

Determining a Maintenance Budget Allowance for Airfield Sign Panel Replacements

We recommend that airfield maintenance departments establish a maintenance budget that allows for panel replacements. **The legend panels represent the visual performance of an airfield sign.** It is critical that the sign message be clear and the colors vibrant. As the environment and UV rays deteriorate the vibrant colors, a smart replacement schedule will ensure sign performance and field safety is maintained. Use your maintenance budget in conjunction with the Faded Panel Guide and Evaluating Legend Panels forms to determine your replacement strategy.

Smaller Airport

100 airfield signs (size 1, LED lighting)

Scenario below represents an airport with 100 airfield signs that are FAA size 1 with LED lighting. Although fields are composed of signs of various module lengths, we have based the calculations on an average sign length of 2.5 modules.

Initial Sign Investment

Airfield Sign Investment: \$2242 ea. x 100 signs = \$224,200 (signs only)

Signs Installed Complete: \$4000 ea. x 100 signs = **\$400,000***

**Includes sign, concrete pad, installation accessories (base can, cover, isolation transformer, connector kits, extension cords) and installation.*

8 Year Option: Budgeting for a panel life of 8 years – typical

How much do you need in your annual maintenance budget to replace 1/8th of the sign panels every year?

Panel Maintenance for 100 Signs (entire field)

Specifics	Cost per Year	As a percent of a new Replacement Sign	As a percent of total Sign Investment
300 panels (no blanks) Over 8 years \$56,520	Panel Maintenance required annually \$7,065*	3.1 %	1.8 %

**Based on 3 legend panels per airfield sign multiplied by 100 signs, spread over 8 years.
Annual cost per sign is \$70.65 for panel maintenance. It does not include replacement blank panels.*

5 Year Option: Budgeting for a panel life of 5 years – top performance or accelerated fading climates

How much do you need in your annual maintenance budget to replace 1/5th of the sign panels every year?

Panel Maintenance for 100 Signs (entire field)

Specifics	Cost per Year	As a percent of a new Replacement Sign	As a percent of total Sign Investment
300 panels (no blanks) Over 5 years \$56,520	Panel Maintenance required annually \$11,304*	5.0 %	2.8 %

**Based on 3 legend panels per airfield sign multiplied by 100 signs, spread over 5 years.
Annual cost per sign is \$113.04 for panel maintenance. It does not include replacement blank panels.*

Determining a Maintenance Budget Allowance for airfield sign panel replacements

We recommend that airfield maintenance departments establish a maintenance budget that allows for panel replacements. **The legend panels represent the visual performance of an airfield sign.** It is critical that the sign message be clear and the colors vibrant. As the environment and UV rays deteriorate the vibrant colors, a smart replacement schedule will ensure sign performance and field safety is maintained. Use your maintenance budget in conjunction with the Faded Panel Guide and Evaluating Legend Panels forms to determine your replacement strategy.

Mid-Sized Airport

300 airfield signs (size 2, LED lighting)

Scenario below represents an airport with 300 airfield signs that are FAA size 2 with LED lighting. Although fields are composed of signs of various module lengths, we have based the calculations on an average sign length of 2.5 modules.

Initial Sign Investment

Airfield Sign Investment: \$2689 ea. x 300 signs = \$806,700 (signs only)

Signs Installed Complete: \$4800 ea. x 300 signs = **\$1,440,000***

**Includes sign, concrete pad, installation accessories (base can, cover, isolation transformer, connector kits, extension cords) and installation.*

8 Year Option: Budgeting for a panel life of 8 years – typical

How much do you need in your annual maintenance budget to replace 1/8th of the sign panels every year?

Panel Maintenance for 300 Signs (entire field)

Specifics	Cost per Year	As a percent of a new Replacement Sign	As a percent of total Sign Investment
900 panels (no blanks) Over 8 years \$256,500	Panel Maintenance required annually \$32,062*	4 %	2.2 %

**Based on 3 legend panels per airfield sign multiplied by 300 signs, spread over 8 years.
Annual cost per sign is \$106.87 for panel maintenance. It does not include replacement blank panels.*

5 Year Option: Budgeting for a panel life of 5 years – top performance or accelerated fading climates

How much do you need in your annual maintenance budget to replace 1/5th of the sign panels every year?

Panel Maintenance for 300 Signs (entire field)

Specifics	Cost per Year	As a percent of a new Replacement Sign	As a percent of total Sign Investment
900 panels (no blanks) Over 5 years \$256,500	Panel Maintenance required annually \$51,300*	6.4 %	3.6 %

**Based on 3 legend panels per airfield sign multiplied by 300 signs, spread over 5 years.
Annual cost per sign is \$171 for panel maintenance. It does not include replacement blank panels.*

Determining a Maintenance Budget Allowance for airfield sign panel replacements

We recommend that airfield maintenance departments establish a maintenance budget that allows for panel replacements. **The legend panels represent the visual performance of an airfield sign.** It is critical that the sign message be clear and the colors vibrant. As the environment and UV rays deteriorate the vibrant colors, a smart replacement schedule will ensure sign performance and field safety is maintained. Use your maintenance budget in conjunction with the Faded Panel Guide and Evaluating Legend Panels forms to determine your replacement strategy.

Large Airport

600 airfield signs (size 3, LED lighting)

Scenario below represents an airport with 600 airfield signs that are FAA size 3 with LED lighting. Although fields are composed of signs of various module lengths, we have based the calculations on an average sign length of 2.5 modules.

Initial Sign Investment

Airfield Sign Investment: \$3536 ea. x 600 signs = \$2,121,600 (signs only)

Signs Installed Complete: \$5500 ea. x 600 signs = **\$3,300,000***

**Includes sign, concrete pad, installation accessories (base can, cover, isolation transformer, connector kits, extension cords) and installation.*

8 Year Option: Budgeting for a panel life of 8 years – typical

How much do you need in your annual maintenance budget to replace 1/8th of the sign panels every year?

Panel Maintenance for 600 Signs (entire field)

Specifics	Cost per Year	As a percent of a new Replacement Sign	As a percent of total Sign Investment
2400 panels (no blanks) Over 8 years \$859,200	Panel Maintenance required annually \$107,400*	5.1 %	3.3 %

**Based on 4 legend panels per airfield sign multiplied by 600 signs, spread over 8 years.
Annual cost per sign is \$179 for panel maintenance. It does not include replacement blank panels.*

5 Year Option: Budgeting for a panel life of 5 years – top performance or accelerated fading climates

How much do you need in your annual maintenance budget to replace 1/5th of the sign panels every year?

Panel Maintenance for 600 Signs (entire field)

Specifics	Cost per Year	As a percent of a new Replacement Sign	As a percent of total Sign Investment
2400 panels (no blanks) Over 5 years \$859,200	Panel Maintenance required annually \$171,840*	8.1 %	5.2 %

**Based on 4 legend panels per airfield sign multiplied by 600 signs, spread over 5 years.
Annual cost per sign is \$286.40 for panel maintenance. It does not include replacement blank panels.*