

**Indiana School for the Blind
and Visually Impaired**
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Superintendent's Office
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To: Mr. Adam Horst
Indiana State Budget Director
212 State House
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Via: Dr. James Mervilde
Board Chair
Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
7725 North College Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

Thru: John Hill
Indiana Department of Education
Division of Exceptional Learners
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From: James R. Durst
Superintendent
Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
7725 North College Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240



Date: September 24, 2012

Re: Construction, Repair and Rehabilitation Budget

Of the thirty (30) buildings on the campus of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ISBVI), fourteen (14) of the buildings were initially constructed in 1932. Six (6) buildings were constructed in the 1960's, two (2) in the 1970's, two (2) in the 1980's, and six (6) in the 1990's. All of the buildings are owned by the State of Indiana. All but four (4) were funded through the state with the four being constructed with donated dollars. The ISBVI does not lease/rent any additional space.

While the buildings are generally in good repair/condition, the original buildings are in dire need of tuck pointing and terracotta tile renovations. Water infiltration is a significant issue as a result of mortar deterioration and terracotta tiles shifting and cracking over multiple decades. Recent repairs of the veranda and new roofs on the three on-campus houses have had a positive impact on the water infiltration in these areas; however, as a result of water infiltration in the veranda area, the infrastructure under the recently repaired verandas has been compromised, exposing rebar, conduit and significant concrete deterioration.

This biennium, ISBVI will be requesting funding for the following capital projects:

- (1) Exterior/interior elevated walkways (water infiltration in the veranda area has compromised the infrastructure exposing rebar, conduit and has caused significant concrete deterioration) projected cost – \$367,500;
- (2) Tuck pointing and terracotta tile renovations (water has infiltrated numerous buildings through deteriorating mortar and cracked and shifted terracotta) projected cost - \$981,157;
- (3) Replace the HVAC system in the Aquatics Building (on-going failure, compressor replacements and leaks) projected cost - \$265,133;
- (4) Replace windows in Churchman Hall and Lambert Hall (seals are leaking and are not energy efficient) projected cost - \$677,409;
- (5) Replace remaining exterior doors in the Administration and Quad buildings (doors failing, leaking and are not energy efficient) projected cost \$133,475;
- (6) Replace floor tiles in Aldur/Lambert Hall (original tile contains asbestos which has been determined to not be of immediate danger or threat but could potentially be an issue in the future) projected cost - \$260,685.

Collaboration with the Indiana Department of Corrections (IDOC) and the Indiana Lions for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and various volunteers has had a positive impact on the campus, buildings and programs of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Crews from IDOC, working on campus when students are not present, have allowed us to maintain and improve our campus at levels previously not possible, including the provision of labor to reroof the previously mentioned houses at a fraction of the cost of private contractors. Additionally, mowing, cleaning, repairs of broken water lines, and other routine maintenance has proven to be beneficial for both ISBVI and IDOC. ISBVI benefits from the services provided and IDOC benefits by providing offenders with work opportunities and job experiences. The Lions and volunteers also provide labor on campus at various times throughout the year by painting, landscaping, refurbishing computers, and other routine tasks, allowing ISBVI staff to focus on other critical issues.

The current facility, with planned and previous improvements and collaborative efforts with numerous service clubs, organizations, and individuals continues to meet the needs of the students we serve and allows us to continue to fulfill our mission of educating students who are blind, have low vision, or are blind or have low vision with additional handicapping conditions.

ISBVI is also requesting \$565,714 in Preventative Maintenance (PM) dollars for the 2013-2015 biennium. This amount is the same as the current biennium and is needed to provide ongoing maintenance and repairs, thereby protecting and extending the initial investment in the facility.