

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM
BUDGET RULES AND PROCEDURES

For Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2016

A. INITIAL BUDGET

1. Any transfers subsequent to the approval of the initial budget shall be made only after careful consideration of the allocations, transfer limitations, and general provisions of the current general appropriations act. (See B: Budget Amendments)
2. All appointments are subject to the provisions of the U. T. System Board of Regents' *Rules and Regulations* ("Regents' Rules") for the governance of The University of Texas System.
3. The established merit policy will be observed in determining salary rates.
4. All academic salary rates in the instructional departments of the academic institutions are nine-month rates (September 1 - May 31) unless otherwise specified. In the health-related institutions, all salary rates are twelve-month rates unless otherwise specified.
5. All appointments of classified personnel are based on twelve-month rates and are made within appropriate salary ranges as defined by the classified personnel Pay Plan approved by the president or Chancellor. All appointments of administrative and professional personnel are based on twelve-month rates.
6. Compensation for continuing personnel services (for a period longer than one month), though paid for on an hourly basis, is not to be paid out of maintenance and equipment, or like appropriations, except upon specific approval of the president of the institution or the Chancellor.
7. All maintenance and operation, equipment, and travel appropriations are for twelve months (September 1 - August 31) and should be budgeted and expended accordingly.

B. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. Items requiring approval of the U. T. System Administration and subsequent approval by the U. T. System Board of Regents through the Consent Agenda
 - a. Transfers from unappropriated Educational and General Fund Balance.
 - b. New appointments of tenured faculty (*Regents' Rule 31007*).
 - c. Award of tenure to any faculty member (*Regents' Rule 31007*).
 - d. New appointments as Regental Professor, Dean Emeritus, Chair Emeritus, or Professor Emeritus (*Regents' Rule 31001*). Titles set forth in *Regents' Rule 20301* including Chancellor Emeritus, President Emeritus and similar honorary designations are conferred by the U. T. System Board of Regents through the full agenda.
 - e. Appointments, promotions, and salary increases involving the president (*Regents' Rules 20201, 20202, 20203*).
 - f. New contracts or contract changes involving athletic directors or head coaches whose total annual compensation equals or exceeds the amount specified by *Regents' Rule 10501 Section 2.2.12*.
 - g. Compensation changes for employees whose total annual compensation is \$1,000,000 or above (*Regents' Rule 20204*).
 - h. Compensation changes for Key Executives as defined by *Regents' Rule 20203*.
 - i. Increases in budgeted amounts from income for Educational and General, Auxiliary Enterprises, Designated Funds, Service Departments, Revolving Funds, and Plant Funds, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.
 - j. Increases to Plant Funds which result from transfers from Educational and General Funds, Auxiliary Enterprises, Designated Funds, Service Departments, and Revolving Funds, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.
2. Items requiring approval of U. T. System Administration (no Consent Agenda approval required)
 - a. Reappropriation of prior year Educational and General Fund balances, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.
 - b. Increases in budgeted amounts from income for Educational and General, Auxiliary Enterprises, Designated Funds, Service Departments, Revolving Funds, and Plant Funds, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.

- c. Increases to Plant Funds which result from transfers from Educational and General Funds, Auxiliary Enterprises, Designated Funds, Service Departments, and Revolving Funds, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.
- d. Compensation changes for employees whose total annual compensation is \$500,000 or more but less than \$1,000,000 (Regents' *Rule* 20204).
- e. Compensation increases involving tenured faculty of \$10,000 or more at academic institutions and \$25,000 or more at health-related institutions. This includes one-time merit payments.
- f. Appointments and promotions involving administrative and professional personnel reporting directly to the president, a vice president, or the equivalent.
- g. Compensation increases of \$10,000 or more involving administrative and professional personnel reporting directly to the president, a vice president, or the equivalent. This includes one-time merit payments.
- h. All appointments and compensation increases of \$10,000 or more involving employees serving under written employment contracts. This includes one-time merit payments.

