15 million). An additional $5 million joint initiative supports the Ground Vehicle Systems Center University Internship Program in Digital Design and Transformation.

Clemson researchers are also participating in major partner-led Department of War initiatives, including Autonomous Lethality and Survivability Enhancements ($8 million); Digital Transformation and Next Generation Logistics for the V-22 ($12 million); and AI-Enabled Military Logistics for Contested Environments ($7.5 million). Together, these Clemson-led, joint, and partner-led efforts represent $77.5 million in federal defense-related activity aligned with the CU-NSI mission.

The significance extends well beyond the dollar amount. These initiatives involve multiple Clemson research teams and collaborations with leading defense companies, research universities, and federal defense organizations. They demonstrate Clemson's technical depth, faculty bench strength, national partnerships, and reputation, as well as its ability to compete successfully for major national security investments.

The requested $14 million recurring state investment will provide the sustained capacity necessary to multiply this success. Federal defense funding is typically directed toward specific projects and deliverables. Recurring state investment provides the underlying capacity required to recruit and retain exceptional faculty and technical talent, maintain specialized and secure research infrastructure, develop the national security workforce, build interdisciplinary programs, and respond rapidly to

emerging Department of War priorities.

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The multiplier effect for South Carolina is significant. State investment will position Clemson to attract substantially greater federal and industry funding, create high-value jobs, strengthen the defense industrial workforce, expand opportunities for students, accelerate technology transition and commercialization, attract companies and industry partners, and bring additional national security investment to South Carolina.
CU-NSI is a strategic investment in South Carolina's capacity to compete in the national security economy. Clemson has demonstrated the talent, bench strength, partnerships, and national reputation to succeed. The growing portfolio of Department of War initiatives provides strong evidence that this investment is already gaining national traction.

The additional $14 million recurring investment will provide the capacity to multiply this momentum and establish CU-NSI as a best-in-class national security enterprise. The return to South Carolina will be measured in federal and industry dollars leveraged, high-value jobs created, workforce developed, companies and partnerships attracted, technologies transitioned to the warfighter, and South Carolina's growing contribution to the economic competitiveness and national security of the United States.

Proposed Budget Summary:

Category

Faculty Positions – Defense Research Focused (15 Clinical, Tenure-Track, and Professors of Practice) 10 1.0 FTEs, other TLP positions $5.0M
Targeted hires in energy, advanced materials, security, and digitization to build sustained DoD-aligned expertise

Research Associates and Postdoctoral Fellows (TLP Positions) $1.5M
Expanding research capacity to accelerate deliverables on federally funded defense projects

Student and Technical Staff Support (Student/TLP positions) $1.5M
Direct support for graduate students, undergraduates, and technical staff contributing to defense-related research

Industry Partnerships and Capstone Projects $1.75M
Structured collaborations with defense contractors and applied projects that translate research into practice

Workforce Development Programs $.25M
Development of DoD-oriented technician and graduate pipelines through training modules, curricula, and certifications

Outreach, Marketing, and Strategic Networking $0.5M
Engagement with defense industry partners, federal agencies, and national labs to strengthen partnerships

Specialized Equipment, Supplies, and Software $1.5M
Acquisition of advanced tools and software to enable cutting-edge defense research in materials, energy systems, and cybersecurity

Research Infrastructure and Compliance Support $2.0M
Facility upgrades, compliance systems, and oversight are required for federally funded defense research

Total Budget: $14.0M

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

3

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

College of Veterinary Medicine – SREB Phase Out & Vet Services Operating Support

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $6,250,000

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $6,250,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

0.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
X	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
X	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This recurring funding increase request directly supports objectives of Clemson's ambitious strategic plan, ClemsonElevate, and reflects continued focus on providing the #1 student experience and impacting lives across the state of South Carolina. These funds would enable the Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine (PCVM) to grow its Veterinary Services in a way that supports student learning and enhances students' experience during 4th year clinical rotations as a part of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program. In addition to the annual $3.4 million of funds for the SREB phase-out, these funds also enable the PCVM to build a robust Veterinary Services unit that would serve farms in the upstate of South Carolina as well as pet owners in the Clemson area who do not have access to basic affordable veterinary care.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

The funds received, in addition to SREB funding, will be used to support personnel

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	costs for the Community Clinic and Ambulatory Service, both part of the Veterinary Services unit at the Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine. Clemson will follow state hiring practices to ensure all guidelines are met when hiring and recruiting for requested positions.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	Students in a traditional DVM program spend their 4th and final year of study on clinical rotations to apply the skills they've learned in the first 3 years of the curriculum in a practical, hands-on setting. Clemson University's new DVM program differentiates from traditional models in that it utilizes a distributive model of education, sending students to clinical sites throughout the state for their 4th year rotations instead of spending their 4th year in a Clemson-operated hospital. Benefits of this distributive model include more hands-on experience for students, better "day-one-readiness" for graduates, and reduced startup and long-term cost to the university. The distributive model presents some challenges which the PCVM intends to mitigate with the growth of its own Community Clinic and Ambulatory Service, which will serve as 2 of the primary rotation sites for DVM students in their 4th year. The distributive model requires students to travel to many different clinical partner sites across the state, increasing cost to the student and presenting challenges for travel and accommodations. The American Veterinary Medical Associations' (AVMA) Council on Education (COE), the sole accrediting body for veterinary medical education in the United States, has also made changes to its requirements for 4th year rotations over the last several years that make it increasingly challenging to rely on a fully distributive model, namely mandates for students to be exposed to a variety of clinical settings that the current state of veterinary medicine in South Carolina cannot support. There are not enough clinical sites across the state to provide all students exposure to the variety of clinical environments required by the AVMA COE. Therefore, the PCVM has made substantial changes to our original plans for the Veterinary Services unit to enhance students' learning and experience in the 4th year, as well as mitigate challenges presented by the AVMA COE's changes in 4th year requirements. These changes include: expanding the scope of the Ambulatory Service (a truck-based service that travels afield to provide herd health care for farmers and producers) and establishing a small animal community clinic aimed at providing basic affordable care for community members who may not otherwise be able to access care for their pets. The Ambulatory Service will not only satisfy a clinical rotation need that is currently unmet by the dearth of large animal practitioners in the state, but it will also fill a gap in large and farm animal care in the region. The Community Clinic will allow the PCVM to offer a high-volume community care practice experience to all students with oversight by PCVM clinicians while also providing low-income care to local underserved populations. The changes described above have increased staffing needs for the Veterinary Services unit. Total estimated cost for staffing of both services is $2.85M, including S&F. Methodology for this estimate is provided below. **Methods/Details for calculations:** $3.4M remaining annual SREB funding $1.95M Total salary needed for current planned staffing scope of the Community Clinic and Ambulatory Services (includes 1 Head of Vet Services, 7 Clinicians, 7 technical staff, and 4 administrative staff) $.9M in fringe based on 46.5% fringe rate on above calculated salaries (all FTEs) **$6.25M** SREB funding plus total salary and fringe needed to implement staffing plan for all of Vet Services, to be completed by the end of FY28.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

4

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Clemson University Public Safety

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $2,057,000

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $2,057,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

15.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
X	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
X	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This base recurring funding increase request supports the University's enterprise objectives for Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security. Clemson University Public Safety serves a dynamic campus population that exceeds 30,000 during the week and surges to over 80,000 during major events such as football Saturdays. Clemson also hosts events throughout the year that range from small community events to nationally prominent speakers, requiring resources to ensure the safety of the campus population, visitors, and local, state, and national representatives. This would strengthen campus safety, ensure a secure learning environment, and provide resources for emergency planning and incident response capabilities.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF

