

Office of Sponsored Programs Annual – Academic Affairs Report

Emily Samide, Director of Office of Sponsored Programs, will provide the Committee with the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Annual Report. Her written report is below.

Office of Sponsored Programs (For detailed information, please visit: <https://www.shepherd.edu/osp>)

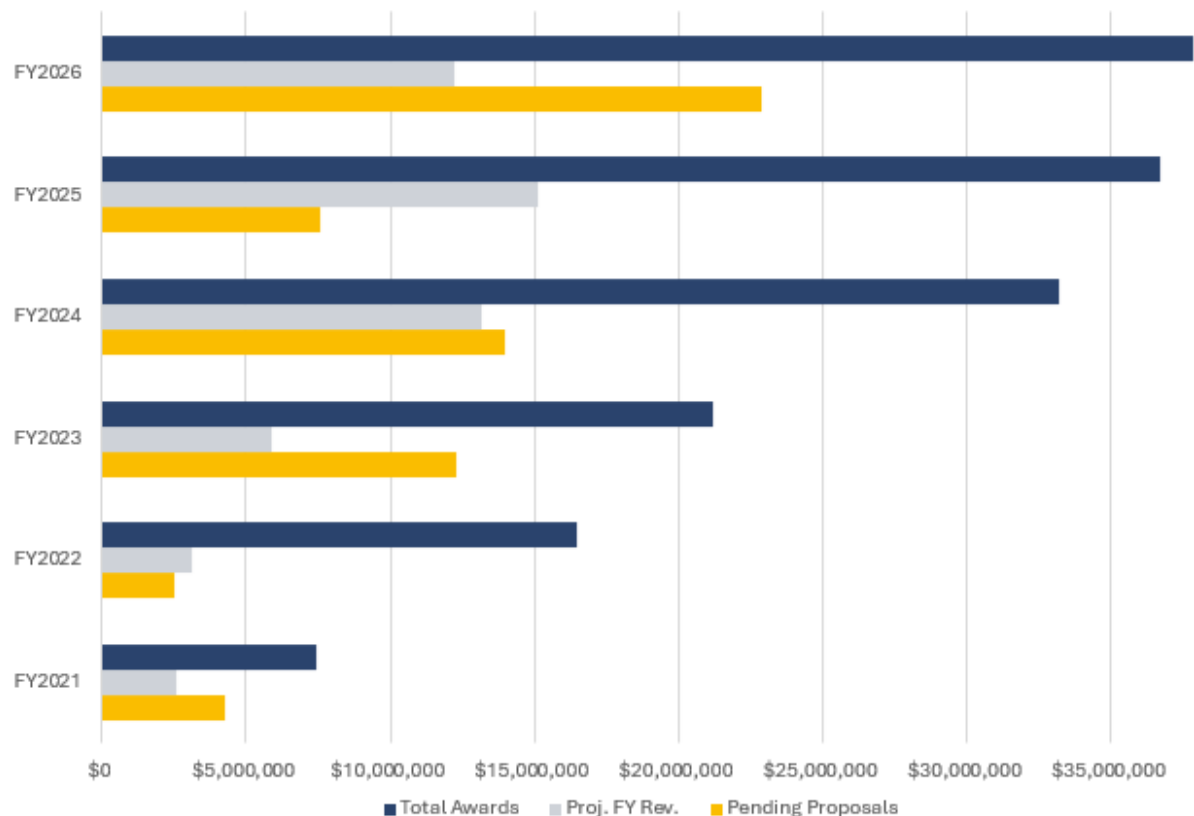
Office of Sponsored Programs Team:

- Emily Samide, Director (DOSP)
- Erin Hildreth, Pre- and Post-Award Specialist

FY2021 - 2026 Grant Portfolio

- End of FY2026 Projected revenue from active and closed grants: **\$12,195,354**
- End of FY2026 Total value of all grants (active, awarded and/or closed): **\$37,906,720**

Five Year Grant Portfolio Snapshot



What Does OSP Do?

The Office of Sponsored Programs offers a range of services to the grant seeking community:

- Grant identification
- Proposal development (Narrative, budget, letters of support and more)
- Institutional review with campus stakeholders
- Submission
- Award onboarding (Banner budget loads, contract negotiation)
- Banner training for key personnel
- Performance and financial reporting (Reminders, drafts, financial report assistance)
- Prior approval requests (Serves as grantor liaison; drafts, finalizes, and submits no-cost extensions, budget modifications and key personnel changes; onboards new grant personnel)
- Processing grant funded supplemental compensation actions to streamline workflow and improve accuracy of costs
- Policy updates and development
- Effort reporting
- Oversees compliance Responsible Conduct of Research and Research Security Training federal requirements
- 3-5 Semesterly in-person and virtual trainings (Proposal Development, Post- Award Management, Grant Cycle Overview, SPIN Prospecting Training) with professional development certificates for attendees
- Maintains working relationships with stakeholders such as elected officials and local organizations

FY2026 Notable Numbers

OSP supported submission of 25 proposals. As of this report, 11 grants were awarded with a 44% success rate.