3. Items requiring approval of the president only

- a. All interdepartmental transfers.
- b. All budget transfers between line-item appropriations within a department.
- c. Increases in budgeted amounts from income for Auxiliary Enterprises, Designated Funds, Service Departments, and Revolving Funds, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.
- d. Reallocation of unallocated Faculty Salaries. All unfilled and uncommitted line-item faculty salary positions will lapse to the institutional "Unallocated Faculty Salaries" account.
- e. Reappropriation of Prior Year Educational and General Fund Balances, subject to the thresholds established in B.5 below.
- f. Promotions involving tenured faculty.
- g. Transactions involving all other personnel except those specified in B.1b, B.1c, B.1d, B.1e, B.1f, B.1g, B.1h, B.2d, B.2e, B.2f, B.2g and B.2h as defined above.

- h. Changes in sources of funds, changes in time assignments, and other changes in status for personnel categorized in Item B.1, provided no change in the individual's salary rate is involved. In the case of Medical Faculty, this provision applies to "Total Compensation."
 - i. Summer Session Budgets.
 - j. Clinical faculty appointments or changes, including medical or hospital staff, without salary.
4. Effective date of appointments and compensation increases
- a. Any increase in approved compensation for the current fiscal year without a change in classification or position is not to be effective prior to the first day of the month in which the required final approval of the rate change is obtained.
 - b. A compensation increase resulting from an appointment to another classification or to a position involving new and different duties may be made effective to the time of the first performance of duties under the new appointment.
 - c. The effective date of an appointment is the date on which the individual is first to perform service for the institution under that appointment.
 - d. The original appointment during a fiscal year of a person not in a budget for that year or not under an existing appointment for that year may relate back to the first performance of duties during the fiscal year although such person may have been employed in a previous fiscal year and although increased compensation for the same classification or position is involved.
5. Budget amendment criteria
- a. Institutions with budgeted revenue, including transfers from the Available University Fund, of \$1 billion or more will have a threshold of:
 - i. For B.1i and B.1j - Equal to or greater than \$2,000,000
 - ii. For B.2a – Equal to or greater than \$1,000,000
 - iii. For B.2b and B.2c – Equal to or greater than \$1,000,000 and less than \$2,000,000
 - iv. For B.3c and B.3e – Less than \$1,000,000
 - b. Institutions with budgeted revenue, including transfers from the Available University Fund, between \$250 million and \$1 billion will have a threshold of:
 - i. For B.1i and B.1j – Equal to or greater than \$1,000,000
 - ii. For B.2a – Equal to or greater than \$500,000
 - iii. For B.2b and B.2c – Equal to or greater than \$500,000 and less than \$1,000,000
 - iv. For B.3c and B.3e – Less than \$500,000

- c. Institutions with budgeted revenue, including transfers from the Available University Fund, less than \$250 million will have a threshold of:
 - i. For B.1i and B.1j – Equal to or greater than \$500,000
 - ii. For B.2a – Equal to or greater than \$100,000
 - iii. For B.2b and B.2c – Equal to or greater than \$100,000 and less than \$500,000
 - iv. For B.3c and B.3e – Less than \$100,000

C. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. All appropriations not actually expended or encumbered by August 31 will automatically lapse to the Unappropriated Balance Account except for those reallocated pursuant to Item B.2a and Item B.3e.
2. Compensation indicated as "MSRDP Funds," "DSRDP Funds," "PRS Funds", "Allied Health Faculty Services Plan" or "Nursing Clinical Enterprise Health Services, Research and Development Plan" is contingent upon its being earned or available in accordance with the regulations applicable to the Medical Service Research and Development Plan, Dental Service Research and Development Plan, Physicians Referral Service Plan, Allied Health Faculty Services Plan or Nursing Clinical Enterprise Health Services, Research and Development Plan.
3. Budgeted expenditures authorized from sources of funds other than Educational and General Funds are contingent upon receipt of such funds. Appointments from such fund sources will not become an obligation of the institution in the event the supplemental or grant funds are not realized.
4. Leaves of Absence may be granted only in accordance with provisions contained in Regents' *Rule* 30201.
5. In these Rules, Compensation means total annual compensation as defined by Regents' *Rule* 20204.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

