

ACADEMIC PROGRAM INNOVATION

Start: August 2025

Finish: July 2026

Budget: \$0

Actual YTD: \$0



Aviation

First in SC! Will enroll up to 100 students by Year 5 and potential to recruit out of state. Will be a signature program: WU is the only SC university close to a major city, airport, and airline hub!



Health Sciences

#1 area of study for SC high school students. Potential to enroll hundreds of students. Interdisciplinary program with minimal new funds needed to get started.



Adv. Manu. Engineering

Engineering is the #2 top area of study for SC students. No four-year engineering in our region; ties to economic development. No "Advanced Manufacturing Engineering" in SC. WU is uniquely positioned to offer this due to existing AI, Cyber, etc. degrees.

RISK/MITIGATION

Failure to secure approvals and milestones could delay the start of these programs. In fact, the target launch date of Fall 2026 for Aviation will not be achieved due to the delay with the FAA. Failure to secure extramural support for Engineering will delay its launch. To mitigate these issues, the Provost will work directly with the relevant constituencies on all three of these initiatives each step of the way.

Q3 HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences was submitted to CHE and first wave of questions answered.
 - ✓ However, the CHE ACAP meeting was cancelled, delaying Step 1 of 3.
- ✓ FAA Part 141 for Aviation will not be approved in time for an official Fall 2026 launch. A new prospective aviation student tracking form was created with Admissions. We determined that US DoE approval of the Aviation program will be straightforward once the FAA 141 credential is secured.
- ✓ Additional progress made on the Engineering fundraising, but no public announcement made yet.

Q4 OBJECTIVES

- Health Sciences: Gain SC CHE approvals (all three steps).
- Engineering: Secure enough financial support to justify moving forward and make announcement.
- Aviation: Is in a holding pattern until FAA 141 is secured.

Status:



Lead: Sebastian van Delden

Pillars: Educate

Date: 04/06/2026

DESCRIPTION

Since 2022, Winthrop has been actively engaged in curriculum development.

This year, we will track three strategic initiatives: Bachelor of Science degree programs in Health Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing Engineering, and Aviation and Business Management.