The Director of OSP (DOSP) completed 51 hours of professional development.

OSP has submitted 6 proposals submitted over the summer period to date.

22 unique Project Directors / Principal Investigators lead grants at Shepherd.

Successful closure and completion of over \$16.5m in federal awards.

Additional Service

The DOSP serves as:

- Chair of the Shepherdstown Grants Committee.
- Internal Review Board Administrator, processing est. 20 research proposals from faculty and students per year.
- Chair of the FY27 statewide HEPC Grants Staff Working Group.
- Treasurer of the Shepherd Entrepreneurship and Research Corporation.

FY2027 Goals

1. Increase unique PDs/PIs by 4 to nurture campus grant engagement and a culture of grantsmanship.
-

-
2. Coordinate with statewide institutions for a collaborative proposal.
 3. Increase large dollar (\$1m +) federal submissions to 3-5 annually excluding Congressionally Directed Spending.
 4. DOSP will complete the Certified Research Administrator exam.

FY2026 Goals Update

- Effort certification updates provided in semesterly newsletter; 100% completion of effort forms in FY2026
- Intent to Submit form automated by Pre/Post Award Specialist
- Training Tracker and Certificates Established
- Supplemental Compensation policy developed

FY2027 Proposal Updates

Newly Awarded Grants to Date: July 29, 2026

- Mid Atlantic Arts Central Appalachia Living Traditions – Shepherd University’s 30th Annual Appalachian Heritage Festival, Rachael Meads – Student Activities. **\$10,000**
- FY27 Deferred Maintenance: Revitalization of the Frank Center, Dr. Kurtis Adams - College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and Jonathan Sherman, Facilities. **\$4,800,000**

Pending Grant Proposals to Date: July 29, 2026

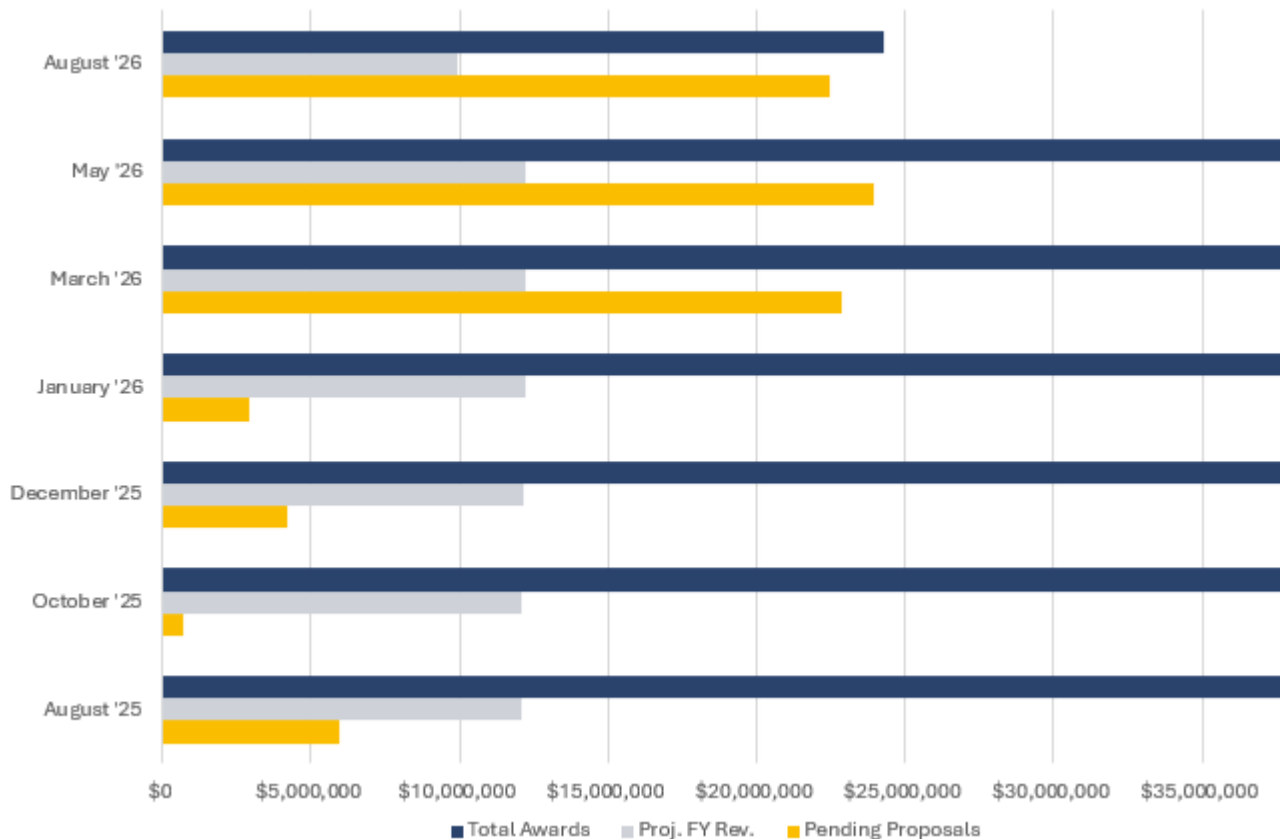
- Submitted and awaiting decision on award.
 - Total FY2027 current pending proposals: **\$22,463,726**
 - Summary of Pending Awards:
 - West Virginia Humanities Council’s Mini Grants: Telling Our Story: An Interpretive History Installation at the Shepherdstown Opera House, Dr. Ben Bankhurst. **\$1,500**
 - Preservation Alliance of West Virginia Frontier to Statehood Preservation Fund: Preservation and Improvement of Shepherd University’s Civil War Center, Dr. Jennifer Murray, Department of History. **\$52,250**
 - Health Resources and Services Administration Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention Program: Community-Access Ready Education (CARE WV): Preparing Nurses for Community-Based Care, Dr. Laureen Donovan, School of Nursing. **\$2,933,192**
 - US Department of Agriculture Rural Business Development Grant: Heritage Tourism and Business Development Initiative, Dr. Zahra Pourabedin, College of Business. **\$33,752**
 - Department of Labor Strengthening Institutions: Shepherd University’s AI Enabled Student Success Capacity Building and Educational Navigation for Degree Completion (ASCEND), Dr. Jack DeRochi, Provost. **\$2,615,426**
 - Department of Labor Talent Search: Advancing College Education in West Virginia (ACE WV), Dr. Jack DeRochi, Provost. **\$1,170,135**
 - Center for Medical Services: Evidence Based Whole Person Health Access Initiative, Dr. Jennifer Flora, Wellness Center. **\$212,289**
 - FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending: Health Simulation and Infrastructure Modernization Project, Facilities. **\$4,640,150**
-

- FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending: Academic Infrastructure Enhancement Project Phase ii, Dr. Richard Stevens, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs. **\$2,455,325**
- FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending: BRIDGE (Belonging, Retention, Independence, Development, Guidance, and Employment) Scholars Initiative - An Early Intervention and Peer Mentorship Program – Social Work and Student Academic Enrichment. **\$536,235**
- FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending: Campus Wide Safety Locking Integration Project – Shepherd University Police Department. **\$5,500,000**
- R61/R33 Photobiomodulation of the Gut-Microbiome Axis to Improve Emotional Well-Being and Whole Person Health Index, Dr. Jennifer Flora, Wellness Center and Dr. Kelly Watson Huffer, School of Nursing. **\$2,313,475**

FY2027 Active Grant Awards to Date: July 29, 2026

- Projected FY2027 revenue from active and closed grants: **\$9,921,228**
Please note revenue is now calculated as actual anticipated costs during the fiscal year, in alignment with the grant budgets provided to Finance for state reporting. Previously, projected revenue was prorated across the grant's lifecycle. This shift in process reflects a more accurate number for annual revenue.
- Total current value of all FY2027 grants (active, awarded and/or closed): **\$24,261,669**

Current Grants Snapshot



PENDING GRANTS: Submitted and Awaiting Decision on Award

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total of Pending Requests: \$22,463,726

WVHC - West Virginia Humanities Council, Mini Grants: \$1,500 for ~1 year: September 14, 2026 – August 15, 2027

Telling Our Story: An Interpretive History Installation at the Shepherdstown Opera House

Funding supports student archival research, the creation of a student-credited academic paper, and creation of four to five museum-quality historical placards with QR code integration for permanent display in the Shepherdstown Opera House lobby and bar area by Shepherd students. The placards will interpret the building's history across its major eras — from its construction in 1909–10 through the vaudeville and silent film years, successive ownerships and the transition to art house cinema, and the current chapter of full restoration and community programming. Project Director: Dr. Benjamin Bankhurst, Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Professor of American History.

PAWV - Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, FSPF - Frontier to Statehood Preservation Fund: \$52,250 for 1 year: January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027

Preservation and Improvement of Shepherd University's Civil War Center

Funding would support improvements to the Civil War Center in alignment with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Project Director: Dr. Jennifer Murray, Director of the Civil War Center and Professor of History.

HRSA - Health Resources and Services Administration, Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention - Transition to Practice Program (NEPQR-TPP): \$2,933,192 for 4 years: September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2030

Community-Access Ready Education (CARE WV): Preparing Nurses for Community-Based Care

The grant would fund BSN student scholarships, professional pathway programs, advising and achievement support, faculty and preceptor development and recruitment, and clinical partnership expansion for improved healthcare workforce and health outcomes for medically underserved and vulnerable populations in the Quad State area (WV, VA, MD, and PA). Project Director: Dr. Laureen Donovan, Professor of Nursing and Director for the Center of Teaching and Learning.

