

Western Michigan University

Depreciation Policy

Revised 10/2010

Western Michigan University  
Depreciation Policy

**PURPOSE**

A provision for depreciation is recorded in the financial accounting system to reflect the net asset value of land improvements, buildings, equipment, library holdings and intangible assets during their useful lives.

**POLICY**

Straight-line depreciation is used beginning in the month of acquisition and ending in the month prior to disposition.

The useful life of an asset is determined from the following schedule –

Athletic equipment, Audio/visual equipment, Computers, Office machines, Software and Vehicles	3 years
Kilns, Lab/scientific equipment and Medical equipment	6 years
Airplanes, Aviation equipment, Backhoe, Furniture, Gemstones, Kitchen equipment, Landscape equipment, Library holdings, Machinery, Musical instruments and T-comm	10 years
Land improvements and Utilities	20 years
Buildings	50 years