

## 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. The new 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

During the Spring semester of 1993, the University Budget Committee developed a set of principles which were intended to be of assistance in developing a new model of budget allocation. These principles state that the budget allocation process should:

- Support the chosen directions and priorities of the University.
- Recognize differences between programs (i.e., delivery modes).
- Provide for differential growth and differential needs within the University.
- Provide certainty of allocation (within realities of public funding) for long-term efficiency and stability.
- Reward “good” behavior.
- Be perceived to be fair, based on the chosen plan and policies of the University.
- Utilize minimum resources to administer the allocation process.
- Decentralize decision making consistent with University plans and policies.
- Mandate a consultative process within all schools/departments/units.
- Provide an easy transition from the present system, with a phase-in period to minimize chaos.

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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 Treasury Management) University Police, Risk Management & Sustainability, as well as the funding for University-wide communications.
- The **Plant Operations** program, for budgeting purposes, has been identified separately and includes Facilities Management and Planning. 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.
- **Information 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 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 rearranged organizationally to reflect the more familiar structure of the campus.