

California State University, Fresno Budget

Budget Process

In 1993-94, California State University, Fresno adopted a simplified approach to budgeting that is influenced by student-faculty ratio, size of physical plant and related programmatic considerations. This process established a base allocation level for each of the major program areas - Instruction/Academic Support, Student Services, Institutional Support, Plant Operations, Athletics and University Priorities Fund.

- **Level “A”** is the allocation made from the President to the Provost and each Vice President/Director reporting to the President. The Level “A” policy adopted at California State University, Fresno seeks to develop a predictable allocation methodology that assures equitable distribution of resources within the existing financial constraints of the system.
- **Level “B”** is the allocation made from the Provost/Vice Presidents to the Deans/Directors/Department Heads. Each division is responsible for establishing a Level “B” allocation mechanism and monitoring expenditures according to that plan.

Budget Principles

At the 2010 Budget Summit, nine principles for budgeting guidelines were outlined as follows:

1. Priority should be given to making courses available for students to ensure timely completion of their degrees.
2. Maintain services and critical positions at an adequate level. Continue position freeze except for essential positions and anticipated curricular needs.
3. Maintain the safety of the campus community and address the welfare of our students and employees.
4. The Plan for Excellence shall provide guidance in setting priorities for continued funding.
5. Efforts shall be made to continue to grow revenue streams for the University through grant, contract and philanthropic fundraising activities.
6. Complete the technology reorganization and maintain a commitment to the use of technology to improve educational effectiveness and more efficient ways of delivering services, including improving web services to the campus.
7. Consider the feasibility of consolidating or restructuring offices, departments or programs which would allow for the significant reduction of administrative costs and other overhead and reduce duplication of services or programs.
8. Examine processes and procedures which could be eliminated, suspended or performed in a different way which would contribute to cost savings or reallocation of time spent on activities.
9. Increase and identify new opportunities for revenue with an emphasis on expanding offerings through Global and Continuing Education.

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Programs

- **Instruction/Academic Support** includes funding for the Instructional Program, Smittcamp Honors College, Library, University Farm Lab, California Agricultural Technology Institute, Graduate Studies, and Faculty Development and Research.
- **Student Services** includes funding for general services to students to include Re-entry Program, Educational Opportunity Program, Advising, Testing, Health Services, Students with Disabilities, Admissions/Records/Evaluations, Outreach, International Students, and Financial Aid.
- **Institutional Support** program category includes the Office of the President, University Advancement, Administrative Services, Financial Services (Accounting, Payroll, Human Resources, and Office of Budget and Resource Planning) University Police, as well as the funding for university-wide communications.
- The **Plant Operations** program, for budgeting purposes, has been identified separately and includes Facilities Management & Planning and Risk Management & Sustainability. The University utilities budget was transferred to Centrally Monitored Funds as of 2005-06.
- **Athletics** provides the State funded portion of the Intercollegiate Athletic Program.
- **Technology** provides a wide range of support including administrative computing, academic computing, digital campus, and a variety of technology projects.
- Completing the **General Fund** are the Centrally Monitored Funds, the University Reserve, and Reimbursed Activities.
 - ✓ **Centrally Monitored Funds** are used for special needs that benefit the University as a whole.
 - ✓ The **University Central Reserve** is a fund established to accommodate unanticipated and unplanned expenditures during the fiscal year such as legal fees, legal settlements, shortfalls in revenue, emergencies, and major unanticipated expenditures.
 - ✓ **Reimbursed Activities** is used to record expenditures made initially in the General Fund, for the benefit of other organizations. It contains only those specialized services which are fully reimbursed

For future discussions in this document, the budgets have been arranged organizationally to reflect the more familiar structure of the campus.