



FOOTHILL COLLEGE

Resource Allocation Guidelines (RAG)

Revised and Approved at MIPC, June 20, 2025

PART A: HUMAN RESOURCES

ITEM 1

Guiding Principles & Procedures for Determining New Full-Time Teaching Faculty Positions

BACKGROUND

Each year programs will submit either a Comprehensive Program Review or Annual Program Review. The programs requesting a new full-time faculty position will submit a Faculty Request Form and the Program Review. It is an expectation that all faculty positions will contribute to the college's equity goals.

CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to prioritize requests for new faculty:

- **Program Mandates:** A mandate by an outside entity (e.g., an accreditation agency or state regulations) dictates the need for a full-time faculty position. Language from the specific outside entity as well as an explanation of how it is currently not being met must be included with the application.
- **Program Review:** The most recent program review corroborates the need for a faculty position.
- **Program Viability:** A full-time position is necessary for the viability of an existing program; the faculty request process is not used to create or discontinue a program at Foothill.
- **Enrollment Demand:** There is demonstrated enrollment demand that results in at least 2 FTEF part-time instructors.
- **Content Expertise Gap:** A new hire would fill a gap in content expertise, increasing student retention, enrollment growth, and overall quality of a program. The need for the expanded content should be explicitly explained in the application including connections to changes in the field and workforce demands.
- **Program Expansion:** There are opportunities for program expansion (e.g., new courses, certificates, degrees, etc.) that can only be achieved with a new full-time position. If this factor is being used as the primary source of justification for the new faculty position, quantitative data must be included about workforce demand or student interest in the proposed expansion.

PROCEDURES

Term	Week	Activities
Fall	1-2	<p>The president's senior leadership team, in consultation with the district leadership team, determines the number of tenure track instructional and non-instructional faculty positions to search for based on data including the number of existing vacant positions, balance needed with the 1320 budget and schedule load, and any additional positions funded by the District or by state utilizing ongoing sources of funds, ie- Full-time Faculty Hiring Funds (FTFHF).</p> <p>The Academic Senate; department chairs and program directors; and Student Services, Instructional and Workforce leadership teams are notified of the number of positions and the timeline and process to apply.</p>
Fall	1-3	Departments request training on the program review tool from the Office of Institutional Research to access data needed to complete the request forms.
Fall	3-5	<p>Departments submit a completed request through the program review tool. The dean/VP may also submit a request based on department needs they have identified.</p> <p>Deans hold division meetings to rank requests.</p>
Fall	6	Deans finalize their division's prioritized requests.
Fall	7-8	The Prioritization Committee* ranks the requests using ranked choice voting and forwards all requests to the president. All requests are ranked regardless of the number of positions available at the time.
Fall	9	The president decides which positions to requisition based on the number of positions available and strategic priorities at the time.
Fall	10	The requisitions for all approved positions are entered into the HR system.
Fall; Winter	11-12; 1-2	<p>Hiring committees are formed and confirmed by Academic Senate.</p> <p>Departments review job descriptions and preferred qualifications.</p> <p>Positions are advertised and posted.</p>
Winter	1-2	Academic Senate confirms any remaining hiring committees during the first meeting of winter quarter.
Winter	4-12	Committees review applications and conduct interviews.

*The Prioritization Committee consists of the following:

Chair: Vice President, Instruction or proxy

Members

- Vice President, Student Services
- Vice President, Workforce Innovation and Economic Development
- Associate Vice President, Instruction
- Deans (Apprenticeship, Business & Social Sciences, Counseling, DRC/VRC, Equity, Fine Arts & Communication, Health Sciences & Horticulture, Kinesiology & Athletics, Language Arts & Ethnic Studies, Library & Learning Resource Center, Online Learning, Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM), Student Affairs & Activities)
- MIPC: FA representative, two faculty representatives, two student representatives

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- **Position Classification:** To the extent possible, vacant faculty positions remain in the pool of faculty positions and are not redistributed to classified or administrative positions. Vacant instructional positions are only converted to non-instructional positions if there are adequate funds in the 1320 budget to cover the needed scheduling load.
- **Hiring Process:** The faculty search and hiring process follows [AP 4130 District Hiring Procedures](#). If the search is not successful (no candidates selected or selected candidate declines the offer), then the program, in consultation with the college president, may resume the search one more time during the following academic year. The college president may determine that the search should be cancelled, and the open FTE returned to the vacant faculty position pool.
- **Opportunity Hire:** It is possible for the college president to authorize hiring a faculty member outside of this process when there is a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) available, particularly with respect to opportunities for cluster hiring. This also applies to the possibility of multiple hires from one search. In these cases, the college president will have collegial consultation with the academic senate president.
- **Tenure Process:** In rare cases, mid-year hires can be approved. However, in general, full-time faculty positions should commence at the start of the academic year to maintain the cohort nature of onboarding faculty. Mid-year hires will start the tenure review process at the start of their first fall quarter.

