SUBJECT: Externally Funded Grants and Contracts

Participation in any externally-funded project is governed by the Board of Trustees/Administration in conjunction with the appropriate Vice President. The criteria for participation are the following: appropriateness to the institutional purpose, support of academic instruction, and institutional control of the administration of the project.

The researcher’s intellectual freedom is assured by the Intellectual Property statement in the Board of Trustees Policy Manual Policy DBD and its possible future enhancement.

The institution has control of funds from outside agencies and of the procedures that govern externally-funded research and/or projects. Permission to apply for external funding is granted by the President or the Board of Trustees following study and evaluation by the appropriate Vice President and the administration. When the grant is awarded, the Board must approve acceptance of the funds and any guidelines or regulations essential to the administration of the grant. Budget accounts are established for proceeds from outside agencies and these accounts are to have the same regulations and guidelines as the institutional budget accounts. The formulas for establishing salaries, summer salaries and salary compensation paid from grant monies are the same as those paid from institutional funds and detailed in the Blinn College “Faculty and Professional Staff Salary Schedule and Selected Personnel Policies.” Personnel receiving salary funds from grant projects shall not receive additional salary greater than their contracted salary.

Federal grants will be audited by the college’s independent auditor who is employed annually by the Board of Trustees. The State Auditor audits program guidelines compliance for The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The institution shall protect its prerogative to control the activities of outside grants and research through Board policies and oversight by the appropriate Vice President. The acquisition of grants must not endanger the institution’s purpose or educational activities but should lend support for opportunities to supplement, enhance, or strengthen the institution's programs and activities.