



Jackson Library Renovation Updates August 2024

Greetings, we have been planning and designing the renovation of Jackson Library for the past 2 years and construction is now in sight. This letter is to inform our campus colleagues about changes to Jackson Library for the fall semester. To minimize disruption during the fall semester, we have spent the summer preparing for the start of construction which will close the tower after graduation in December.

To recap, UNCG was awarded \$97 million (an initial \$81 million plus an inflation adjustment of \$16 million) by the state legislature to renovate and modernize Jackson Library, which has not been updated since the tower was constructed in 1973. This renovation will update infrastructure, modernize spaces, and bring the building into ADA compliance to better serve UNCG students, faculty, and staff. Librarians and staff along with campus stakeholders have been working with designers from LS3P and Shepley Bulfinch since late 2022 to design a library that will serve the UNCG community for years to come.

The construction will happen in two primary phases, focused on each building, the tower and the original main building. After December 2024 commencement, the library tower will close for construction and is scheduled to reopen in the summer of 2026 (Phase 1). After the tower reopens, the main building will close (Phase 2). In early 2028, the main building will reopen, and the renovation will be complete.

As we prepare for the renovation, most library spaces and services have not changed. The Check Out Desk and Reference Desk remain in their current locations for fall. The Digital Media Commons and Academic Achievement Center (AAC) are open on the lower level of Jackson Library, and Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) remains on the second floor of the main building. There will be changes to some of these spaces during Phase 1 and 2 of the renovation, but we will provide updates as those happen.

The most significant change to Jackson Library for fall semester is the removal of the Superlab and relocation of the 6-Tech Walk-In Service Center to room 131-C, located in the northeast corner of the main (brick) building. The Walk-In Service Center will remain in this location during Phase 1 of the renovation. This move was necessary over the summer to ensure continuous service throughout the fall. The former Superlab area will be used for staging in preparation for construction.

Other work during the summer included shifting books and other materials around and relocating some to remote storage to align the number of books in the tower with the shelving in the renovated library tower. The remaining books will be stored during construction and then returned into the newly designed space.

The UNCG community is encouraged to go ahead and borrow materials they may need from the tower during Phase 1. Materials with a due date of August 31, 2025, that are checked out on or after August 15, 2024, by faculty with continuing appointments will be automatically renewed on August 31, 2025. Materials borrowed before August 15 and those with due dates other than August 31, 2025, will need to be renewed either online or in person when they become due. Other faculty, staff, and students will be able to keep their materials through Phase 1, but they will need to be renewed either in person or online when they become due. A [My Library Account](#) is required to renew materials online. Continued employment or registration in the current or an upcoming term is required to renew.

The libraries have enhanced our electronic holdings in order to maximize access to resources during the renovation. [Interlibrary Loan](#) will be available throughout the renovation, and we have reciprocal borrowing agreements with [our academic library partners in the Triad area as well as other libraries in the UNC system](#). We also encourage faculty to check out as many books as they desire to keep throughout Phase 1 of the renovation. Options to place orders for new print books still exist on a limited basis.

The library will begin new operating hours this fall in preparation for the new accessibility pathway through the EUC when the tower is closed in Phase 1. Jackson Library's hours will align with the EUC's hours at night so that people with accessibility needs will be able to exit the library safely. These new hours are [posted on our website](#).

A new student study area, the Spartan Study Spot, will open after Labor Day on the second floor of the main building. This space is meant to mitigate the loss of student space during Phase 1 of the renovation. Furniture for this space was removed from the tower, so students may notice less furniture on the tower floors.

A mural has been painted on the southeast wall of the first floor reading room. This mural depicts designer renderings of new spaces and features of the renovation and is meant to demonstrate expected outcomes from construction. Please visit and view it at your convenience.

For the start of Fall 2024, we will have signs pointing to public areas that have relocated. Later in the semester, we will position messaging to inform of the tower closing's impact and how to access the library during phase 1.

If you have questions please refer to our renovation link on our website: [Jackson Library Renovation - UNCG University Libraries](#) or communicate with your department's library liaison who can get an answer for you.

This renovation will make our campus library a state-of-the-art building that is accessible, fully compliant and an inspiration to students and faculty in support of their academic goals. Please be patient as we move through this process, it will be worth it!!