USDA - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG): \$33,752 for 1 year: September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027

Heritage Tourism and Business Development Initiative

The proposed project aims to strengthen rural economic development through heritage tourism by supporting local businesses, cultural attractions, and community organizations. The project will develop a coordinated heritage tourism initiative that promotes regional history, culture, agriculture, and local experiences to attract visitors and increase tourism-related spending in rural communities. Activities, supported by grant funded student internships, include heritage tourism asset mapping, business collaboration, digital marketing support (such as destination website development), tourism branding, and visitor experience development. The project will directly benefit small businesses such as restaurants, retail shops, farms, lodging providers, artisans, and tourism operators by increasing visibility, expanding customer reach, and encouraging sustainable economic growth. Project Director: Dr. Zahra Pourabedin, Assistant Professor of Business.

PENDING GRANTS: Submitted and Awaiting Decision on Award

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total of Pending Requests: \$22,463,726

DOL – Department of Labor, Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP): \$2,615,426 for 5 years: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2031

Shepherd University's AI Enabled Student Success Capacity Building and Educational Navigation for Degree Completion (ASCEND)

The proposed ASCEND project will strengthen SU's academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability demonstrated by postsecondary enrollment, retention, graduation, and post-graduate incomes. Strategies include but are not limited to AI systems for operational efficiency, AI-powered Student Success Assistants, Collaborative AI Lab, faculty professional development, an interdisciplinary AI minor, and Faculty Fellows and Student Ambassadors. Project Director: Dr. Jack DeRochi, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

DOL – Department of Labor, Talent Search (TS): \$1,170,135 for 5 years: September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2031

Advancing College Education in West Virginia (ACE WV)

Funding would support a coordinated, statewide initiative to identify and serve low-income and prospective first-generation students to increase secondary school completion and postsecondary enrollment and attainment through comprehensive, evidence-based services and a personnel-driven model. The staff for the program would be hired upon approval of funding. Interim Project Director: Dr. Jack DeRochi, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

CMS - Center for Medical Services, Enhancing Lifestyle and Evaluating Value-Based Approaches Through Evidence (ELEVATE): \$212,289 for 3 years: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029

Evidence-Based Whole Person Health Access Initiative

Funding would support a lifestyle medicine intervention designed to improve glycemic control and reduce progression to Type 2 diabetes among older adults with elevated hemoglobin A1c levels consistent with prediabetes. The proposed project combines individualized nutrition coaching, progressive walking-based physical activity, weekly group support, and adjunctive photobiomodulation (PBM) for participants randomized to the enhanced intervention group. Shepherd would serve as a sub-awardee providing research oversight, outcomes evaluation, statistical analysis, data management guidance, and Institutional Review Board coordination. Project Director: Dr. Jennifer Flora, Executive Director, Wellness Center and Entrepreneurial Initiatives.

CDS – Congressionally Directed Spending, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): \$4,640,150 for 3 Years: September 1, 2027 – August 31, 2030

Health Simulation and Infrastructure Modernization Project

Funding would support facility improvements including simulation equipment, reliable storage and ventilation, HVAC upgrades, and power back up for Stutzman-Slonaker Hall and locations in the Byrd Science building. Improvements would translate to improved outcomes for allied health majors, and all Shepherd student through elevated general education classes held in the spaces. Project Director: Jonathan Sherman, Director of Facilities.

CDS – Congressionally Directed Spending, Department of Education (USDE): \$2,455,325 for 3 Years: September 1, 2027 – August 31, 2030

Academic Infrastructure Enhancement Project Phase ii

PENDING GRANTS: Submitted and Awaiting Decision on Award

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total of Pending Requests: \$22,463,726

Funding would phase ii of campus wide lift of academic spaces including classrooms, auditoriums, and labs. Phase I was funded with congressionally directed appropriations awarded in FY24. Project Director: Dr. Richard Stevens, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs.

CDS – Congressionally Directed Spending, U.S. Department of Education (USDE): \$536,235 for 3 years: September 1, 2027 – August 31, 2030

BRIDGE (Belonging, Retention, Independence, Development, Guidance, and Employment) Scholars Initiative - An Early Intervention and Peer Mentorship Program

Funding would support development of a pipeline to higher education for youth aging out of foster care through early intervention, success coaching, financial literacy training, and intrusive advising. Funding includes a dedicated program coordinator to be hired upon approval of funding. Interim Project Director: Dr. Michelle Perez, Assistant Provost for Student Academic Enrichment.

CDS – Congressionally Directed Spending, Department of Justice (DOJ): \$5,500,000 for 1 year: September 1, 2027 – August 31, 2028

Campus Wide Safety Locking System Integration

Funding would procurement and installation of an internal door locking system to integrate with the new external door locking system. Project Director: Holly Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs.