Funds received will be used to expand and support public safety operations on campus. Clemson will follow state hiring practices to ensure all guidelines are met when hiring and recruiting for requested positions and will adhere to state

FUNDS	procurement policies and procedures for any acquisition of goods and services with these funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	Clemson respectfully requests $2,057,000 in recurring funding to support three key areas: expansion of Clemson University's Police force to include K-9 units, campus emergency communication upgrades, and modernizing Clemson's access control infrastructure. **CUPD** Recurring funds of $1.53M are needed to employ 15 additional police officers, which, when combined with the one-time funds received in FY27, would expand the University's police force from 48 officers and two K-9s to 65 officers and 4 K-9 units. This would bring Clemson within the Department of Justice standard for public institutions. These investments would ensure the safety and security of our faculty, staff, students, and the more than 80,000 visitors on campus during football events. Additional recurring costs support care and training of K-9 units, equipment replacement costs, and funding to support market adjustments for police officers to remain competitive with other agencies. **Communication Upgrades** Recurring funding of $339K is requested to support life-cycle replacement costs of the infrastructure requested in the non-recurring request to ensure continued compliance with national public safety standards and support campus growth. Upgrades ensure interoperability for local and regional agencies to utilize this system when supporting Clemson's major events or in the event of an emergency requiring a large-scale response on campus. **Access Control** Recurring funds of $188K are requested to provide ongoing maintenance and lifecycle replacement costs of the equipment requested in the previous non-recurring request. Access control is a necessary and critical component of Clemson's preparedness for incident response, and this recurring funding would ensure continued maintenance and replacement of the necessary equipment. These three key initiatives are all necessary to maintain a consistent and proactive approach to public safety, aligned with best practices and standards, enabling Clemson to respond to evolving threats while fostering a culture of preparedness across the campus community. These improvements are essential to address current vulnerabilities and to ensure the university is equipped to respond effectively to emergencies, protect lives, and safeguard property.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

5

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Clemson University Energy Center (CU-TEC)

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $4,500,000

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $4,500,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

0.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
X	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
X	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

The funding request supports Clemson University's strategic objective for Public Infrastructure and Economic Development. Clemson University seeks support to expand The Clemson University Energy Center (CU-TEC), a statewide engine for energy research, workforce development, and economic growth. Building on Clemson's research strengths and in direct alignment with the FY2027 OMB–OSTP R&D Budget Priorities and South Carolina's SC Nexus Tech Hub, CU-TEC will unite industry, government, and academic partners to accelerate discoveries and create high-impact opportunities for South Carolinians and the nation as a whole.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

The funding request supports Clemson University's strategic objective to lead in research, education, and workforce development. The funds will be allocated to

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

support the Clemson University – The Energy Center and its mission to drive innovation in electric grid modernization and security; advanced materials and architectures for energy devices, systems and storage; and advanced materials and supply chain for next-generation nuclear energy. This includes general operations, faculty research, workforce development, infrastructure, program development and industry partnerships.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

CU-TEC will collaborate with industry leaders, emerging South Carolina companies, the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL), other national laboratories, electric-power utilities, and technology companies to attract major federal and private investment. These partnerships will accelerate technology commercialization, strengthen critical infrastructure, and create a robust South Carolina-based energy innovation ecosystem.

Strategic Focus Areas

• Electric grid modernization and grid security: creating smart, resilient, and secure energy networks to power South Carolina's future. The focus encompasses advanced technologies for electric-power transmission and distribution, advanced technologies for efficient and cost-effective management of electric power delivery in a market of increasing variability in the requirements of electric-power consumers, and enhancement of Clemson's nationally unique capabilities for electric-power subsystem research and characterization. The resources will complement Clemson's key role in the recently awarded NSF Engine for Grid Modernization in the Carolinas to establish Clemson and the state as the national leader in electric grid research and technologies.

• Advanced manufacturing and sustainable energy technologies: driving innovation in new materials, new device manufacturing methods, digital-twin methods for cost-effective and highly reliable manufacturing, and high-efficiency production for energy generation, storage, and utilization.

• Next-generation nuclear energy: advancing the technologies for next-generation nuclear power production in the context of a resilient electric grid, strengthening the nuclear supply chain, and enhancing operational readiness, operational safety, and environmental management.

South Carolina Impact:

1. Job creation and economic prosperity: new ventures in energy technologies and manufacturing will generate high-quality jobs across the state.
2. Workforce development: Clemson will deliver cutting-edge education and training programs to prepare students, professionals, and community members for careers in modern grid technologies, advanced manufacturing for energy systems, and advanced nuclear-power technologies.
3. Improved quality of life: breakthroughs in energy reliability, safety, and affordability will enhance everyday life for all South Carolinians while positioning the state as a national leader in energy innovation.

CU-TEC offers South Carolina a transformative opportunity to grow its economy, strengthen energy security, and develop the next generation workforce, ensuring that the benefits of advanced energy research and innovation reach every corner of the state.

Proposed Budget Summary

Category

Faculty and Research Faculty Positions – (Clinical, Tenure-Track, Professors of Practice, and Research Faculty) $1.5M

Targeted hires in energy and security research Amount

Research Associates and Postdoctoral Fellows $0.5M
Expanding energy and security research capacity

Student and Technical Staff Support $0.7M
Graduate students, undergraduates, and technical staff contributing to energy and security projects

Industry Partnerships and Capstone Projects $0.5M
Structured collaborations with energy and security contractors to translate research into practice

Workforce Development Programs $0.5M
Training modules, curricula, and certifications for energy and security workforce pipelines

Outreach, Marketing, and Strategic Networking $0.2M
Engagement with energy industry partners, federal agencies, and national laboratories

Specialized Equipment, Supplies, and Software $0.3M
Advanced tools to enable cutting-edge energy and security research

CU-TEC Operations $0.3M
Administrative and Directorial support of CU-TEC

Total Budget: $4.5M

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**6**

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	**Rural Education and Workforce Development**

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	**General: $2,500,000** **Federal: $0** **Other: $0** **Total: $2,500,000**

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	**2.50**

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
X	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This base recurring funding increase request supports the University's enterprise objectives for Education, Training, and Human Development. Clemson University is dedicated to contributing to an educated workforce in South Carolina and preparing students to lead in the future with knowledge, innovation, and technology.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

Most of the recurring state investment would directly benefit South Carolina residents: $2.1M of the $2.5M request, or approximately 83%, would fund need-

