

Instructional Budgeting and Schedule Development Process

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Overview

This document provides an overview of the process used in determining instructional budgets for departments and in developing the schedule of classes. Developing instructional budgets requires balancing competing priorities, and this document outlines the considerations to be used as well as the process to be followed in budgeting and schedule development.

Process

The instructional budgeting and schedule development process uses the following steps:

1. In conjunction with the Enrollment Management Committee, overall enrollment goals are established for the coming academic years.
2. Department chairs and supervising deans are provided with data that has been identified as relevant to schedule development. Institutional Research is available to provide technical assistance in interpreting this data.
3. Department chairs and supervising deans discuss this data along with any other additional considerations relevant to the department.
4. Department chairs and supervising deans meet with the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs to discuss recommendations that the chair and dean have regarding instructional budgets.
5. The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs determines instructional budgets for the fall and spring terms along with enrollment expectations. Budgets are published, along with a synopsis of the budgeting decisions made, and the enrollment expectations for each department that reflect the overall enrollment goals. These budgets and the synopsis are also provided to the Enrollment Management Committee.
6. Department chairs and supervising deans work on the details of the schedule of classes.

Budgeting Considerations

Data considerations

- FTES, FTEF, and ratio of FTES to FTEF
- Course fill rates
- Certificate/degree completion statistics
- Overall departmental expenses (e.g., supplies, equipment, other personnel expenses)

Additional considerations

- Minimum FTEF needed to sustain certificate and degree programs for expected number of certificate/degree completions
- Total capacity in General Education courses
- Support for partnerships (e.g., SFUSD dual enrollment & credit recovery)
- Support for programs offered at the Centers and online
- Support for the breadth of College offerings (e.g., ethnic studies)

Notes on Schedule Development Process

Once the allotment of instructional budgets has been made, department chairs can begin work on the specific schedule of classes. Their work includes making recommendations on the following:

- The number of sections of each course in the department to be offered
- Details of the scheduling of these sections – days, times, dates, locations
- Assignment of instructors to classes

Draft schedules developed by department chairs are submitted to the supervising dean for review & approval.

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