**MEDICAL, DENTAL, NURSING, AND ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS
AND
PHYSICIANS REFERRAL SERVICE
BUDGET RULES AND PROCEDURES**

For Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2016

1. These *Rules and Procedures* are to be used for the Medical, Dental, Nursing, and Allied Health Services, Research and Development Plans and Physicians Referral Service Budgets in conjunction with the Rules and Procedures for the General Operating Budget.
2. Budgeted expenditures authorized from Medical, Dental, Nursing, and Allied Health Services Research, and Development Plans and Physicians Referral Service are contingent upon receipt of such funds. Appointments and other budget transactions from such fund sources shall not become an obligation of any institution in the event the funds are not realized.
3. All income for professional services earned by members of the plans, except royalties, payments for editing scientific publications, and consultation fees as a regional or national consultant to any branch of the U.S. Government as approved by the U. T. System Board of Regents shall be deposited in the appropriate institution's institutional Trust Fund Account.
4. Administration, operation, and disbursement of funds shall be in accordance with each institutional plan approved by U. T. System Administration and the U. T. System Board of Regents.
5. At U. T. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, associate members' earnings will be contingent upon the earned income of the member in accordance with the services rendered to the patient assigned to the member's specialty by the chief of the major service. All payments will be approved by the Executive Council of the Physicians Referral Service.
6. Budgeted funds can be used for staff retirement and insurance benefits, for actual travel or supplemental travel expenses for attending meetings for the benefit of any institution, for memberships and dues in medical organizations, for official entertainment, and for such other disbursements as may be authorized by the president consistent with the policies approved by the U. T. System Board of Regents and the U. T. System Administration. These expenditures must be in the best interests of the research, educational and patient care activities of any institution and in the best interest of maintaining a distinguished scientific staff for such purposes and activities.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

**ACADEMIC WORKLOAD
REQUIREMENTS FOR ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS**

For Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2016

Academic Workload Requirements for General Academic Institutions

Academic workload requirements for U. T. System general academic institutions are set forth in Regents' *Rules* 31006.

No two institutions in the U. T. System (and, indeed, no two teaching units within a particular institution) are alike in the workload required of individual faculty to meet student needs within the funds appropriated by the Legislature. It is the responsibility of each institutional head to require teaching in excess of the minimum where such teaching is necessary to meet the institution's obligations to its students. Each institution will establish additional standards as necessary in accordance with its role and scope, so long as it satisfies the minimum given herein, to meet the instructional obligations of the institution to the students and to operate effectively within the faculty salary resources available. Faculty members not actively involved in a program of research and publication or in equivalent academic service should typically carry a teaching load greater than the minimum.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM
LIBRARY, EQUIPMENT, REPAIR AND REHABILITATION
AND FACULTY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION AND RETENTION (STARS)
AND SIMILAR FUNDED PROGRAMS
BUDGET RULES AND PROCEDURES

For Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2016

A. INITIAL BUDGET

1. U. T. System institutions are authorized to purchase approved Library and Equipment items and to contract for Repair and Rehabilitation projects following standard purchasing and contracting procedures within approved dollar limits as outlined in *UTS 168 Capital Expenditure Policy*. This includes expenditures for Faculty STARS or similar funded programs.
2. Transfers by the U. T. System Administration of allocated funds to institutional control or to vendors will coincide with vendor payment requirements.
3. Final approval of specific Repair and Rehabilitation projects will be in accordance with U. T. System Board of Regents established procedures for construction projects.
4. All expenditures are subject to the provisions of the *Constitution* of the State of Texas and the U. T. System Board of Regents' *Rules and Regulations* for the governance of The University of Texas System.

