

May 8, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: David L. Buhler

SUBJECT: USHE –Capital Development Prioritization Cycle 2020-21– Adoption of Priority Guidelines

Issue

As part of the annual USHE state-funded capital development prioritization, Regent policy R741 *Capital Development Prioritization* requires the Board to establish and adopt priority guidelines which outline how the Board will evaluate proposed capital facilities projects for the next request cycle.

Background

Regent policy R741 describes the Board's process for ranking state-funded capital facility projects. The prioritization process is comprised of a quantitative analysis of institutional needs and a qualitative assessment of how well the proposed project addresses the Board's priority guidelines and strategic plan. Policy requires the Board to establish annual priority guidelines for the qualitative review at the beginning of the project request cycle.

The Regents' Capital Facilities Subcommittee met in April to review the outcomes and lessons learned from last year's process and to review and establish priority guidelines for the upcoming year. In consultation with the Commissioner's Staff, the Subcommittee recommends keeping the process largely the same as last year.

Similar to last year, the Subcommittee recommends that the Commissioner's Office score the quantitative portion of the prioritization and release preliminary scores to the institutions and the Regents prior to the September Regent prioritization meeting. Also, like last year, the qualitative portion of the prioritization process will be broken into two parts: Regent Criteria Points and Regent Discretionary Points.

Institutions requesting state funding consideration for a capital development project will present their project to the full Board of Regents on Thursday, September 12, 2019. Each Board member will score the presentation according to the criteria identified in the attached guidelines which consist of four criteria based on the Regents' strategic objectives of completion, capacity, affordability, and workforce development. For this year, the Subcommittee recommends adjusting the criteria for Affordability to align with language from Senate Bill 102 (2019) and adjusting the possible points for Capacity and Affordability to 3 points each. Regent criteria scores will be collected anonymously and will be aggregated and averaged for the Capital Facilities Subcommittee to produce a Regent Criteria Point score for each institutional project.

The Subcommittee will meet after the institutional presentations on September 12th to review the Board's input on Regent Criteria points and information received from institutional tours and presentations. The Subcommittee will then develop a final recommendation for the Board, including how to allocate the remaining fifteen (15) Discretionary Points. For this year, the Subcommittee recommends moving consideration of alternative funding sources from a point category in the quantitative portion of the prioritization to a factor for consideration in the Discretionary Points. The priority guidelines for 2020-21 follow in the attachment.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends approval of the proposed guidelines for use by the Regents and institutions during the upcoming cycle.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/KLH/RPA
Attachments

Capital Development Priority Guidelines for 2020-2021

Regent Priority Points – In addition to the quantitative “Scoring Points,” Regent Policy R741, *Capital Development Prioritization*, allows the Regents to award up to 25 additional points per institution to address critical USHE needs. For the 2020-2021 funding cycle, the award of Regent Priority points will be made in two steps: 1. Regent Criteria Points (up to 10 points) awarded by the full Board based on Institutional presentations and 2. Regent Discretionary Points (up to 15 points) awarded by the Capital Facilities Committee based on facility tours, institutional presentation, and capital project needs statements.

Regent Criteria Points

0-10 Points

Each institution requesting state funding consideration for a capital development project will present the project to the full Board of Regents on Thursday, September 12, 2019. Each Board member will score the presentation according to the following criteria. Board member scores will be collected anonymously and will be aggregated and averaged to produce a score for each institutional project.

Strategic Objective	Regent Criteria	Possible Points	Regent Score
Completion	The project will improve timely completion of students graduating with degrees and certificates.	2	
Capacity	The project will improve space utilization through the elimination of space and equipment that is functionally obsolete or will improve institutional capacity to serve growing student populations.	3	
Affordability	The project is cost effective and an efficient use of resources	3	
Workforce	The project addresses a time-sensitive emerging opportunity to enhance state or regional workforce needs.	2	

Regent Discretionary Points

0-15 Points

These points are designed to position institutions to further develop and enhance their assigned missions and roles (see R741.3.4.1). Consideration may be given to projects using alternative funding sources. Consideration may also be given, where deemed to be appropriate, to projects with prior approved Legislative design and programming funding.

Total Regents Points

25 Points