ITEM 2

Guiding Principles & Procedures for Determining Classified Staff Positions

BACKGROUND

Funding for a classified position may become available through an existing position becoming vacant, reallocating operational expenses (B budget), or additional budget coming to the college. Any of these can occur throughout the year, so classified hiring requests do not have a set timeline and can occur throughout the year. They can also be made through the annual resource allocation guide process. Following the completion of that process every year, the president's senior leadership team will review and rank all existing requests for classified positions. This ranked list will be used throughout the year to compare with the need for a new request. Vacant positions are not automatically approved for re-hire. Those positions must be formally submitted in the process below and will be compared against the needs of the other existing requests.

CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to fill vacant positions or to create new ones:

- **Program Mandates:** A mandate by an outside entity (e.g., an accreditation agency or state regulations) dictates the need for a classified staff position. Language from the specific outside entity as well as an explanation of how it is currently not being met must be included with the application.
- **Program Review:** The most recent program review corroborates the need for a classified position.
- **Program Viability:** A full-time position is necessary for the viability of a program.
- **Workload:** Program duties and responsibilities justify the need for a position.
- **Content Expertise:** A new hire would fill a gap in content expertise, increasing student retention, enrollment growth, and overall quality of a program.
- **Program Expansion:** The expansion of instructional or student services programs creates a need for a new position.
- **Student Engagement:** The position provides direct or indirect support for various student activities.
- **Function and Service:** The position contributes a unique non-transferable function that is essential to student success and effective operation of the associated unit. The duty or responsibility is vital to a college or division function.
- **Funding:** A clearly identified funding source exists for the position.

PROCEDURES

1. Supervisors submit requests for classified positions to the appropriate vice president (Instruction, Student Services, Workforce, or Finance & Administrative Services) or the president, if applicable. The request needs to include a detailed description of how the requests meet the above criteria. It should also include a proposed job description and salary range.
2. Supervisors obtain input from students and other stakeholders interfacing with an existing position or potentially interfacing with a new position. In both instances, the input should be used to review and update the job description.
3. The vice president forwards the request to the president's senior leadership team for consideration. The need for the position will be discussed and compared against the existing ranked list of positions from the annual resource allocation process.
4. The college president decides whether to approve the request based on discussion at the senior leadership team meeting.

5. If approved, the classified search and hiring process follows [AP 4130 District Hiring Procedures](#). The hiring committee is typically chaired by the position's supervisor and includes one or more classified staff members appointed by the classified senate. The hiring committee chair may ask faculty to serve on the committee. An EO representative will be appointed by HR.

ITEM 3

Guiding Principles & Procedures for Determining Administrator Positions

BACKGROUND

Funding for an administrative position may become available through an existing position becoming vacant or additional revenue coming to the college. Either of these can occur throughout the year, so administrative hiring requests do not have a set timeline and can occur throughout the year. They can also be made through the annual resource allocation guide process. Following the completion of that process every year, the president's senior leadership team will review and rank all existing requests for administrative positions. This ranked list will be used throughout the year to compare with the need for a new request. Vacant positions are not automatically approved for re-hire. Those positions must be formally submitted in the process below and will be compared against the needs of the other existing requests.

CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to fill vacant positions or to create new ones:

- **Program Mandates:** A mandate by an outside entity (e.g., an accreditation agency or state regulations) dictates the need for an administrative position. Language from the specific outside entity as well as an explanation of how it is currently not being met must be included with the application.
- **Funding:** A clearly identified funding source exists for the position.
- **Workload:** Program duties and responsibilities justify the need for a position.
- **Reorganization:** Structural changes justify the need for new administrative oversight for optimal unit operations.
- **Function and Service:** The position provides a function that is essential to student success and the effective operation of the unit. The duty or responsibility is vital to the college mission.