NIH - National Institutes of Health, National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH): \$2,313,475 for 5 years: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2031

Shepherd University - R61/R33 Photobiomodulation of the Gut-Microbiome Axis to Improve Emotional Well-Being and Whole Person Health Index

Funding would support R61 and R33 research phases to validate whether microbiome change facilitated by photobiomodulation (PBM) predicts changes in emotional well-being and whole-person health. Principal Investigator: Dr. Jennifer Flora, Executive Director, Wellness Center and Entrepreneurial Initiatives.

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

**HEPC – Higher Education Policy Commission, Deferred Maintenance Grant (DMG):
\$4,800,000 for ~1 year: September 30, 2026 – December 31, 2027: FY27: \$2,888,403
*Revitalization of the Frank Center for the Arts***

Funding supports roof replacement, HVAC improvements, lighting upgrades, security supplements and a new rigging system for the Frank Center for the Arts. Project Director: Jonathan Sherman, Director of Facilities.

**MAA - Mid Atlantic Arts, Central Appalachia Living Traditions (CALT): \$10,000 for ~1 year:
July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026: FY27: \$10,000**

Shepherd University's 30th Annual Appalachian Heritage Festival

Funding supports Shepherd University's 30th annual Appalachian Heritage Festival in Shepherdstown, WV. The festival will feature tradition bearers Dave Bing, Jake Blount, Becky Hill, and Ben Nelson exploring the multicultural roots of Appalachian music and dance. Free workshops, performances, and a community square dance will connect regional audiences with living Appalachian traditions. Project Director: Rachael Meads, Director of Student Activities and Leadership.

**NIH - National Institutes of Health, West Virginia IDEA Networks of Biomedical Research
Excellence (INBRE): \$22,082 for 1 year: August 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025: FY27: \$3,312
*WV-INBRE Summer Research Internship for High School Science Educators at Shepherd
University***

Dr. Qing Wang will mentor a local high school science teacher on a biomedical research project funded by the WV-INBRE Summer Research Internship for High School Science Educators. For more information, please visit <https://www.wv-inbre.net/summer-program-hseducators>. Project Director: Dr. Qing Wang, Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics.

**HEPC - Higher Education Policy Commission, WV Abroad Strategic Internationalization
Grants (GSIG): \$5,000 for 1 year: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027: FY27: \$5,000
*WVAbroad at Shepherd: Student Scholarships and Faculty Involvement for Campus
Internationalization***

Funding bolsters three activities that support expanding student participation in study abroad and deepening support student study abroad scholarships and faculty travel to global partner sites at Hochschule Mittweida (Germany) and the University of the West of Scotland to nurture campus internationalization. The grant will run throughout the 2026-2027 academic year. Project Director: Dr. Samuel Greene, Director of Study Abroad.

**NEA – National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Midwest Big Read: \$19,250 for ~1 year:
September 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027: FY27: \$19,250
*Common Read: Frederick Douglass's Narrative of the Life***

Funding supports the purchase of Frederick Douglass's book, "Narrative of the Life", and a range of events for the 2026 Common Read program. Programming is available to students, the broader campus community and residents. The project team has engaged 10 community partners to hold events like a film screening, book discussions, and artistic demonstrations. Project Director: Hannah Williams-McNamee, Director of Student Support and Transfer Pathways. Co-Project Director: Dr. Heidi Hanrahan, Professor of English.

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

NIH - National Institutes of Health, West Virginia IDEA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE): \$20,882 for 1 year: February 3, 2026 - July 31, 2026: FY27: \$9,579
WV INBRE Student Research at Shepherd University

Funds support the biomedical research of a Shepherd student under faculty mentorship, providing critical academic research opportunities at the undergraduate level. This award is available on an annual basis from the West Virginia INBRE network, and funding passes through West Virginia University. Project Director: Dr. Qing Wang, Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics.

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency, State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP): \$120,000 for ~2 years: February 4, 2026 - November 30, 2027: FY27: \$54,135

Enhancing Cybersecurity Infrastructure Through Encrypted Storage

Funding will enhance Shepherd's cybersecurity resilience and data protection through the implementation of a modern network storage infrastructure with robust encryption-at-rest capabilities. The funding will replace legacy hardware and address critical vulnerabilities in existing infrastructure. Project Director: Joanie Raisovich, Interim CIO/CISO. Co-Project Director: Jason Kerr, Network Administrator.

WVDHHR - West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Title IV-E Child Welfare Curriculum Development and Implementation Project: \$210,426 for 1 year: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027: FY27: \$210,426

Shepherd University Social Work Program 2026-27 Title IV-E Training Grant

Funding supports a collaborative effort with the public universities in West Virginia that have accredited social work programs to provide child welfare training and support training in foster care and adoption services for the DHHR Bureau for Children and Families (BCF) across 15 counties, with the goal of improving the Child Welfare workforce in West Virginia. Project Director: Dr. Craig Cline, Assistant Professor of Social Work.