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	based completion scholarships and eligible education-related costs. The remaining 17% would provide targeted statewide recruitment, academic advising, partnership development, Praxis support, operations, and public accountability needed to identify, serve, and graduate those residents. Clemson will adhere to state procurement policies and procedures for any acquisition of goods and services with these funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	The College of Education proposes that Clemson seek $2.5 million in recurring funding in FY2028 to help South Carolina adult learners complete workforce-relevant bachelor's degrees. This initiative targets a statewide pool of nearly 1.15 million South Carolinians age 25 and older who have some college but no degree or an associate degree, helping residents convert prior learning into a bachelor's credential without having to leave their jobs or communities. Of the recurring request, $2.1M - approximately 83% - would provide direct need-based financial assistance to eligible South Carolina residents. The initiative would advance state priorities in workforce development, educational attainment, affordability, teacher preparation, and rural prosperity by connecting prior college coursework, Technical College and industry credentials, eligible military education and training, and other qualified prior learning to three Clemson degrees approved for online delivery. South Carolina would invest in a degree-completion strategy for residents with an associate degree, transferable college credit, an applicable Technical College or industry credential, eligible military education or training, or other qualified learning. This strategy is designed to finish and extend education and workforce investments the state has already made in its residents, rather than duplicate prior coursework or assistance. The initiative would initially help South Carolina residents earn one of three workforce-relevant bachelor's degrees offered fully online by Clemson: the B.S. in Human Capital Education and Development, the B.S. in Early Childhood and Special Education, and the B.S. in Athletic Leadership. Participants could continue working and remain in their communities while completing their degrees and preparing to enter or advance in areas of state workforce need. South Carolina has a substantial population of adults whose prior education has not yet resulted in a bachelor's degree. Nearly 1.15 million residents age 25 and older have some college but no degree or hold an associate degree, while only 32.1% hold a bachelor's degree or higher. The state also educates or trains approximately 147,000 people annually through its 16 Technical Colleges, creating a significant pool of residents whose existing credits and credentials could provide a foundation for further advancement. Helping more of these residents complete bachelor's degrees would strengthen the state's workforce while increasing their earning potential.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**7**

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	**Center for Military and Veteran Excellence**

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	**General: $5,000,000** **Federal: $0** **Other: $0** **Total: $5,000,000**

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	**7.00**

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
X	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This base recurring funding increase request supports the University's enterprise objectives for Education, Training, and Human Development. This initiative is designed to position Clemson University and the state of South Carolina as national leaders in supporting veterans, service members, military families, and veteran employees.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF

The recurring state investment will support nationally recognized executive leadership, professional program coordinators, student and employee veteran programs, career and workforce initiatives, veteran well-being and community

FUNDS

partnerships, and a signature Clemson Veterans Fellows Program. Clemson will adhere to state procurement policies and procedures for any acquisition of goods and services with these funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Clemson University requests $5 million in recurring state appropriations to establish the Clemson University Center for Military and Veteran Excellence, a comprehensive university-wide initiative designed to position Clemson University and the state of South Carolina as national leaders in supporting veterans, service members, military families, and veteran employees.

The Center will build upon Clemson's long-standing and nationally recognized commitment to military-connected students while creating a broader model connecting education, workforce development, leadership, research, public service, and veteran engagement.

Proposed $5 Million Recurring Investment:

1. National Leadership and Professional Staff — $1.5 Million

Clemson will recruit a nationally recognized executive leader in military and veteran higher education and programming to lead the Center and establish Clemson as a national voice in veteran education, transition, employment, and engagement. The executive leader will develop Clemson's national strategy, recruit external partners and philanthropic support, establish relationships with military and veteran organizations, and develop innovative programs that can serve as models for universities across the country.

2. Veteran Career and Workforce Leadership Initiative — $900,000

Clemson will establish a nationally distinctive military-to-career pipeline connecting veterans with employers and high-demand industries throughout South Carolina. Programs will include military-to-civilian career coaching, skills translation, credentialing, internships, corporate mentorship, entrepreneurship, employer education, and veteran-ready workplace training.

3. Veterans Hiring Incentive Program — $800,000
Clemson seeks to grow its population of veterans and military-connected personnel by establishing a fund to attract outstanding talent from this community. These recurring dollars will support a mixture of one-time funds (e.g., moving expenses for faculty and staff and startup costs for research faculty) and recurring costs (e.g., stipends or salary) to recruit and retain outstanding veteran and military-connected personnel at Clemson University.

4. Faculty and Staff Veteran Initiative — $500,000
Clemson will develop a comprehensive program for veteran and military-connected faculty and staff. This funding will support veteran employee onboarding, mentoring networks, professional and leadership development, recruitment initiatives, and opportunities for veteran employees to contribute to Clemson's broader veteran mission.

5. Veteran Well-Being and Community Partnerships — $500,000
The Center will coordinate university, government, nonprofit, military, and community resources so veterans can more easily access the services and opportunities available to them.

6. Clemson Veterans Fellows Program — $800,000
Clemson will establish a signature Veterans Fellows Program, with the mission of helping veterans continue their record of leadership and service while pursuing their education and professional development at Clemson.

Each Fellow will participate in a defined program of leadership development, mentorship, service, and professional preparation.

	The Veterans Fellows Program will be a signature differentiator for Clemson and an important component of the University's goal of becoming a national leader in military and veteran programming. **Total Recurring State Appropriation $5,000,000**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**16**

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	**College of Veterinary Medicine Other Unrestricted Authorization**

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	**General: $0** **Federal: $0** **Other: $1,000,000** **Total: $1,000,000**

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	**24.00**

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	AI Related
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
X	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This request is to increase spending authorization for the College of Veterinary Medicine Other Earmarked/Unrestricted Funds, which are generated by the University and provide support for Education, Training, and Human Development.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

The College of Veterinary Medicine would utilize these funds for university operations

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	not funded by the State. Clemson University will adhere to state procurement policies and procedures for any acquisition of goods and services with these funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	As the College of Veterinary Medicine opened to students in the Fall of 2026, there is a need to request spending authority for internally funded operations for the college. Additional spending authority will be needed in the coming years as more students are enrolled and revenues are generated. **FTE Requests** In addition to the spending authority request, the College of Veterinary Medicine is requesting 24.0 additional FTE's. This request is for State FTE's only and will use existing recurring funds.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	8

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Battelle Savannah River Alliance - SRNL

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$16,000,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
X	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	AI Related
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
X	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

The request supports Clemson University's strategic objective to lead in research, education, and workforce development. Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL), one of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) 17 national laboratories, began operating as an independent federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) in 2021 under a management and operating (M&O) contract with Battelle Savannah River Alliance, LLC (BSRA). Clemson University (CU), South Carolina State University (SCSU), and the University of South Carolina System (USC), including USC Columbia and USC Aiken, are university partners in BSRA. In August 2020, Governor McMaster committed in writing to seek $100M in state funding for the three universities' workforce development efforts under the contract. In June 2023, with support from Governor McMaster and university leaders, the South Carolina General Assembly authorized $40M. Over the past three years, the universities have submitted quarterly budget reports using required templates, initially to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (CHE) and subsequently to the Executive Budget Office (EBO) of the South Carolina Department of Administration. They have also presented annual reports to the CHE Executive Committee and EBO. The same reporting and review process will evaluate the use of new funds through workforce participation, research proposals and awards, and expenditures.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

The requested $16M represents Clemson's portion of the final $40M investment in this project. In 2023, the funding was distributed based on a formula established in Proviso 11.24, which allocated the $40M appropriation as follows: 40% ($16M) to CU, 40%

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

($16M) to USC, and 20% ($8M) to SCSU. The funds will be expended over the next five fiscal years.