PROCEDURES

1. The college president or a vice president should submit requests for administrator positions to president's senior leadership team. The request needs to include a detailed description of how the requests meet the above criteria. It should also include a proposed job description and salary range.
2. The administrator submitting the request should obtain input from students and other stakeholders interfacing with an existing position or potentially interfacing with a new position. In both instances, the input should be used to review and update the job description.
3. The need for the position will be discussed in the senior leadership team meeting and compared against the existing ranked list of position requests. The college president decides whether to approve the request based on discussion at the senior leadership team meeting.
4. If approved, the administrative search and hiring process follows [AP 4130 District Hiring Procedures](#). The hiring committee is chaired by a member of the president's senior leadership team or the supervising administrator. The committee membership may include the following: two deans, three faculty members appointed by academic senate, one faculty member appointed by Faculty Association, two classified staff members appointed by classified senate, and an EO representative appointed by HR.
5. To the extent possible, hiring should be completed during the academic year.

ITEM 4

Guiding Principles & Procedures for Allocation of Space (office, classroom, laboratory, community space)

BACKGROUND

The college is committed to configuring physical spaces that meet the needs of 21st-century students and employees while fostering a vibrant college community. No space is “owned” by a specific division or department. That said, some space will be permanently configured to meet the needs of that specific area (such as admissions and records front facing services or science labs). Vacant or under utilized space across the college is open to discussion for use for a broad range of purposes.

CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to allocate physical resources:

- **Student Access:** Students have convenient access to physical spaces on campus that support academic success and promote a sense of inclusion.
- **Employee Access:** Employees are provided with an appropriate and inclusive environment to perform their required duties.
- **Community Building:** Spaces promote a sense of belonging among and across all campus populations.
- **Hybrid Working:** Spaces are inclusive and enable participation via multiple modalities.
- **Optimize Usage:** Use of space is strategic, effective, and a benefit to the campus ecosystem.
- **Equity or Strategic Planning Goal:** The space request aligns with specific issues/goals in the Foothill 2030 Blueprint for Success or Strategic Vision for Equity.

PROCEDURES

1. Administrative services maintains an accurate list of vacant offices and the utilization of each room (classroom, lab, lounge, etc). The list is updated periodically and the accuracy relies on communication of any changes to room vacancies, assignments or changes on usage.
2. Faculty office spaces are allocated in a collaboration with the Division Dean and Administrative Services. Full-time faculty are provided with a private office. Vacant offices are set aside for rotational use (based on a reservation system created by the Divisions) for part-time faculty. Division administrative assistants will manage the quarterly allocation of part-time faculty offices.
3. Classified staff members are provided an office space (desk, cubicle, or private office) in the unit where their work is assigned. The supervisor or manager of the classified staff member is responsible for identifying and allocating an appropriate office space.
4. Administrators are provided with a private office in an area within the vicinity of the unit where their work is assigned. The vice president of the administrator’s service area will be responsible for identifying and allocating an office.
5. Division Deans and Division Administrative Assistants will have offices located in close physical proximity to their administrative area.
6. Requests for office space for partners and external community members must first be approved by the president’s senior leadership team. The space location is determined by Administrative Services in conversation with administrators who supervise work in that area.

7. Requests to assign a classroom or other space as a community space should be forwarded to the dean of the requestor's unit.
8. The dean meets with stakeholders affiliated with the location to discuss benefits and consequences of space allocation.
9. The dean will bring this item for discussion and approval at the College Wide Dean's meeting.
10. The outcome of the discussion from the College Wide Dean's meeting will be forwarded to the president's senior leadership team by the vice president.
11. The final decision on the allocation of the community space will be made by the president's senior leadership team.

ITEM 5

Guiding Principles & Procedures for Budget Requests (Block grants, categorical funds, B-budget, lottery)

BACKGROUND

All programs complete either an Annual Program Review (APR) or a Comprehensive Program Review (CPR) each year. As part of the A/C PR process, programs will also complete a Budget Request. The Budget Request process should be used to request new items (equipment, software etc.). The need for this item should be identified and referenced in the Program Review and must be aligned with Foothill 2030 Blueprint for Success and the Strategic Vision for Equity.

Finance Allocation Team (FAT) will review the requests. If the request is approved, the FAT will identify a budget to fund the request. The FAT is composed of:

- Vice President, Finance and Administrative Services
- Vice President, Workforce Innovation and Economic Development
- Financial Analyst
- Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) Coordinator
- Office Services Supervisor
- Program Submitter

CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to allocate financial resources:

- **Student Need:** The request contributes to the advancement of student learning.
- **Instructional/Staff Need:** The request enables instructor/staff to support student success and maintain disciplinary currency.
- **Program Review:** Action items in the Program Review identify a need that will enable program improvement. Facilitates action items articulated in the Program Review.
- **Equity or Strategic Planning Goal:** The request aligns with specific issues/goals in the Foothill 2030 Blueprint for Success or Strategic Vision for Equity.
- **Program Operations:** The request is needed for improving or maintaining effective daily operations of the program.
- **Sustainability:** Funding decisions consider the ongoing financial needs of operations and maintenance and long-term effectiveness.

