

Request for Assessment of Branch Campus Locations

We are requesting that each “receiving university” prepare an assessment of each branch campus location for which it is responsible. The enrollments at these campuses have declined precipitously over the last five years. In order to sustain accessibility at these locations, we must prioritize and develop an assessment to that identifies and addresses any financial and operational issues. It also is clear that each location is unique such that a systemwide, one-size-fits-all approach is not the best option.

Our goal is to allow the receiving chancellors broad autonomy in addressing the challenges at their respective branch campuses. We also want to collaborate and share best practices across the UW System. To do so, we will schedule periodic meetings of the receiving chancellors. UW System will serve as a convener of the receiving universities, as well as provide support to the universities in their assessment process.

The objective is to encourage innovative and creative approaches to the branch campuses. This may include, for example (as some of you are already doing), offering graduate programs at these locations, expanding dual enrollment, adopting a “one university/multiple location” approach, partnering with local tech colleges, providing reskilling/upskilling programming, moving to an online format, and offering a pathway for degree completion for non-traditional students. All options should be on the table. It is imperative that we are innovative and aggressive.

For each assessment, please include the following:

- Key pillars that will guide your actions
- The list of goals and specific steps for each pillar and anticipated timeline for completion
- Statement regarding expected end result(s)

Once we have received your assessments, we will convene a meeting of the receiving chancellors for further discussion. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.