Clemson will follow state hiring practices to ensure all guidelines are met when hiring and recruiting for requested positions and will adhere to state procurement policies and procedures for any acquisition of goods and services with these funds.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The State's initial $40M investment in 2023 supported a workforce development headcount of 1,281 across internships, pre-college programs, undergraduate scholarships, graduate and postdoctoral research appointments, faculty positions, and joint appointments. The three universities also submitted proposals totaling $275M and secured $45M in new research funding. The universities and SRNL have collaborated on major state energy initiatives, including SC NEXUS, led by the South Carolina Department of Commerce and awarded approximately $45M by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). They have also supported the National Science Foundation (NSF) Grid Modernization Engine in the Carolinas, led by UNC Charlotte with Clemson and the South Carolina Research Authority (SCRA) among its partners. The Engine received an initial $15M award, with potential funding of up to $160M over ten years, subject to performance milestones. In addition, a consortium of CU, the South Carolina Technical College System, the Greer Commission of Public Works, and Lockhart Power Company submitted the Dream Coalition proposal to EDA for microgrid systems. The proposed project is expected to create approximately 750 new jobs if funded and implemented.

The requested $40M would sustain and expand the progress achieved through the State's initial BSRA/SRNL investment and complete the $100M in state support envisioned in Governor McMaster's 2020 commitment letter. Investment in CU, SCSU, and USC would strengthen the research infrastructure and workforce needed to meet South Carolina's growing energy demand. It would also expand the state's capacity to attract federal and industry funding and translate energy research into economic benefits for South Carolinians. Without this funding, the universities' ability to recruit and retain researchers, expand student training, and pursue joint energy projects with SRNL and industry would be constrained.

South Carolina's economic growth depends on reliable, affordable electricity. Nuclear power is the state's largest electricity source, and its energy future requires a diversified portfolio that effectively integrates natural gas, hydropower, solar, storage, and efficient energy use. Investing in research and talent would complement the South Carolina Energy Security Act of 2025, DOE's 2026 grid strategy, and White House priorities for nuclear deployment and energy security.

The investment would unite complementary strengths in Clemson's grid technologies and advanced materials, South Carolina State's nuclear engineering education and workforce preparation, and USC's nuclear systems and energy storage research. All three universities are BSRA partners and core members of SC NEXUS, providing an established foundation for coordinated research, shared facilities, and partnerships with industry.

DOE's Genesis Mission, launched by the White House, uses artificial intelligence and advanced computing to accelerate scientific discovery in fields including nuclear energy, grid modernization, advanced manufacturing, and materials. Clemson has already secured a Genesis award, and DOE has announced two SRNL-led projects plus SRNL participation in two additional projects. State funding would build on these awards by expanding research teams, shared facilities, and student training to carry out and extend this work.

SRNL's 63,000-square-foot Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative (AMC), opened on the USC Aiken campus in August 2025, provides facilities for advanced manufacturing, nuclear and fusion energy research, and computing that supports Genesis. State investment would help university researchers and students work with SRNL and industry at the AMC, expanding research, commercialization, and workforce opportunities through this federal facility.

The $40 million will support shared research infrastructure, collaborative projects with utilities and manufacturers, and training linked to South Carolina employment. A joint investment plan should coordinate the use of existing federal awards and state funding, with measurable outcomes in external funding, industry adoption, and workforce placement. In addition, by connecting DOE's discovery mission, NSF's regional innovation model, and EDA's commercialization infrastructure, South Carolina can build lasting capabilities to meet its energy needs and strengthen its competitiveness in the national energy economy.

The intended public return is a stronger energy workforce, more competitive South Carolina companies, and practical technologies that improve system performance and help control costs. This investment would give South Carolina greater capacity to develop the energy solutions its economy requires while contributing to national energy security.

Equipment and Laboratory Modifications
Meeting SRNL's mission needs and the state's energy needs require advanced equipment and laboratories at the universities and SRNL. These investments will support faculty and student recruitment, collaborative research with SRNL personnel, and more competitive applications for federal funding.

Graduate and Postdoctoral Scientist Programs
The universities will recruit domestic graduate students and postdoctoral scientists to support SRNL and DOE missions. Junior and senior faculty will work with SRNL personnel to train these researchers in mission-relevant fields. Training domestic students will be a key factor for future success in the state and country.

Pre-College and Undergraduate Student Programs
The universities will offer pre-college programs, undergraduate fellowships for academic-year research with faculty working on DOE priorities, and summer research programs. These activities will help identify and prepare students for careers at SRNL and in South Carolina's energy industries. Training domestic students will be a key factor for future success in the state and country.

Program Management and Recruitment
The university program managers will coordinate recruitment, outreach, travel for research collaboration, and communications. Recruiting and retaining domestic personnel is essential to meeting the workforce needs of SRNL and South Carolina's energy sector. Partnerships with SRNL and energy companies of all sizes will introduce undergraduate and graduate STEM students to careers in national laboratories and industry and help attract them to these opportunities.

Total Budget: $40,000,000

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	9

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	NextGen Computing Complex

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$45,000,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY	This project is on the CPIP for Plan Year 2027, Priority 2.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	Given the rapid transformation of computing driven by artificial intelligence, the University commissioned a new feasibility study, completed in May 2026, to reassess the programmatic, research, infrastructure, and facility requirements for the Next Generation Computing Building. The study reflects the fundamental shift toward greater hardware-software-AI convergence and the need to integrate Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and Artificial Intelligence across the full computing stack. Its findings provide the current planning framework for a facility designed to support the evolving requirements of AI-enabled education, research, and innovation. The University's original feasibility study, completed in May 2020, defined the initial program, identified a potential site, developed a concept design, and established a conceptual cost estimate. An updated cost estimate was completed in April 2022 to reflect changing market conditions and anticipated construction escalation. The May 2026 study builds upon and significantly advances this earlier planning, recognizing the profound changes occurring across computing and the emergence of AI as a foundational technology. Clemson's new B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. programs in Artificial Intelligence further reinforce the opportunity to bring Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and AI together in an integrated academic and research environment. The project will prioritize flexible, scalable infrastructure capable of supporting advances in AI, high-performance and edge computing, intelligent systems, cybersecurity, advanced sensing, and hardware-software co-design, while adapting to technologies and workforce needs that will continue to evolve. Sustainability and long-term performance will be integral to planning, design, construction, and operation. The project will address water conservation, energy efficiency, carbon reduction, healthy indoor environments, responsible material selection, resilience, and connections to the surrounding campus and ecosystem. Particular attention will be given to the significant power, cooling, and infrastructure requirements of advanced computing, with systems designed for efficiency, adaptability, and future technology loads. Sustainability strategies will be evaluated throughout design and construction using the Green Globes rating system, with a minimum certification goal of Three Green Globes, as required by the State. This approach will deliver a high-

performance, resilient, and adaptable facility capable of supporting successive generations of computing technology, talent, research, and innovation.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

SUMMARY

To compete and prosper in an AI-driven economy, South Carolina must have the talent and innovation capacity to create, deploy, and secure the next generation of computing technologies. Artificial intelligence is rapidly converging with cybersecurity, semiconductors, advanced sensing, robotics, quantum technologies, and high-performance and edge computing. The next breakthroughs will occur increasingly at the intersection of hardware, software, and AI, where chips, computing architectures, sensors, networks, algorithms, data, and intelligent systems come together. Leadership at this intersection will determine where companies invest, where high-value jobs are created, and which regions lead the next generation of economic growth.

Clemson is positioned to deliver this capability for South Carolina. The College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences graduates approximately 60 percent of the state's engineers and computer scientists and is expanding this talent pipeline through new B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. programs in Artificial Intelligence. Significant university, state, and federal investments are accelerating Clemson's AI research and innovation enterprise. The new National Security Institute (NSI), supported by $6 million in recurring state funding, adds strategic capacity in secure AI, autonomy, advanced sensing, digital engineering, cybersecurity, and next-generation computing, capabilities directly relevant to South Carolina's advanced manufacturing, automotive and mobility, aerospace, energy, health, agriculture, supply chain, and national security industries.

