

Chapter 1. Operating Budget Highlights

Introduction

The following FY 2008-09 General Operating Budget highlights reflect the guidelines used to allocate new FY 2008-09 University-wide resources. It should be noted that lump sum allocations are provided to the University of Nebraska campuses and each campus chancellor has the discretion of allocating these resources at the campus level based on their specific needs.

Salary, Wages, and Corresponding Benefits

The FY 2008-09 university-wide budget approved by the Board of Regents included an average 4.4% salary increase per year for faculty, administrators, and staff. UNO faculty will receive a 4.3% increase in 2008-09 per their collective bargaining agreement. Corresponding benefit increases will be adjusted proportionately.

Individual salary increases are based on performance except when governed by collective bargaining agreements.

Essential Items

Included in the FY 2008-09 operating budget is \$13.3 million of increases for essential expenditure items including (note, these calculations do not include NCTA):

- Building depreciation assessment
- LB 605 Debt Service. LB 605, provides for a combination of state and university funds to be used for building renovations on all four campuses.
- New Building operations and maintenance
- Purchased Utilities
- Programs of Excellence
- Student and faculty diversity
- Need-Based Aid
- Additional Support for Pharmacy (UNMC) and Law (UNL) programs

Revenues

The University has been appropriated \$489 million of state general appropriation funds for fiscal year 2008-09, a \$19.2 million or 4.1% increase when compared to the 2007-08 appropriation.

\$9.6 million is estimated to be generated from the 5.0% tuition rate increase the Board of Regents approved on June 13, 2008. An additional 1% tuition assessment was approved by the Board to meet matching requirements of LB605.

The University operating budget also projects a 1.5% enrollment increase as established in the University's Strategic Planning Framework.

In order to keep tuition increases as low as possible, an additional \$4.5 million of funding reallocations will be required to fund all of the University's priorities and mandatory expense increases.