SFF - Sherman Fairchild Foundation, Arts and Technology Grant (ATG): \$500,000 for 4 years: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2028: FY27: \$213,579

Shepherd University Interdisciplinary Media Hub

This funding will support the development of existing campus programs—including music, theater, communications, design, journalism, and sports communications—to help Shepherd students strengthen their demonstrable skills within their academic concentration and engage in interdisciplinary and multimedia projects for their tangible work portfolios, resulting in improved post-graduate career acquisition. Project Director: Dr. Kurtis Adams, Dean for the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. Co-Project Director: David Modler, Chair, Department of Contemporary Art and Theater.

CWBF - Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation Education Grants: \$172,756 for 2 years: September 20, 2025 - September 29, 2027: FY27: \$86,378

Shepherd University's Rising Leaders Program

Funding will support a program that builds on the existing, successful LEADS (Leadership. Education. Action. Development. Service.) program for incoming freshmen, held in the week prior to their first Fall semester, as well as the 25-year-established Washington Gateway program. The Rising Leaders program will occur during the summers of 2026-2027 with a target audience of rising high school seniors. The program's goals are to increase undergraduate readiness for

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

collegiate-level curriculum, financial decisions, and environmental/cultural shifts. Project Director: Julia Franks, Chief of Staff, Student Affairs.

CWBF - Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation: \$150,000 for 2 years: May 1, 2024 - September 30, 2026: FY27: \$59,902

Stubblefield Institute's Community Leadership & Civil Advocacy Certificate

Funding supports a 50-hour certificate program through the Stubblefield Institute for any college student looking to develop leadership and advocacy skills and competencies for effective civic engagement, especially collaborative problem-solving, navigating conflict, and building bridges across differences at work or in their community. Students will be offered the opportunity through partnerships with schools throughout West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania. This program brings intention, reflection, personal development, and community-building to the leadership journey. Participants will deepen their understanding of their local community resources, strengthen their confidence to engage in constructive dialogue across differences, and gain knowledge and skills from leaders within the Institute, universities and colleges, community organizations, and the participant's local community. Project Director: Ashley Horst, Executive Director for the Stubblefield Institute.

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Extension and Public Outreach Program (EPOC): \$5,000 for ~1 year: June 1, 2026 - April 9, 2027: FY27: \$5,000

Seeding Your Future Initiative

Funding supports the Seeding Your Future Initiative (SYFI). The SYFI is composed of three outreach components: the Seeding Your Future Conference (SYFC), the Seeding Your Future Workshop Series (SYFWS), and the Seeding Your Future Grab-A-Lab (SYFGAL). The goal of the SYF is to offer regularly scheduled interactive opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) that would be outside the normal classroom experience and to connect the participants with the STEM faculty and undergraduate students at Shepherd. The SYFGAL is a new outreach endeavor to help STEM further connect with the local elementary, middle, and high school science departments and students by creating individual labs in a box that the local teachers can check out for a period of time, take back to their classroom, run the lab as written or even experiment on their own, and return the box to Shepherd for refilling supplies for the next teacher. This grant would fund all outreach needs for SYFI for the 2025-2026 year. Project Director: Dr. Sytil Murphy, Associate Professor of Physics and Chair, Department of Natural and Physical Sciences. Co-Project Directors: Dr. Jacquelyn Cole, Associate Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Lindsey Levitan, Associate Professor of Psychology; and Dr. Sara Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Biology.

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Affiliate Awards: \$17,000 for ~1 year June 1, 2026 - April 9, 2027: FY27: \$17,000

Shepherd University's Space Grant Fellowships and Research Enhancement Awards

Funds support 10 students working with Faculty Mentors across the various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) disciplines. This work would be conducted in various laboratories such as Plant Biology, Neurosciences, Chemistry, Computer Sciences, Cybersecurity, Environmental Sciences, Ecology, Sustainable Agriculture, Aquaponics, Mathematics, Data Science, Immunology, Mycology, and Herpetology. Project Director: Dr. Courtney Campamy, Assistant Professor of Biology. Co-Project Director: Dr. Richard Thompson, Dean for the College of Science,

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

Health, and Wellness.

HEPC - Higher Education Policy Commission, Deferred Maintenance Grant (DMG):

\$4,050,000 for 2 years: July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026: FY27: \$2,310,503

Roof, Gutter, and Masonry Replacements

Funding supports the professional design, construction, equipment, and miscellaneous costs associated with roof replacement, gutter replacement, and masonry updates for Shepherd's McMurren Hall, White Hall, Facilities, Reynolds Hall, Human Resources Building, CCA, and Popodicon. Project Director: Jonathan Sherman, Director of Facilities.

