



Rapid City Women's Correctional Facility

Department of Corrections

Overview

Governor Rhoden's recommended budget includes an increase of 133.0 FTE and \$13.2 million for the operations of the Rapid City Women's Correctional Facility. The construction of this facility was authorized by the 2023 Legislature in HB 1016.

The Level III facility will have a total capacity of 300 offenders and will relieve overcrowding at the South Dakota Women's Prison and the Pierre Minimum Center. The Pierre Minimum Center will be decommissioned after all offenders have been relocated.

Ongoing Staffing

The Governor is recommending 96.0 FTE for security operations, 23.0 FTE for healthcare, and 20.0 FTE for education, programming, and administration. Due to the decommissioning of the Pierre Minimum Center, 6.0 FTE are able to be reduced from the budget.

The recommendation allows for enhanced educational, treatment, and reentry services for offenders. Mental health professionals and certified addictions counselors will provide intensive drug treatment services to offenders in a therapeutic community living environment. Adequate staffing allows staff to deescalate violence, thoroughly search for contraband, and to deter offender misconduct. An adequate staffing plan allows for improved working conditions for staff, reducing the need for overtime and leading to less staff turnover.

One-Time Costs

The Governor is recommending 26.4 FTE and \$2.4 million in one-time funding to support staff training for the new facility. Training is scheduled to begin in February and will continue through the facility's opening. This funding ensures that all staff are fully prepared to assume their duties upon entering the new facility.

Additionally, the Governor is recommending \$682,825 for the demolition of the Pierre Minimum Center. All offenders will be moved to either the Women's Prison or the Rapid City Correctional Facility in 2026.