PROCEDURES

1. The appropriate administrator will identify one person from each program (faculty, staff, or administrator) responsible for submitting budget requests (hereinafter called the program submitter).
2. The administrator will notify the Smartsheet System Administrator, who will then provide access to the Smartsheet Budget Request Form by sending a link via email to the program submitter.
3. Program submitters will submit eligible requests for review. Eligible requests include new items (equipment, software, etc.) and all items over \$10,000. (Items needed for routine operations of the program or other ongoing purchases that were previously approved should not be included in the request.)
4. Requests will be sent to the appropriate program administrator (dean or vice president) for review and approval.
5. The dean or vice president will review the request and provide information regarding the urgency and need of the request using the Smartsheet form. Requests will then be forwarded to the Finance Allocation Team for review.
6. The Finance Allocation Team will meet with the dean, area VP, and relevant faculty and staff to review the requests. Subsequent meetings will take place with relevant deans and VPs to rank the requests within one funding stream (such as requests for instructional equipment funds). The FAT will approve or deny the request using the Smartsheet form.
7. The program submitter will be notified of the team's final decision via Smartsheet.
8. In the following annual budget cycle, the program submitter will report on how approved items met the program's needs.

ITEM 6

Guiding Principles & Procedures for Reduction of Resources

BACKGROUND

Resource/Program Reduction is a term broadly used when eliminating positions (faculty, staff, administrators) or programs. The following guiding principles should be considered when discussing reduction of resources. It should be noted that when a resource reduction is warranted and how the reduction is executed is determined elsewhere. The following Articles from negotiated Agreements between the different bargaining units and the District must be consulted: Article 15 of the Agreement between Faculty Association and FHDA, and Article 11 of the Agreement between FHDA and Association of Classified Employees. Discontinuance of academic programs will follow the Senate's Program Sustainability Review (PSR).

An underlying premise of these guidelines is that all existing programs and personnel, regardless of their modality of operation, are important for effectively serving our students and during the difficult situations when a reduction of said services is inevitable due to fiscal demands and constraints, the following guidelines should be used to prioritize the available resources.

PRINCIPLES

- The number of students impacted by the proposed reductions and more specifically whether the reduction disproportionately impacts some groups of students is at the forefront of considerations. In addition to the headcount, the magnitude of the impact should also be considered.
- The impacted program's alignment with the college's Foothill 2030 Blueprint for Success and Strategic Vision for Equity should be taken into account.
- Alternate sustained funding sources or possibilities of restructuring to support the program are considered.
- In the spirit of transparency related to efforts undertaken to sustain a program, detailed communications regarding those efforts are shared regularly with the campus community.
- The consequences of any reduction (programs or positions) are studied and documented in detail and communicated to the campus community.
- In situations where a program maintains independent accreditation through a professional organization, the accreditor's requirements or standards are considered.
- All college units (administration, classified, full-time and part-time faculty) are considered.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- When a program is failing to meet expectations (based on Program Review evaluations), programs are provided detailed feedback and opportunities and support to improve.
- Prior to any consideration for reduction in resources, a thorough qualitative (e.g., student, faculty, staff, administrator, surveys) and quantitative examination (e.g., program costs, number of students served, student demographics) of the program should be conducted.

PART E: GUIDELINES FOR INTEGRATED PLANNING

BACKGROUND

Once the program review process is completed, programs receive feedback from the evaluators. The highlights from the program review are shared with the larger campus community. The vice presidents of Instruction, Student Services, and Finance share program review highlights from their respective areas to MIPC. This information is used by the college president to make informed decisions regarding strategic directions in various college areas.

PROCEDURES

1. The Vice President of Instruction and the Vice President of Student Services present to MIPC during the spring quarter a broad summary of highlights from the Comprehensive Program Reviews from their respective areas. If there is a recommendation for program discontinuance or reduction or program resources, this will be presented to MIPC in this annual summary presentation.
2. The Vice President of Finance presents an annual report to MIPC during the spring quarter about that year's budget requests.
3. Members of MIPC make recommendations to the college president based on presentations from the vice presidents of Instruction, Student Services, and Finance. If MIPC recommends discontinuance or revitalization of an academic program, this then follows the Program Sustainability Review process.
4. The college president determines next steps based on the recommendations from members of MIPC.