On Dec. 1, 2011, Gov. Matt Mead recommended approval of the following University of Wyoming and UW-related standard and exception budget requests:

067 University of Wyoming-

Standard Budget

- Approved without changes

Operating Budget--General Fund Increases (biennium amounts)

- $7,452,330 as the general fund element to bring UW Section I employee salaries up to 91% of the market average. (This is less than the $9,374,000 that UW projects is necessary to bring the average salary level to 91% of market average. The Governor’s Budget Office recommends that UW use non-general fund portion of its Section I budget to bridge this gap.)
- $1,800,000 in general funds based upon a goal of maintaining continued progress toward achieving membership in the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA).
- $200,000 in one-time general funds for brucellosis research
- $2,170,000 one-time general funding to initiate improvements in the area of high-performance computing at the university
- $600,000 in one-time general funds and an extension of the FY2011-12 general fund appropriation of $1,536,613 (balance as of 8/31/11) for the Video Conferencing Enterprise
- An extension of $1,821,683 (balance as of 8/31/11) in the FY2011-12 general fund appropriation for the Wyoming Distance Learning Center
- $1,000,000 in general funds to fulfill the obligations of the Memorandum of Understanding with UCAR/NCAR

Abandoned Mine Land (AML) funds (biennium amounts)

- $20.4 million - School of Energy Resources (SER) operations
- $10 million - SER strategic areas of concentration
- $10 million - Energy partnerships matching funds
- $2 million - carbon dioxide pipeline
- $1 million - Carbon storage and enhanced oil recovery (dependent upon raising a like amount from external funds)
- $1 million - UW compressed natural gas transportation
- $850,154 Level II planning for UW Engineering Building addition

Capital Construction

- $50 million in general funds for a University of Wyoming Capital Construction Project Fund to allow the opportunity for additional study and discussion of three specific proposals: the Performing Arts Building, the Half Acre Gymnasium and a possible addition to the Engineering Building. Gov. Mead will offer his recommendation for the use of this fund to the Legislature prior to the 2012 session.
- $5 million in general funds for infrastructure and long-range development plan improvements. UW anticipates this amount will be directed toward steam tunnel upgrades and expansions.
- $10 million in revenue bonding authority for White Hall Level III construction.
- $20,371,698 in major maintenance funding. This provides funding at the 1.25 percent of building replacement cost.

069 Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE):

- WICHE did not include any exception budget requests in their submission. The governor recommends the standard budget for WICHE.

070 Enhanced Oil Recovery Commission (EORC):

- The governor approved the EORC standard budget, as submitted. He did not recommend either of the four exception budget requests for EORC.

167 UW-Medical Education:

- The governor approved all standard budget requests for the programs noted below as well as for the Advanced Practice RN – Psychiatry program and the Accelerated Nursing Degree program.

- $4,492,473 in clinic revenues (non-general funds) to support 31 full-time positions and costs related to independent operation of the Casper Residency Center, in light of the dissolution in the partnership with the Community Health Center of Central Wyoming. The approval for funding and the positions are limited to June 30, 2014 (the end of the next biennium). Gov. Mead also recommends that UW and the Wyoming Department of Health explore other delivery options at both family residency centers and convey the results in a report.

- $2,376,380 in one-time general funds to support the current level of expenditures of the Cheyenne Residency Center and provide two years to identify alternative revenue sources or reduce operational expenditures. Gov. Mead also recommends an evaluation, including exploring other delivery options at both family residency centers.

- $1,625,040 in general funds for WWAMI to support tuition inflation, summer tuition, and expansion of the class sizes from 16 to 20 for the 2013 and 2014 academic years.

- $228,500 in general funds to support tuition inflation for the existing 8 WYDENT slots at the University of Nebraska and Creighton University.