At the core of this ecosystem are the School of Computing and the Holcombe Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Their disciplinary research portfolios exceed $20 million, while their expertise in computing, AI, microelectronics, sensing, communications, cybersecurity, and intelligent systems enables multidisciplinary research across Clemson representing more than $50 million in annual research expenditures. ECE, Computer Science, and AI are therefore not simply individual disciplines; they are foundational capabilities that amplify research, innovation, and industry engagement across the University.

Yet Clemson's existing facilities do not match the scale or technological requirements of this enterprise. By 2030, these and aligned programs are projected to serve nearly 3,000 students. The proposed 165,000-square-foot, $120 million Next Generation Computing Building will bring Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and Artificial Intelligence together, providing specialized laboratories, advanced computing environments, and flexible research and collaboration spaces spanning the full computing stack, from semiconductors and devices to software, AI models, and intelligent systems.

This is an investment in South Carolina first. The Next Generation Computing Building will turn investments in talent, AI, research, and national security into economic impact, producing the workforce South Carolina companies need, accelerating innovation, strengthening existing industries, attracting new companies and investment, creating high-value jobs, and driving prosperity for South Carolinians for generations to come.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	10

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Science-Lab Building Construction

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$35,000,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY	The Science Lab Building Construction project is listed in Plan Year 2028 on the draft 2026-27 CPIP document submitted to the state in August 2026. It is the first priority project for that year.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	The latest total cost estimate for this project is $141M. The State request is $35,000,000; the remaining funds would be acquired via debt/bonds and philanthropy. It is noted that this will be a high student credit hour (SCH) building with both traditional classrooms and teaching labs, as well as research labs, seminar rooms, and core facility spaces.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

Request

Clemson University requests support for the construction of a new 140,000-square-foot, five-story College of Science Lab Building (Biological Sciences, Microbiology, Genetics, and Biochemistry majors). This modern facility will give much-needed expansion space including housing instructional laboratories, classrooms, research spaces, seminar and meeting areas, and offices. Adjacency to the Life Sciences Building would create a Human Health Presinct on campus.

Background

Clemson has experienced significant and sustained enrollment growth in biological sciences. Currently, these programs are housed in Long Hall, Jordan Hall and the Life

SUMMARY

Sciences Building. Long Hall is a historic building that was not designed to accommodate modern laboratory and research needs. While Long Hall has served the University well, it no longer meets the infrastructure, safety, or flexibility requirements of contemporary teaching and research in biosciences, microbiology, and genetics. The plan is that all teaching labs from Long Hall (AY 2025-26 enrollment 3,412) will move into the new building, and new faculty will be hired to occupy research labs in the new building.

Basis of the Need

• Capacity constraints: Enrollment growth in biological sciences majors, in addition to Clemson's growth of students who need general education biological sciences classes, has outpaced the available teaching and research space on the main campus.
• Outdated facilities: Modern teaching laboratories and research environments require specialized infrastructure for safety, equipment, and technology that cannot be accommodated within the existing facilities.
• Competitive standing: Clemson's ability to attract top faculty and staff talent and research funding is limited by its current laboratory facilities. Without investment, Clemson risks losing ground to peer institutions.
• Workforce demand: The state and nation need more graduates trained in biosciences, microbiology, and genetics to address pressing challenges in human health, animal sciences (in partnership with the College of Veterinary Medicine), agriculture, and environmental sustainability. South Carolina has (6 years in a row) has been the fastest growing life sciences economy in the nation.

Opportunity and Proposal

The new College of Science Lab Building will position Clemson as a leader in preparing the next generation of scientists, doctors, nurses, educators, and scientifically informed citizens. By providing state-of-the-art teaching and research space, this project will:
• Enhance student experience through inquiry-driven, hands-on learning in modern labs.
• Support faculty and student research that contributes to solutions for global challenges in health, food security, and the environment.
• Strengthen Clemson's competitive position in attracting research funding and top talent.
• Expand the pipeline of skilled graduates who are ready to meet workforce needs in critical scientific fields.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

11

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Clemson Institute for Human Genetics, Building 2

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

$20,000,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY

The Clemson Institute for Human Genetics Building 2 project is listed in Plan Year 2028 on the draft 2026-27 CPIP document submitted to the state in August 2026. It is the second priority project for that year, following the Science Lab Building Construction project which is first for that year.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS

No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Clemson's FY28 request of $20M would partially fund the expansion of research capacity at the Clemson University Institute for Human Genetics located in the innovation quarter of the partnership campus of the Greenwood Genetic Center. The Clemson University Institute for Human Genetics is currently a top philanthropic priority for the Clemson Fiercely Forward Campaign, cultivating naming opportunities for the Institute and the building in the $25M range. The College of Science has already invested $58k for a feasibility study and preliminary design.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

Request

The University is requesting $20M to help expand the research capacity of the Clemson University Institute for Human Genetics (IHG) located in the Innovation Quarter of the partnership campus of the Greenwood Genetic Center. These funds will be used to solicit detailed architectural plans for Building 2, including initial site preparation:

- $7M Architectural Design and Approvals

SUMMARY

• $13M to identify a general contractor and conduct initial work to prepare the site.

The return on investment (state, philanthropic, university, and community) for IHG has been very high, significantly elevating both Clemson University and the State of South Carolina. At the core of Clemson's 10-year strategic plan – Clemson Elevate – the University is committed to human genetics, supported by strategic funding for additional faculty positions to expand the IHG with both faculty cluster hires and additional facilities and infrastructure. This additional state investment will expand the impact and prominence of South Carolina in "improving health outcomes through research" and will serve as a magnet to attract both world-class research talent and life sciences companies to South Carolina.

Background

The IHG opened its state-of-the-art facility in Self Regional Hall on the partnership campus of the Greenwood Genetic Center (GGC) in Greenwood, SC, in 2018. Clemson University established IHG's approximately 16,000 square foot (gross) building of combined wet lab, computational lab, and office space on nearly 17 acres acquired from the GGC. The GGC, founded in 1974, is a nonprofit organization advancing medical genetics and caring for families impacted by rare genetic diseases and birth defects. The special partnership between IHG and GGC fuels the GGC partnership campus as "a place where innovation and healthcare exist side-by-side." This partnership accelerates the translation of new knowledge to health care (decreasing time from bench to bedside) by collocating clinical, diagnostic, and research expertise, all centered on improving health outcomes through world-class knowledge in human genetics. In addition to pioneering new techniques in human genome sequencing, Dr. Mackay and her team have helped South Carolina families searching for answers by helping them to diagnose and find treatment options for family members impacted by rare diseases.

Dr. Trudy Mackay is an internationally prominent quantitative geneticist. She is an elected member of both the US National Academies of Sciences and Medicine. Under her leadership, the institute established its mission and vision statements that drive its strategic priorities.

• Mission: to advance and disseminate knowledge of the principles and mechanisms by which genetic and environmental factors affect human health and disease through discovery, education, and engagement to benefit the health and well-being of the people of SC, the nation and the world.

• Vision: to become a nationally and internationally recognized institute of excellence for discovery, education, and engagement in human genetics.