HEPC - Higher Education Policy Commission, Community and Technical College System

(CTCS): \$21,580 for 1 year: July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027: FY27: \$21,580

2026 West Virginia Student Leadership Conference

Funding is designated for the 2025 West Virginia Student Leadership Conference expenses. The West Virginia Student Leadership Conference is an event that is attended by student leaders representing Student Government Associations at West Virginia's colleges and universities, and their Student Government Association (SGA) Advisors. Project Director: Jack Shaw, Associate Vice President for Campus Services. Co-Project Directors: Holly Morgan Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs, Director of Community Relations; and Rachael Meads, Director of Student Activities and Leadership.

WISH - Women Investing in Shepherd: \$36,250 for 3 years: September 21, 2025 - September 21, 2028: FY27: \$12,072

Community-Based Composting at SUAIC

Funds support the purchase of composting equipment and supplies for the Shepherd University Agricultural Innovation Center (SUAIC). The impetus for this project is three-fold: 1. Providing a practical demonstration of sustainability, social responsibility, and entrepreneurship for Shepherd University students at SUAIC, 2. Having an estimated \$2,000 in annual operational cost savings spent on disposal of waste and purchase of compost for Shepherd and SUAIC activities; 3. Generating operating revenue to SUAIC for ongoing operations and projects through the sale of compost produced by equipment purchased from the grant. Project Director: Matthew Ware, Farm Coordinator.

WISH - Women Investing in Shepherd: \$26,750 for 3 years: September 18, 2024 - September 17, 2027: FY27: \$6,750

Forensic Science Lab Classroom

Funding will support the upgrades necessary for the use of a laboratory space in which to teach Forensic Science. This space will allow for a new certificate and curriculum in Forensic Science to be developed and made available. Project Director: Dr. Jacquelyn Cole, Associate Professor of Chemistry.

WISH - Women Investing in Shepherd: \$26,750 for 3 years: September 18, 2024 - September 17, 2027: FY27: \$3,225

Florence Shaw Demonstration Cottage "Little House" Remediation

Funding will pay for the safe remediation of the historical and beloved "Little House" on Princess

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

Street. Updates will allow the Little House to be fully utilized in experiential learning opportunities and community events alike. Project Director: Holly Morgan Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs, Director of Community Relations.

HRSA - Health Resources and Services Administration, Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW): \$2,599,992 for 4 years: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2027: FY27: \$649,998
WV REACH: Redesigning APRN (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) Education with innovative Academic-clinical partnerships in rural/underserved Communities for primary care, substance use disorder care, and mental health services

Funding provides up to 26 scholarships and stipends per year for Doctor of Nursing Practice students, as well as faculty stipends, and professional development activities to enhance the educational offerings and support the regional clinical training partnerships established in the prior round of funding. The ultimate goal of the program is to increase the number of nurse practitioner providers in rural West Virginia and to provide them with advanced training in the areas of substance abuse treatment and prevention, mental health, and maternal care. Project Director: Dr. Kelly Watson-Huffer, Associate Professor of Nursing.

NSF - National Science Foundation and the West Virginia Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

Track-1: \$945,458 for 5 years: June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2028: FY27: \$194,406

RII Track-1: West Virginia Network for Functional Neuroscience and Transcriptomics (WV-NFNT)

Funding allows for the continued investigation into the neural development of the Drosophila (fruit fly species) brain. This grant creates opportunities for undergraduate students to learn genetic and imaging skills, conduct neuroscience research, and work in collaboration with West Virginia University and Marshall University. There will also be an increase in partnerships with local industries for students' career development, internships, and job opportunities while enhancing our regional alliances with businesses, industry, and government agencies. This project creates a neuroscience educational platform for K-12 students to use and a "Brain Camp" for high school juniors interested in learning about neuroscience. Principal Investigators: Dr. Conor Sipe, Assistant Professor of Biology. Co-Principal Investigators: Dr. Qing Wang, Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics; Dr. Richard Thompson, Dean for the College of Science, Health, and Wellness; and Dr. Jason Best, Associate Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness, and Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

NSF - National Science Foundation, Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM): \$1,499,993 for 6 years: October 15, 2021 - September 30, 2027: FY27: \$596,495

Enhancing Academic Achievement and Career Preparation for Scholars in Computer Science, Mathematics, and Engineering

This program addresses the challenges facing low-income, academically talented students with demonstrated financial need seeking degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Funds provide scholarships and establish a coherent ecosystem of effective evidence-based practices. Additionally, the project assesses the effects of those practices and other factors on student success to generate knowledge about how institutions can create and strengthen

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

learning environments for their scholars. Principal Investigator: Dr. Qing Wang, Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics. Co-Principal Investigators: Dr. Osman Guizide, Associate Professor of Engineering; Dr. Robert Monahan, Associate Professor of Mathematics; and Dr. Weidong Liao, Professor of Computer Science and Information Sciences. Evaluator: Dr. Amy DeWitt, Professor of Sociology and Assistant Dean, Student Academic Enrichment.

