

CAPITAL PROJECT ADVANCED PLANNING POLICY

Board of Governors for Higher Education
State of Rhode Island

Adopted: 10/19/00 (BG)

Amended:

INTRODUCTION

Discussions with representatives of the Board of Governors, State Budget Office, the three institutions, and members of the General Assembly clearly indicate that a strong planning process is critical to the success of major capital projects. There is agreement among all parties that the project scope, timing, site considerations, cost, financing, environmental and human implications should be professionally assessed and documented before the project is presented to the Board of Governors for approval. Accordingly, each project submitted to the Board of Governors for consideration shall include an advanced planning document or feasibility study demonstrating that the planning criteria have been established and reviewed.

REGULATION

Prior to the submission of capital projects to the Board of Governors for consideration, each institution shall retain the services of an experienced architect or consultant to define the project program, plans and specifications and produce an advanced planning document or feasibility study that shall include, as appropriate:

Statement of Project Objectives	Job force analysis
Relationship to master plans, mission	Recommended contingencies
Program issues	Financial analysis
Analysis of existing condition	Funding options and recommendation
Design options	Fund raising analysis (as needed)
Site conditions	Surge space needs
Schematic plans and specs	Environmental/Human Impact analysis
Project schedule	Market analysis (if appropriate)
Construction estimate	Revenue analysis (if appropriate)
Inflationary factors	

It is understood that certain capital projects may not require the assistance of an external consultant. However, the institution must complete the advanced planning process set forth in this policy.

The institutions internal resources shall provide funding for advanced planning. All funds expended for planning purposes will be reimbursed from project funds when available. If, for whatever reason, the project is not approved or carried forward, then funds are not available for reimbursement.

Only those projects to be funded by other-than-state general obligations bonds and which are scheduled to be implemented in the subsequent fiscal year are to be presented to the Board for specific approval. Projects funded by state general obligation bonds shall be submitted in the fiscal year prior to the voter referendum. This policy is effective upon passage by the Board of Governors.