

State Of Maryland

2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Summit School New Academic Center		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Henson	Howard	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Anne Arundel County	\$530,981	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Summit School New Academic Center, including fire safety improvements		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Joan Mele-McCarthy, Executive Director		410-798-0005
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The Summit School is a Type I full-day Special Education and Related Services program for children in grades 1 through 8 with specific learning disabilities. We support 115-120 students with dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, processing difficulties, memory issues, weak oral language abilities, and attention/executive function concerns who do not thrive in traditional school settings. These challenges impede their ability to read, spell, write, do math, and manage the multiple demands of an academic environment. The Summit School provides a tailored, comprehensive education designed to meet the unique needs of each student. We accept public school students when counties determine that a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) should be provided in our specialized setting. We serve students from 9 MD counties.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

Summit seeks funding for fire safety requirements mandated by the Anne AAC Fire Marshal for the new Academic Center. Fire Lane: The AAC Fire Marshal mandated a 25000-foot paved asphalt lane, extending behind an existing building-increased from a proposed 100-foot lane with turf-stabilizing plastic grids, which support grass while preventing erosion and compaction, is more economical, eco-friendly and maintains a sylvan aesthetic. Water Supply: We have a 25,000-gallon water drafting tank, but regulations require a fire suppression system located closer to the building. These upgraded mandated requirements caused \$530,981 cost increases, which is a hardship completion for project completion. Fire Suppression Tank equipment: \$250,000; Suppression Tank Design: \$24,280; Generator for water temp: \$86,701; Fire Lane Design/construction: Storm water management/site work:\$100,000; Paving \$40,000; Tree removal \$30,000. Total:\$530,981.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$24,280
Construction	\$170,000
Equipment	\$336,701
Total	\$530,981

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

State funding (see explanation below in comments)	\$530,981
Total	\$530,981

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
3/1/2019.	2/28/2024	8/15/2025	4/15/2027
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site		17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
3100000.00	212		690 (in person and virtual)
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2019	\$100,000	De Grange Aging Building Fund -To build an academ	
2022	\$500,000	Maryland teachers (hybrid symposium space for Sum	
2025	\$150,000	Technology-enabled professional development	
2025	\$250,000	Governor's Capital Construction Budget to support se	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Human Development Corp/DBA The Summit School 664 Central Ave. East Edgewater, MD 21037 District 30B			
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	30B - Anne Arundel County		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Joan Mele-McCarthy	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	4107980005		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
The Summit School 664 Central Ave East Edgewater, MD 21037			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
53	69	6433181.00	7094057.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	23000		
Space to be Renovated GSF	4400		
New GSF	38,600		

<p>27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion</p>	<p>2026-2027</p>
<p>28. Comments</p> <p>House Sponsors: Delegate Seth Howard, District 30B sponsor Delegate Dana Jones, District 30A, co-sponsor, Delegate Dylan Behler, District 30A, co-sponsor</p> <p>For context, this new facility is replacing an aging barn, which has been demolished because it was in disrepair and no longer safe for use of any kind due to a variety of issues such as flooding, rotting external door frames, and an unreliable HVAC system. In the interim, until this building is completed, the School is using three portable classrooms, has doubled up on office space, and has engaged in creative scheduling.</p> <p>This request for funding is specifically directed to the increased project cost caused by a mandate by the Anne Arundel Fire Marshal regarding our fire lane and fire suppression tank. As delineated above, we are requesting help with \$530,981. However, this number does not include other costs not listed: 1) \$18,000 Low Voltage (rerouting electric and fiber optic cable); \$13,000 fees from outsourced project management firm, The Stonehouse Group; \$250,000 possible additional cost for the Fire Suppression Tank; \$25,000 for design and construction administration of sitework, SWM; \$125,000 additional fees for General Conditions from the contractor for three months delay in project completion original occupancy date was December 2026, but the delays incurred because of the fire lane construction cost the project three months. The Fire Marshal would not let ANY work proceed on the building site until the fire lane was completed with appropriate inspections, which directly led to project construction delays and then weather delays. We were prepared for a total project cost of \$10.5 million, but with this mandate, costs will increase by about \$700,000 to \$1million dollars (depending upon the final cost of the fire suppression tank), potentially increasing the project total cost to anywhere from \$11,200,000 to \$11,500,000. We will fund these increases not covered by state funds through continued private donor fundraising and a tax exempt construction loan (already approved).</p> <p>This cost increase presents a severe hardship for our school that serves families who are not wealthy and who did not expect to have to enroll their child at our school. They know that their chances of achieving in high school and beyond will be a reality for their child because of their enrollment at Summit. In the state special ed system, students with specific learning disabilities (SLD and by definition, demonstrate average or better cognitive potential) are classified as a high-incidence disability and comprise 66.7% of all students with disabilities in Maryland, the largest subgroup of SWD. Summit students are students who have specific learning disabilities. By comparison, 22.23% of SWD are classified as Other Health Impaired, 13.99% are classified as having Autism, and 5.14% qualify for classification as having an Intellectual Disability</p> <p>(https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/DCAA/SSP/20222023Student/2023DEISESCensusPublication.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com). Yet, the graduation rate for students with disabilities overall is historically and consistently low. The Maryland State Board of Education recently released the 2025 graduation-rate data showing that the graduation rate for students with disabilities (SWD) was 70.42%. 98% of Summit alumni matriculate to and graduate from high school and many graduate from college. We have an important place in the community for this population of students with disabilities. We make an undisputable impact on the children we serve.</p>	