Since launching the IHG, Mackay has recruited world-class talent from top universities (Yale, Stanford, UNC, Brown, Penn, Duke, and Johns Hopkins) to advance the study of human genetics. The IHG team in Self Regional Hall (Greenwood) has increased to 7 Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty and their teams (6 postdoctoral fellows, 20 Ph.D. students, and 12 research scientists), totaling 45 personnel, of which 37 are Ph.D. level scientists. Under Mackay's leadership, the Institute for Human Genetics has secured significant federal funding of $40M+ in federal grants, including a National Institutes of Health Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in collaboration with GGC - the first in the U.S. in human genetics.

In 2025, IHG, in partnership with the Rymedi Corporation and Self Regional Hospital System, completed the first phase of a three-phase "Clemson University Precision Medicine Initiative" (CUPMI) with a vision to establish an engine for precision medicine in SC to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs, enabled by a de-identified data repository of South Carolinians capturing whole genome sequences and oral microbiome data, linked to participants' electronic health records information, lifestyle and environmental data.

Basis of The Need

With 45 personnel, including 37 Ph.D. level scientists and a new Chief Translational

Officer, Self Regional Hall has reached full capacity. In FY24, research expenditures for faculty in Self Regional Hall totaled $4.7M or over $780K per faculty member. Because Self Regional Hall has exceeded capacity, faculty members are unable to further advance their research and secure more research funding, despite their ability to propose additional successful research projects. Additionally, CUPMI Phase 2 is planned for 2026, and additional space is required for the personnel and sequencing machines needed to obtain and analyze 100,000 participant samples/data. The goal of CUPMI Phase 3 would be to house the world's most complete human genome data biobank with 500k participants, including families. This project is currently being planned as a public-private partnership for sustainability.

Opportunity and Proposal:

The original plan for Clemson's 17-acre site at the GGC Partnership Campus was for three research buildings. Clemson University has conducted a feasibility study and has drafted a high-level concept design for a second building adjacent to Self Regional Hall that would be approximately 71,000 square feet (gross) in size and accommodate approximately 15 new faculty and their teams spanning both wet lab and computational expertise. The building would also provide incubator space for companies that seek to co-locate and train with world-class experts and cutting-edge genomic technology, and it would be the home of CUPMI as it scales up from Phase 1 (200 participants) to Phase 2 (100,000 participants) and later Phase 3 (500,000+ participants).

The total estimated cost of the Clemson University Institute for Human Genetics Building 2 is $71M ($7M for architectural design and the remainder for site preparation and construction). This $20M request will be used to solicit detailed architectural plans for building 2 and conduct initial site preparation.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	12

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	National Security Institute Infrastructure

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$110,000,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY	This project is on the CPIP for Plan Year 2028, Priority 3.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	Investing in the National Security Institute building equips Clemson University with the secure research ecosystem required to solve complex defense challenges. It simultaneously drives regional economic development, attracts elite aerospace and defense talent, and safeguards the technological advantages vital to the United States national security. There are no viable alternatives to new construction. Current research facilities cannot accommodate additional activity or personnel and lack the rigorous security infrastructure mandatory for defense-restricted research. Without this dedicated construction, Clemson University cannot legally or operationally expand its portfolio into classified work.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

	The proposed National Security Institute building, which will be constructed at the Clemson University – International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR) campus in Greenville, provides the necessary security infrastructure to complete research using controlled unclassified information (CUI) and will provide space for the evolution of Clemson University's research portfolio to include classified research. The new facility will mark an important step in developing Technology Neighborhood III at CU-ICAR as a hub for defense and national security research in the Upstate region. The approximately 65,000 square foot facility will provide laboratories, research offices, and administrative spaces to conduct research in mobility systems, energy, manufacturing methods, and defense systems vital to our national security. The space will house research and staff functions of the growing Virtual Prototyping of Ground Systems (VIPR-

SUMMARY	GS) research team, the additive manufacturing research center staff, and provide secure facilities for other defense- and security-related research activities for the wider university community. A specialized outdoor demonstration and experimentation test facility for teams of aerial- and land-based autonomous vehicles is also contemplated in the plan. An accredited Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) will be contemplated as part of the larger construction project. These capabilities can also serve as user-facilities for growing the regional Defense Industry base and incubating defense-related startup companies. The proposed building will include meeting and conference space, suitable for convening the research center staff and partners from the Department of War and industry collaborators. The building's site planning has been developed to complement the existing Flex Lab One building at CU-ICAR, which will house vehicle, manufacturing and material science research activities related to the proposed NSI site. Site improvement work has been partially completed, to accommodate a building on the proposed site, as part of the larger Technology Neighborhood III development at CU-ICAR.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	13

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Capital Renewal and Maintenance Projects

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$32,010,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY	$17M of this project is on the CPIP for Plan Year 2027, Priority 4. The additional funding requested is for Plan Year 2028, Priority 4. These projects are priority repairs and renewals that come from the University's ongoing Building Assessment Program. Should this request not be funded, the University will work toward accomplishing them with existing resources; however, the work will be delayed.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	The University conducts thorough long-term planning for both capital projects and ongoing minor renovation and renewal projects. Clemson has conducted a system-by-system assessment of every E&G building and developed a 10-year long-term renovation and renewal plan. The projects that would be funded through this request are high-priority projects.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

	The University is requesting $32M in non-recurring capital funding to fund planned maintenance and reinvestment projects for E&G facilities. The requested funding would enable the University to make the following improvements in critical areas: **$32M – Capital Renewal and Maintenance Projects**

SUMMARY

- $17.0M – Sikes Hall HVAC, Electrical, Fire/Security Upgrades

- $15.0M – HVAC, Electrical/Mechanical, Plumbing Upgrades of E&G facilities

These projects were identified by the University as high-priority planned maintenance projects through a system-by-system inventory of every E&G building on campus and are part of the University's 10-year renovation and renewal plan.

By funding these projects, the State will enable the University to accelerate its implementation of this 10-year plan and enable bundling for procurement and mobilization efficiencies. These investments are critical to maintaining and enhancing campus infrastructure in a cost-effective manner for our students, faculty, and staff.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	14

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Veteran and Military Engagement Center

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$37,500,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY	This project is on the CPIP for Plan Year 2028, Priority 5.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	Clemson's military programs currently operate from five or more locations across campus, creating challenges for coordination, efficiency, visibility, and collaboration. Consolidating these programs within a single renovated facility on the historic drill field is the most appropriate strategy for strengthening operations and partnerships while placing them in a setting that reflects their foundational role in Clemson University's history. New construction within this historic district would not be appropriate due to the importance of preserving the character and integrity of the area. Locating the programs in a facility elsewhere on campus was also considered; however, such an option would separate them from the historic setting already dedicated to honoring Clemson's rich military heritage. Renovation and consolidation at the existing historic facility therefore offers the strongest balance of operational needs, historic preservation, program identity, and long-term institutional value.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

	The Clemson University Veteran and Military Engagement Center will create a centralized, welcoming home for Army ROTC, Air Force ROTC, the Office of Military and Veteran Engagement, and related programs that support Clemson's military-connected community. By bringing these organizations together in a fully renovated Holtzendorff Hall, the University will strengthen collaboration, improve access to services, and provide a more cohesive experience for student veterans, active-duty service members, military families, cadets, and other military-connected students. The Center will provide dedicated space for academic and career advising, benefits and transition assistance, peer support, mentoring, tutoring, professional development, and community-building activities. It will serve as a visible first point of connection for student veterans and ROTC cadets while helping them successfully navigate university life,

SUMMARY

complete their degrees, prepare for careers, and develop as leaders. Shared spaces will also support collaboration among faculty, staff, alumni, military partners, and community organizations.