B. BUDGET AMENDMENTS

1. Items requiring approval of the U. T. System Administration and subsequent approval by the U. T. System Board of Regents through the Consent Agenda
 - a. Substitute Library and Equipment purchases that are not on the approved list.
 - b. Funding for new Repair and Rehabilitation projects that are not on the approved list.
2. Items requiring approval of U. T. System Administration (no Consent Agenda approval required)
 - a. Transfers of appropriated funds between approved Library and Equipment items.
 - b. Transfers of appropriated funds between Repair and Rehabilitation items.
 - c. Transfers of funds for approved Library and Equipment purchases to fund approved Repair and Rehabilitation projects and vice versa.
 - d. All transfers of funds are subject to the requirements of the *Capital Expenditure Policy* (UTS 168).

C. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

1. All Library and Equipment or Repair and Rehabilitation appropriations must be expended within 36 months from the date of the award or the appropriation will lapse and be made available for future Systemwide reallocation.
2. All Faculty STARs or similar program appropriations must be expended within 36 months from the time the faculty member arrives on campus or the appropriation will lapse and be made available for future Systemwide reallocation.
3. Notwithstanding the limitations adopted at the time LERR, Faculty STARs, or other similar funding was authorized, these *Budget Rules and Procedures* apply to all previously authorized LERR, Faculty STARs and similar funding.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

EXPENDITURE GUIDELINES – PERMANENT UNIVERSITY FUND (PUF) BOND PROCEEDS FOR
LIBRARY, EQUIPMENT, REPAIR AND REHABILITATION (LERR)
AND FACULTY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION AND RETENTION (STARS)
AND SIMILAR FUNDED PROGRAMS

For Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2016

A. AUTHORIZATION OF PUF BOND PROCEEDS FOR LERR, STARS, OR SIMILAR FUNDED PROGRAMS

Article VII, Section 18 (b) of the Texas *Constitution* authorizes the U. T. System Board of Regents to issue bonds and notes secured by the U. T. System's interest in the Permanent University Fund for the purpose of:

- acquiring land, with or without permanent improvements;
- constructing and equipping buildings or other permanent improvements;
- major repair and rehabilitation of buildings and other permanent improvements;
- acquiring capital equipment; and
- acquiring library books and library materials.

It is for the last three purposes noted above that the U. T. System Board of Regents has established the LERR, Faculty STARS, and similar funded programs.

B. RETENTION OF RECORDS

The Internal Revenue Service requires that invoice documentation supporting capital expenditures, including LERR, Faculty STARS and similar programs funded with proceeds of tax-exempt bonds, be maintained for a period ending three (3) years after the complete extinguishment of the bonds. Pursuant to the Texas *Constitution*, PUF bonds may be structured with a maximum maturity of 30 years. In order to comply with the IRS requirement and *UTS 181 Policy for Post Bond Issuance Federal Tax Compliance*, U. T. institutions shall maintain invoice documentation for 35 years for any capital expenditures funded with tax-exempt proceeds.

C. ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAM FUNDS

Eligibility for LERR, STARS, or other similar funded programs is the same as eligibility for PUF bond proceeds as set forth in the *Constitution*. Eligible entities include U. T. System Administration, all U. T. academic institutions except for U. T. Brownsville, and all U. T. health institutions.

D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR USE OF PROGRAM FUNDS

In addition to meeting the constitutional requirements outlined above, the general guideline to determine whether an item is eligible for LERR, Faculty STARS, or similar funded programs, is that it must have a useful life of at least one year. The following sections are provided to assist with that determination. These guidelines are not intended to be exhaustive and any questions regarding LERR, Faculty STARS, or similar funded program eligibility should be directed to the U. T. System Administration Office of the Controller.

Repair and Rehabilitation of Buildings or Other Permanent Improvements

Major repairs or rehabilitation of buildings or other permanent improvements include, but are not limited to, repairs, renovations, replacements, or betterments that are normally expected to extend the useful life, improve operating efficiency, eliminate health and safety hazards, correct structural or mechanical defects, upgrade the quality of existing facilities, or convert these assets to more useful functions, but that are not considered routine maintenance.

