

I. Purpose

To establish guidelines for purchasing goods and services on behalf of the College.

II. Scope

All purchasing activities are governed by federal and state laws. Purchases made for federal and state contracts or grants shall follow this policy and/or the contract or grant requirements, whichever is most restrictive.

III. General

The Board of Trustees has delegated authority to the Purchasing Department:

- A. To facilitate all purchasing processes and assist in the establishment of lease agreements between the College and other parties.
- B. To seek Board of Trustees approval for purchases exceeding \$100,000, unless already authorized within the approval of a larger capital project. The total anticipated payment to a supplier must be considered in determining the purchase order total, including anticipated expenses over and above the direct cost of the good or service. When an increase in the total purchase from under \$100,000 to over \$100,000 is expected, or a cumulative increment of \$100,000, over the original Board Authorization, the change order shall be reported to the Board's Audit Committee, and forwarded to the Board for approval.
- C. To notify the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees of non-competitive purchases (sole source and no-bid) over \$25,000 within three business days.
- D. To facilitate Executive Privilege purchases by the President of the College for professional services under \$25,000. Of which, only six can be requested during any given fiscal year.
- E. To delegate limited purchasing authority to authorized employees via a purchasing card program.
- F. To ensure all purchases are made in a manner free from conflict of interest and establish safeguards to ensure a purchasing system of high quality and integrity. The safeguards are outlined as standard operating procedures.
- G. To coordinate emergency purchases.
 - 1. "Emergency" shall be defined as an occurrence or need that presents a hazard to students, employees, or the general public, a physical plant problem that would impede or shut down operation of a facility, or a systems failure that would seriously impair any critical function of the college for which remedial action could not reasonably be delayed 24 hours.

2. In cases where delaying an emergency purchase of \$100,000 or more until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting would result in a material undue expense, or in cases of an emergency, the President will inform the Board Chairperson or his/her designee of the need to proceed with a purchase and request his/her approval. Every effort will be made to contact all Board members to notify them of the emergency requirement. Members of the Board shall be notified of the final disposition of the purchase.

- H. To notify departments when Purchasing Policy violations occur and keep a record of such violations. Violations of the Purchasing Policy include but are not limited to: (a) pyramiding of purchases or splitting transactions which would result in avoiding the requirements for competitive bidding; (b) accepting goods or services prior to completing the appropriate purchasing process; (c) signing a contract on behalf of the College without being an official signatory; (d) having packages delivered to non-college addresses except in extenuating circumstances and/or with prior written approval from the appropriate Executive Leadership Team member and Purchasing Director; and (e) using the college purchasing card to make personal purchases.

Any violation is subject to discipline. Any instance of fraud or misuse of College funds will be reported immediately to the appropriate Executive Leadership Team member and Human Resources Department. Any cumulative amount over \$1,000 will be reported monthly to the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees.

- I. To coordinate the contract signature process for purchase and lease agreements.

The only individuals employed by the College who may sign a contract on behalf of the College are the President, Senior Vice President of Business Operations, Chief Financial Officer, and Purchasing Director.

IV. Responsibility

Responsibility for the interpretation and administration of this policy is delegated to the Senior Vice President of Business Operations or designee.

Adopted: 6/19/2006

Revised: 6/15/2009, 11/21/2011, 9/16/2013, 11/19/2018, 9/20/2021