



VALLEY CITY
STATE UNIVERSITY

THE NEED

North Dakota Needs Teachers

Our state has a critical shortage of teachers



In April 2021, the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board declared a critical shortage in all K-12 content areas.

Teachers are needed in every grade and content area



Before the start of the 2021-2022 school year, the state of North Dakota had 393 unfilled teaching positions.

THE SOLUTION

VCSU Leads the State and Nation in Teacher Preparation



Ranked the top Elementary Education Program in the United States by Study.com

VCSU graduates more teachers than any other university in the state

Rural School Partner Benefit Program

Partners with districts to help teachers obtain their master's degree by offering a 50% tuition waiver.

1,514 Valley City State University Alumni

Working as teachers and administrators at 359 North Dakota schools.



25 years

in a row VCSU has been ranked by U.S. News and World Report

DEDICATED SPACE FOR THE VCSU SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Preparing a Teaching Workforce



In 1930, McCarthy Hall was built as a lab school for training teachers. During that year, 30 students were enrolled in the teacher training program.

During 2021-2022, 304 VCSU students were awarded either a baccalaureate or graduate degree in education. Currently, the School of Education and Graduate Studies is spread out across campus. The project will bring the entire School of Education under one roof and will allow for better collaboration and enhanced learning experiences for students.

McCarthy Hall is redesigned with the teachers of tomorrow in mind.

Faculty Space

Currently, education faculty have offices spread across various parts of campus. This renovation will allow the Department of Education to bring an enhanced team approach to supporting students as they prepare to become teachers.

Technology Education

Classrooms for technology education include dedicated environments for high-tech machining, assembly, wood fabrication, metal fabrication and a virtual reality lab area.

Educational Spaces

Spaces are designed with flexible seating and updated technology similar to what students will encounter in real-world school environments. The layout will also incorporate a large student workroom, curriculum library and numerous study spaces.

Re-purposing a historic building with enhanced student learning experiences as the focus.



Valley City State University is requesting \$11.4 million to renovate McCarthy Hall for the School of Education and Graduate Studies and the department of Technology Education. VCSU will contribute to this effort with \$2 million in private donations.

This is a teacher workforce development project, and will eliminate more than \$8 million in deferred maintenance.

Based on preliminary design, the total cost of the project is estimated at \$13.4 million.

This project renovates existing space and will make this historic building more efficient. VCSU anticipates cost savings for heating, lighting, air conditioning and maintenance. This one-time request will have a positive impact on VCSU's long-term utility budget.

No new faculty or staff will be necessary for this project.

VCSU has completed preliminary design and costing of the project. If funded, we will begin implementation immediately. The renovation will be completed in two to three years.

This project will enhance the high-quality educational experience students receive at Valley City State University. This will also help attract future teachers to the North Dakota workforce.

McCarthy Hall will be renovated and dedicated for VCSU education programs.





IN THE NEWS

VCSU receives \$600,000 teacher preparation grant to address teacher shortage

Scholarships available for paraprofessionals and substitute teachers seeking a teaching license

Valley City State University (VCSU) has received a \$600,000 grant from the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction to help prepare more teachers to fill critical teaching needs across the state.

The grant will fund the VCSU Grow Your Own Scholarship Program. This program offers scholarships to individuals aspiring to become a licensed teacher in North Dakota. It is specifically designed for paraprofessionals and substitute teachers working in North Dakota school districts.

“Valley City State University has one of the best teacher preparation programs in the nation. This grant allows us to offer scholarships to cover tuition costs for individuals working toward their teaching degree in North Dakota,” VCSU President Alan LaFave said. “We lead the state in preparing future educators and this grant opens doors for more individuals interested in joining the education workforce.”

Scholarships of \$3,200 will be awarded through this program. This amount covers tuition costs for an entire semester for a full-time student.

Scholarships available include:

- Scholarships for two semesters for currently enrolled students, or electing to enroll full-time, in VCSU’s Online Teacher Education Program. This program includes content areas of Elementary, Business, English, History, Mathematics, Spanish, Social Science, and Technology Education.
- Scholarships for three to four semesters for students seeking a teaching degree with a specialized endorsement area. Endorsements available include English Language Learners (ELL), Early Childhood/Kindergarten, and Special Education.

“Our graduates in the field change the lives of students every day,” Dean of the VCSU School of Education Allen Burgad said. “We are proud to have 1,514 VCSU alumni teaching or serving as school teachers and administrators in 359 schools in 151 different North Dakota communities. Our hope is this scholarship program will help more individuals pursue teaching as a career to inspire the next generation of leaders in our state.”



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