The cost of major repairs or rehabilitation of buildings or other improvements can include the contract price or cost of construction and other costs that would be applicable to make the building or improvement suitable for its intended use.

Acquisition of Capital Equipment

Capital equipment is generally regarded as nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year. The acquisition cost for equipment includes the net invoice price, including any modifications, attachments, accessories, or auxiliary apparatus necessary to make it usable for the purpose for which it is acquired. In addition, taxes, duty, in-transit insurance, freight, and installation charges are also included as part of the acquisition cost. Capital equipment, including software, that will be used systemwide, or between and among U. T. institutions and System Administration, is eligible for LERR, Faculty STARs, or similar program funds.

Warranties and Similar Service Features

The cost of warranties and similar service features related to a purchase of capital equipment (such as maintenance agreements and loaner programs) are not eligible for LERR, Faculty STARs, or similar program funds as these are considered operating expenses.

Software

Any capitalized costs associated with the development or implementation of software, including personnel costs (salaries), are eligible for LERR, Faculty STARs, or similar funded programs if they are incurred in the Application Development Stage. This principle applies whether the salaries are paid to employees of the institution or to outside parties. See *UTS 142.13 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Intangible Assets* at http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/procedures/policy/policies/uts142_13.html. Training costs related to software usage are discussed below.

The purchase of bundled software included as part of the initial acquisition of computer hardware is capitalizable regardless of threshold and therefore eligible for LERR, Faculty STARs, or similar program funds.

Software maintenance costs are considered operating expenses and therefore are not eligible for LERR, Faculty STARs, or similar program funds as these are considered operating expense.

Costs for software licenses with a useful life extending beyond one year that will be owned are eligible for LERR, Faculty STARS, or similar program funds. Leased or licensed software that requires the payment of an annual fee (i.e., does not have a useful life extending beyond one year) and that will not be owned when the license expires is not eligible for LERR, Faculty STARS, or similar program funds.

Employee Training and Travel Costs

Employee training and travel costs are not eligible for LERR or STARS program funds as these are considered operating expenses.

Acquisition of Library Books and Library Materials

The acquisition of library books and library materials is eligible for LERR. A library book is generally defined as a literary composition bound into a separate volume and identifiable as a separate copyrighted unit. Library materials are information sources other than books, including journals, periodicals, microforms, audio/visual media, computer-based information, manuscripts, maps, documents, and similar items that provide information essential to the learning process or enhance the quality of university library programs.

The acquisition cost of library books and library materials can include the invoice price, freight-in, handling and insurance, binding, electronic access charges, reproduction and other like costs required to put these assets in place, with the exception of library salaries.

Prohibition for Student Housing, Athletics, and Auxiliary Enterprises

Article VII, Section 18 (d) of the *Constitution* prohibits the use of PUF bond proceeds, and therefore the use of LERR, Faculty STARS, and similar program funds, for student housing, intercollegiate athletics, or auxiliary enterprises.

E. SPECIAL PROGRAM FUNDING

Faculty STARs Program

The Faculty STARs program funded by PUF bond proceeds supports the recruitment and retention of the best-qualified faculty at both academic and health institutions by providing additional resources to build and enhance research infrastructure. Because the STARs program is funded in the same manner as LERR, the same guidelines apply and each item must have a useful life of more than one year. STARs funds are available for laboratory renovation and equipment purchases; however, faculty salaries cannot be paid from STARs funds.

There are three related program goals that form the basis of the STARs program:

- recruit senior faculty with national prominence; and
- improve the quality of new faculty and research capacity of the institutions by augmenting the start-up packages for tenure and tenure-track faculty; and
- retain high quality faculty who have had offers from another research institution or have the potential to leave because of limited access to quality equipment or laboratories.