In addition to meeting current student needs, the Center will honor and preserve Clemson University's longstanding military tradition. Clemson's history is deeply connected to military education, service, leadership, and national defense. A dedicated center will provide opportunities to interpret and celebrate that heritage through exhibits, commemorative spaces, educational programming, ceremonies, and events that connect Clemson's past to its present and future.

This project represents an investment in student success, institutional identity, and Clemson's commitment to service. A unified center will enhance recruitment and retention of military-connected students, increase visibility and coordination of existing programs, support ROTC excellence, and reinforce Clemson's role as a national leader in educating citizens who serve their communities, the military, and the nation.

The Clemson University Veteran and Military Engagement Center will be established in the existing Holtzendorff Hall located on Bowman Field, the official parade ground and historic drill field for the Clemson Corps of Cadets. Adjacent to the Military Heritage Plaza, creation of this unified center will require renovation of the 55,000 square feet available at Holtzendorff Hall to support the specialized mix of spaces required by the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs, the Department of Military Leadership, the Department of Aerospace Studies, affiliated programs serving student veterans, and associated clubs and organizations. These clubs include the Pershing Rifles, Ranger Club, Scabbard & Blade, and Tiger Platoon. Holtzendorff will be renovated to support the space types required by these programs including classrooms and instructional spaces, leadership labs, an advising center, offices for faculty and commanding officers, secure storage, and specialized spaces that could include simulators for tactical training. Renovations will address building envelope and building systems issues along with improvements to interior finishes, flooring, and fixtures.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	15

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Energy Infrastructure

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	$13,800,000

How much is requested for this project in FY 2027-2028? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY	This project is not on the current CPIP. There wasn't an estimate available at the time of the most recent CPIP submission.

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained at this point. This project would require Phase 1 and Phase 2 approval from Clemson's Board of Trustees, CHE, JBRC, and SFAA.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	The funds will support the Clemson University Restoration Institute (CURI) in advancing its mission to serve as a national leader in research, innovation, workforce development, and technology translation in energy systems. Investments will strengthen research infrastructure and expand Clemson's capabilities in research, workforce development and testing for the electric power grid and associated systems and devices. Resources will be strategically directed to expand nationally unique facilities in research and industry support and to develop unique academic capabilities in support of critical workforce needs of the electric power industry. The resources will complement and leverage ongoing federally funded research projects such as the EDA's EDGE award to Clemson (part of the SC Nexus award to SC Commerce, Clemson and other in-state partner institutions) and the National Science Foundation's funding of the Engine for Grid Modernization in the Carolinas which is a collaboration of Clemson, UNC Charlotte and bi-state partners.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

	Electric Power Grid Control Center Simulation and Training Facility – Bridging industry workforce-preparation needs with academic research to develop job-ready talent and develop and validate next-generation technologies. Clemson University in Charleston will create a state-of-the-art facility that will transform how power system professionals are trained. Conceived to complement the nationally recognized eGRID and EDGE grid emulation capabilities, this facility will deliver hands-on, real-world training for utility operations, control, protection, and maintenance. The integrated facility will provide education from hardware components to system level operations.

What the Facility will offer:

Immersive Control Center Simulation – Complete with SCADA, EMS, multi-monitor wall displays, and operator control consoles.

Full Transmission & Distribution Modeling – Large-scale T&D network models combined with PMUs, PV inverter emulators, and protection systems.

Cybersecurity & AI Integration – Real-world testbed for emerging cyber defense strategies and AI-assisted grid management.

Versatile Microgrid – A fully reconfigurable setup featuring modern energy sources (PV, BESS, fuel cells) and loads (EV chargers, data center racks), with both grid-connected and islanded operating modes.

Integration with World-Class Grid Emulators – Seamless connection to Clemson's eGRID and EDA-funded EDGE mobile grid emulator, supporting MW-scale device testing and certification.

Workforce & Research Synergy – Bridging academic research with industry training needs to develop job-ready talent and validate next-generation technologies.

The proposed Facility will complement and leverage ongoing federally funded research projects such as the EDA's $45M SC Nexus award to SC Commerce, Clemson and other in-state partners, providing synergies with both the grid emulation capabilities of the SC Nexus EDGE component project at Clemson and the grid cybersecurity capabilities of the SC Nexus GECKO component project at the Savannah River National Laboratory. It will also leverage and provide unique capabilities to the Engine for Grid Modernization in the Carolinas, a recently announced National Science Foundation award (with the potential for $160M over 10 years) to Clemson, UNC Charlotte and a bi-state partnership of industry, technical colleges, the South Carolina Research Authority and other organizations. The proposed Facility will also provide avenues for other nationally unique research collaborations between Clemson and both industry and academic partners.

SUMMARY

The proposed Facility will provide a fully immersive hands-on training environment in which to provide professional preparation tailored two categories of learner. Students in related degree programs at Clemson will have access to credit-bearing courses in which the training provided in the Facility is integrated into the course content. And electric utilities and related industries will be able to utilize short courses designed around the Facility to prepare their employees for work in a modern grid control center.

Dynamometer Capability Upgrade – Enabling test and characterization of next-generation heavy-industry machines and generators.

The Dominion Energy Innovation Center at CURI contains two nationally unique dynamometers test fixtures, rated at 7.5 MW and 15 MW, which are configured for operation at the low rotational speeds needed to perform testing of high-power wind-turbine generators. The proposed upgrade will permit testing over much broader range of rotational speeds, expanding the use of the facilities for rotating machine research and testing that is applicable to a much wider array of industry segments that engineer and manufacture high-power, heavy-duty rotating machines and electric power generators.

Proposed Budget Summary:

Electric power grid control center simulation and training facility - $7.5M

Provide a realistic environment in which to train both industry employees and students in

the operation and control of the electric-power grid through an electric-power utility control center. Includes upfit of 10,000 sq ft of unfinished space, acquisition and installation of displays, workstations, computational resources, simulation tools, and protection and control systems.

eGRID/control system facility integration - $1.5M

Integrate the eGRID hardware-in-the-loop electric-power emulation system with the Electric Power Grid Control Center Simulation and Training Facility. Leverage the existing capabilities of the eGRID testing facility to provide increased fidelity of real-time experience in the control center Facility.

Curriculum development for control center simulation and training facility - $1.5M

Develop curriculum for control-center training for electric power industry employees and integrate into academic curriculum for students.

Dynamometer capability upgrade - $3.3M

Upgrade the gearing of the 7.5 MW and 15 MW dynamometers of CURI's Dominion Energy Innovation Center to allow testing over much broader range of rotational speeds, greatly expanding the possible applications for rotating machine research and testing. Develop detailed technical specifications for the test fixtures that include the dynamometers to enable support multiple industry segments that engineer and manufacture high-power, heavy-duty rotating machines and electric power generators.

