

MERCER COUNTY

SBA Needs Project Evaluation Summary

Project Request:

Mercer County requests up to \$10,903,323 in SBA funding for Phase I additions/renovations to Mercer County Technical Education Center (MCTEC). These funds will be used in partnership with a local contribution of \$4,000,000, in addition to \$500,000 from the Shott Foundation, for a total project cost of \$15,403,323.

Project Facts:

- In approved CEEP: Yes
- Number of Students affected:
- Annual Savings: N/A
- Cost Avoidance: N/A
- Project in Floodway / Flood Plain: Yes. (If yes) Active Flood Insurance: Yes

Evaluation Criteria in W.Va. Code §18-9D-16:

I. Student Health & Safety

This project addresses critical student and teacher health and safety needs.

II. Economies of Scale

This project meets economies of scale: NA

III. Reasonable Travel Time

This project meets the requirements in WV Code for maximum student travel time.

IV. Multi-County and Regional Planning

This project is a single-county project.

V. Curriculum Improvement and Diversification, including Technology and Distance Learning

This project proposes to offer advanced and diversified curricular improvements.

VI. Innovations in Education

This project includes some innovative curriculum and/or breakout STEM education.

VII. Adequate Space for Projected Student Enrollments

This project will address a school with a high utilization factor by eliminating overcrowding.

VIII. History of Efforts taken by the County Board to Propose or Adopt Bond Issues of Special Levies

The County has proposed bond issues and/or special levy on limited occasions.

IX. Regularly Scheduled Preventative Maintenance

This project increases maintenance required; however, the county has a PM plan in place.

Project Status:

Listed below are projected activities that have been completed to date.

- After reviewing the submitted documents and information, an on-site review was performed on 9/23/25 with Ed Toman, Superintendent, Danielle Farmer, Principal of MCTEC, and Leslie Williams, Treasurer of Mercer County Schools, along with Patrick Elliott of the SBA Staff.
- On behalf of Mercer County Schools, a project budget and conceptual plan was established by ZMM Architects and Engineers.

Project Comments by the SBA Staff:

- The Mercer County Technical Education Center (MCTEC) is currently limited in its ability to offer a broad and diversified curriculum due to inadequate space, resulting in students being put on a waiting list. There is currently no elevator and the chair lift is inoperable, with parts being unavailable due to its age. A new elevator would bring the facility into ADA compliance.
- Mercer County proposes to begin Phase 1 of additions and renovations at the Mercer County Technical Education Center (MCTEC). This project would include new spaces for engineering, criminal justice, information technology, and emergency medical services, with additional general classrooms and restrooms. The renovations would recapture existing space for an administrative suite and upgrade essential building systems, including a new sprinkler system, fire alarm, and HVAC controls.
- While sections of this school appear to be in the 100-year floodplain, county administrators say this addition would be outside the floodplain. Mercer County submitted this project in the FY25 funding cycle. After the project was not funded, the county sought ways to reduce costs and secure additional local funding to create a more impactful project.

Existing Building Evaluation Report

MCTEC

- Year of Original Construction: 1970
- Number and Year of Major Additions: 9
- Grade Configuration: 9-12
- Number of Classrooms: 24
- 2nd Month Enrollment (24-25 School Year): 792
- Building Program Capacity: NA
- Building Program Utilization: NA
- Building Total Square Footage: 42,890 sq. ft.
- Site Size: 28 acres
- Site Adequacy: Adequate
- Site Access: Adequate
- Parking Adequacy: Adequate
- Flood Plain: Yes, Flood Insurance: Yes
- HVAC System Type: Gas & Electric
- HVAC System Overall Condition: Poor
- Restroom Facilities: Inadequate
- Food Service Facilities: NA
- On-site Review Conducted:
 - Fire Safety Deficiencies 0
 - Sanitation Reports 0
 - State Board of Risk/Insurance 0
 - ADA Compliance Issues 0
- Overall Condition of the Building: Fair

Project Finance Report

Mercer County

County's Proposed Finance Plan for this Project:

Funding Sources	County Proposal	Percent
SBA Funds:	\$10,903,323	71%
Local Funds:	\$ 4,000,000	26%
Other Funds:	\$ 500,000	3%
Total Funds:	\$15,403,323	100%

County Budget Information as of June 30, 2024:

Unrestricted Fund Balance: \$24,636,829 State Rank: 9th Distressed County: No

Bonding and Levy Capacities:

Bonding Capacity: \$120,978,908 Available Bonding Capacity: \$120,978,908
Excess Levy Capacity: \$17,165,240 Available Levy Capacity: \$0

History of SBA Funding:

- Net: \$ 4,554,565.10
- NEEDs: \$58,766,603.02
- MIP: \$ 4,019,014.00
- Emergency: \$ 274,918.29
- SAS \$ 1,061,503.48
- **Total: \$68,676,603.89**

List of Needs Projects Funded:

Oakvale Elementary School
Pikeview Middle School
Pikeview High School
New Bluefield Area Intermediate ES
New Princeton Area ES
Princeton MS Renovations
Princeton HS A/R
New Mountain Valley ES
New Bluefield Primary ES
New Bluewell-Brushfork PK-5 School
New Timberwood ES

Ongoing SBA Project(s): None