

New Criterion for Scoring Facilities Requests

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) charged the Facilities Advisory Committee and the staff with developing a new 25-point criterion that included utilization and growth to replace the existing mission-related criterion. A sub-committee on utilization was appointed and met several times to review standards and guidelines that could be used for the new criterion. The sub-committee reviewed standards and guidelines from several states, including North Carolina, Texas, Georgia and California. The recommendations submitted by the sub-committee were based on comparable standards used in other states and national standards where available.

The Facilities Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, July 31, 2002, to consider the sub-committee's advice and recommendations for the new criterion. The Committee agreed to a two-part criterion for a total of 25 points using (1A) an efficiency rating based on space utilization for instructional purposes, (2A) a growth factor based on assignable square feet (ASF) of academic space per FTE (teaching universities and two-year institutions) and (2B) ASF per research expenditures (research universities).

1. The utilization measure (12.5 points) is based on moderate standards of 30 room hours of instruction per week, 60 percent student station utilization, and an average student station size of 22 ASF. These standards generate a space factor (or efficiency rating) of 1.22 for utilization. Institutions at the standard or below, will be considered as having met the standard. For institutions above the space factor of 1.22, points will be computed on a percentage basis. The utilization criteria will apply to all institutions with the exception of the Medical University¹ and the USC School of Medicine.¹
2. The growth measure (12.5 points) will be applied using 93 ASF of academic space per FTE for teaching institutions and 70 ASF per FTE for Two-Year institutions. The growth measure for USC-Columbia and Clemson will be allocated based on the research growth measure (9,000 ASF per \$1,000,000 of research expenditures).² For the Medical University and the USC School of Medicine, the 25 point criterion will be allocated solely on the research growth measure.
3. Although the criteria will be submitted to CHE for consideration in September, scoring based on the new criterion will not be applied until after the fall CHEMIS data has been received (October 31, 2002). This will allow CHE and institutional staff to make sure that the data are clean and accurate before applying the utilization/ASF criterion. This would mean that the scored projects would be presented to CHE for consideration at the January 2003 meeting.

CHE staff has begun a series of campus visits to review the problems in the current data and to provide instructions for correcting the problems prior to the fall 2002 reporting cycle. These visits are expected to continue through September/October.

¹ Utilization measures based on ASF per student station and weekly hours of instruction are not applicable to medical institutions.

² The research growth factor is based on data from North Carolina and Texas.

The Finance and Facilities Committee recommends the replacement criterion.

Maximum Points

Documentation that the institution meets

- A. efficiency rating based on space utilization for instructional purposes (12.5 points); and
- B. Guidelines for ASF of academic space per FTE³ or
- C. ASF of research space per \$ of research expenditures.⁴

Application of Criteria

- A. Efficiency Rating:⁵ a space utilization factor at or below the space factor guideline of 1.22 (for space utilization factors above the 1.22, points will be deducted from the 12.5 maximum on a percentage basis. 12.5

- B. Teaching institutions at or below the guideline of 93 ASF of academic space per FTE; Two-year institutions at or below the guideline of 70 ASF per FTE; and research institutions below the guideline of 9,000 ASF per \$1,000,000 of restricted research expenditures.⁶ 12.5

TOTAL POINTS 25.0

All 25 points are allotted to research growth for the research institutions

³ Applies to Teaching Universities and Two-Year institutions only.

⁴ Applies to Research Universities only.

⁵ Does not apply to MUSC or USC School of Medicine.

⁶ For MUSC and USC School of Medicine, up to 25 points will be allocated by Part B ASF/research expenditures.