Total: $13.8 M

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
AMOUNT	$7,278,166 *What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.*
ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	N/A *How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?*
PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	Clemson University's General Funds Appropriations primarily support Education and General and the Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine instructional activity, preparing undergraduate and graduate students with the knowledge and skills that they need to complete their degrees and prepare for life-long learning. This program includes funding for instructional faculty, student internships, academic advising, and support. Additionally, General fund appropriations are used to support public safety and utilities, as well as Economic development and research activities such as the Center for Energy Systems, Clemson Center for Human Genetics, and Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research (CUICAR). *What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?*
SUMMARY	Clemson has long been recognized by independent third-party agencies, including the bond rating agencies, for our efficiency and expense management. To that end, Clemson's bond ratings are at their highest level ever, with Standard and Poor's upgrading the University's credit rating to AA+ in 2024. To maintain appropriate instructional levels and provide a safe campus environment, Clemson must continue to reinvest. Increases in inflationary and mandatory costs, such as insurance and utilities, along with broader macroeconomic trends, contribute to financial headwinds facing research universities. Given the headwinds facing higher education, Clemson has already implemented expense control measures to ensure continued fiscal strength through efficiency and expense controls. A general fund reduction at this time could place additional risks on the University. Clemson would need to consider reductions in positions funded by general funds. Clemson would work with the state to attempt to implement early retirement programs and other voluntary separation alternatives to minimize the negative impact on individuals or families. While these measures would enable Clemson to adjust financially to the reduction, they would adversely impact Clemson's ability to provide greater access to South Carolinians and would adversely impact the quality of student experience with larger class sizes and reduced course offerings. The University will continue its efforts to aggressively develop alternative revenue sources, expand partnerships with industry and the private sector for funding, and continue its successful and longstanding work to be as lean as possible and reduce operating costs per unit of output. Since it will take some time to evaluate options, such as early retirement and voluntary separation plans for a reduction in state appropriations, the budget would reflect a decrease in the Other Operating Expenses category within the I.A Unrestricted E&G

budget.

The general fund reduction amount was calculated by the Executive Budget Office as 3% of Clemson's FY 2026-27 Base General Fund Appropriations ($242,605,521).

Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS

Clemson University is committed to providing a high-quality, affordable education to the residents of South Carolina and, as such, promotes a culture of continuous improvement to encourage the efficient utilization of resources. With exceptional student outcomes, graduation rates, and postgraduate employment, coupled with a low cost of education relative to peers, Clemson has been recognized as a strong return on investment for students.

In FY25, given the headwinds and uncertainty facing the higher education sector, Clemson increased its expenditure control protocols proactively to further manage expenses given the changing financial landscape. These controls included increased scrutiny of all hiring and personnel actions by senior leadership, limitations on non-compensation expenditures, and a review of all facilities and capital projects.

To continue this approach of conservatism, the university implemented a budget sequester as part of its FY26 budget, and budget reallocations as part of its FY27 budget. Through this process, Clemson has transferred approximately 5% ($60M) of its FY26 unrestricted operating budget to reserves, and restructured approximately $37M of its FY27 unrestricted operating budget. These measures ensure the continued financial strength of Clemson while preserving the University's ability to deliver its mission in the face of disruption.

To ensure financial sustainability, Clemson remains focused on efficiency as a key enabler of our continued success and ability to reinvest in our mission and program. Clemson continues to engage in ongoing internal analysis and review of university processes, focusing on providing increased efficiencies, cost savings, labor reallocations, and enhanced quality at both the University and departmental levels.

While some of these measures, such as enhanced oversight of expenditures, are expected to remain in the future. Should a recurring reduction occur, such as the 3% reduction contemplated in the form, personnel or program delivery might be affected.

What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than $50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

Agency Name:	Clemson University - Education & General		
Agency Code:	H120	Section:	14

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Expense Management and Efficiency in Higher Education

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	In FY25, Clemson increased its expenditure control protocols proactively to further manage expenses given the changing financial landscape. To continue this approach of conservatism, the university implemented a budget sequester as part of its FY26 budget, and budget reallocations as part of its FY27 budget. Through this process, Clemson has transferred approximately 5% ($60M) of its FY26 unrestricted operating budget to reserves, and restructured approximately $37M of its FY27 unrestricted operating budget. Additionally, Clemson's Lean Office expanded and transitioned in 2021 to the Office of Institutional Excellence with the goal of driving the University's strategic plan and advancing a culture of continuous improvement. Over the last three years, the office's focus has been on ensuring strategic alignment with the University's strategic plan to identify and focus on the University's top priorities. Building on this alignment, the Office of Institutional Excellence will be conducting a comprehensive review of the university's organizational structure, which is anticipated to lead to additional cost-saving opportunities and will further strengthen the efficient delivery of our educational mission.

What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	**Mark "X" for all that apply:**	
		Repeal or revision of regulations.
		Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	X	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	X	Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	Lean cost savings are calculated by determining what the university previously spent on goods and services that have been deemed unnecessary due to process improvements and, as such, have been eliminated. Labor is only included in direct cost savings if positions are eliminated completely due to no longer being necessary to operations as a result of efficiencies realized. Labor savings are realized through attrition. In some instances, employees are reassigned to other areas that would have otherwise had to hire another FTE. Time savings are calculated based on the previous process time spent performing a task that is no longer needed. Those hours are reallocated to other tasks and oftentimes, as previously stated, result in attrition or eliminate the need to hire additional staff. Reallocated hours are converted into a dollar equivalent using an hourly rate reflecting the majority of employees' salaries performing those tasks. Expense management activities are based on actuals and estimated percentages of the unrestricted operating budget.

Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	The University ensures that fines and fees are reasonable, with processes in place to annually review and audit business plans and fee/fine calculations. The Controller's Office reviews service center rates across campus for reasonability, and the student fee committee reviews fee proposals to determine if other funding alternatives exist rather than passing the cost to the student with a new fee or fee increase. The fee committee communicates with student government leaders and ensures that they have a voice in the process before executive leadership considers the fee proposals.

Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	As part of the Institutional Excellence approach discussed above, teams identify and evaluate structures, programs, services, regulations, policies, and procedures that do not provide value to the process and the customer. Mechanisms to eliminate, improve, or adjust these items are identified and implemented to ensure Clemson continues its focus on efficient and effective processes.

Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

SUMMARY

In FY25, given the headwinds and uncertainty facing the higher education sector, Clemson increased its expenditure control protocols proactively to further manage expenses given the changing financial landscape. These controls included increased scrutiny of all hiring and personnel actions by senior leadership, limitations on non-compensation expenditures, and a review of all facilities and capital projects.

To continue this approach of conservatism, the university implemented a budget sequester as part of its FY26 budget, and budget reallocations as part of its FY27 budget. Through this process, Clemson has transferred approximately 5% ($60M) of its FY26 unrestricted operating budget to reserves, and restructured approximately $37M of its FY27 unrestricted operating budget. These measures ensure the continued financial strength of Clemson while preserving the University's ability to deliver its mission in the face of disruption.

Additionally, Clemson's CU-Lean program has adopted methodologies from the private sector to identify opportunities for increased efficiency and continuous improvement.

Also, as a part of the CU Lean Program, we offer training that develops and empowers employees to become effective change leaders in their areas and beyond by providing them with a proven process improvement methodology focused on customer needs and root cause analysis. These employees use these skill sets to improve operational efficiencies within their departments.

The Office of Institutional Excellence has initiated a strategic university portfolio management program that integrates strategic planning, execution, and operational excellence from across operational units to optimize university resources and maximize return on investment on university priorities. By incorporating risk identification and management, we enhance our focus on efficiency and excellence, ensuring that we deliver top-quality education in a cost-effective way. As noted above, the Office of Institutional Excellence will review the university's organizational structure to identify additional cost-saving opportunities and operational efficiencies in support of our educational mission. Clemson remains committed to aligning resources with strategic priorities while maintaining affordability for our students.

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?