NSF - National Science Foundation, WV Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE): \$161,475 for 3 years: December 15, 2023 - December 14, 2026: FY27: \$35,794

Shepherd Opportunity to Attract Research Students (SOARS) V

Funding supports stipends for 10 students to participate in summer research projects with skilled STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) faculty mentors at Shepherd University. This is the fifth SURE SOARS proposal for the program at Shepherd, building on remarkable previous success. Project Director: Dr. Robert Warburton, Professor of Biochemistry. Co-Project Director: Dr. Sara Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Biology.

USDE - U.S. Department of Education, TRIO Upward Bound Program: \$1,488,005 for 5 years: September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2027: FY27: \$309,505

TRIO Upward Bound Program (II)

Awarded funds support a high school-to-Shepherd conduit for students in the region through a summer residential program on campus and weekend programs throughout the academic year. Nationally, Upward Bound programs demonstrate success in creating a path to college attendance for first-generation college students. Typically, more than half of Upward Bound participants enroll at their host campus after graduating from high school. This program extends the purview of TRIO staff from just retention efforts to outreach and recruitment of future Shepherd students. Project Director: Dr. Evora Baker, Director, TRIO Programs.

USDE - U.S. Department of Education, TRIO Student Support Services Program: \$1,361,820 for 5 years: September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2030: FY27: \$272,364

TRIO Student Support Services (III)

Funding supports staff salaries and programmatic offerings for Shepherd students who meet the needs criteria. The program offers mentoring, academic counseling, and tutoring services for participating students to support their good academic standing while increasing retention and graduation rates. Project Director: Dr. Evora Baker, Director, TRIO Programs.

CDS - Congressionally Directed Spending, U.S. Department of Education (USDE): \$2,235,000 for 3 years: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027: FY27: \$1,178,422

Academic Classrooms and Auditorium Improvements

This project will renovate and revitalize more than 40 labs, classrooms, and learning environments on the Shepherd University campus to improve the safety, cost-effectiveness, and educational impact of these spaces and provide an enhanced student experience through technological improvements. Project Director: Dr. Richard Stevens, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs. Co-Project Director: Joanie Raisovitch, Interim CIO/CISO.

ACTIVE GRANTS: Awarded and/or Implemented During this Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year: 2027, Month End: July

Total FY2027 projected revenue: \$9,921,228; Sum value of all current awards: \$24,261,669

CDS - Congressionally Directed Spending, U.S. Department of Education (USDE): \$250,000 for 3 years: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027: FY27: \$150,426

WV Emerging Project

WV Emerging is a novel way to generate forward-thinking, multigenerational policy recommendations. The Bill and Bonnie Stubblefield Institute for Civil Political Communications is setting out to develop a research-based methodology for facilitating discussions that bridge political divides to offer solutions to the most pressing issues of our time. Once developed, the Institute aims to use this framework to tackle one targeted issue each year, bringing together the many voices engaged in solving the issue. Among these voices will be experts, legislators, lobbyists, nonprofits, and the best and brightest of our Shepherd students and students from around the state. These groups will take part in a yearlong challenge to, through a series of facilitated discussions, propose a solution that will address the urgency of the problem and create a pathway to overcoming that problem for the future of our state. Project Director: Ashley Horst, Executive Director for the Stubblefield Institute.

CDS - Congressionally Directed Spending, Small Business Association (SBA): \$1,422,200 for 3 years: July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2026: FY27: \$243,962

Agricultural Small Business Incubator at the Shepherd University Agricultural Innovation Center

This project develops new agricultural production systems to demonstrate and train novice farmers in innovative small-scale agriculture and provide the infrastructure necessary to establish an agricultural business incubator at Tabler Farm with access to arable land and focused training in agricultural entrepreneurship. Project Director: Dr. Brooke Comer, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies. Co-Project Director: Dr. Jeffrey Groff, Professor of Physics.

CDS - Congressionally Directed Spending, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): \$609,000 for 3 years: September 30, 2023 - September 29, 2027: FY27: \$206,148

Chemistry Department Revitalization of Labs and Classrooms

This project will revitalize the Chemistry Department's labs and classrooms to meet current scientific methods and pedagogy. Project Director: Dr. Jacquelyn Cole, Associate Professor of Chemistry. Co-Project Director: Dr. Richard Thompson, Dean for the College of Science, Health, and Wellness.

CDS - Congressionally Directed Spending, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Economic Development Initiative (EDI): \$1,475,000 for 7 years: May 1, 2023 - August 31, 2030: FY27: \$147,614

East Loop: Environmental Remediation and Demolition

Funding will be used to enhance the physical university campus in a manner that will make it more desirable for students, which begins with the removal of unused facilities surrounding the East Loop. Project Director: Jonathan Sherman, Director of Facilities.