

02.08 System Expansion

Approved May 28, 1999 (MO 101-99)
Revised October 15, 1999 (MO 233-235-99)
Revised October 27, 2005 (MO 199-2005)
Revised August 1, 2008 (MO -2008)
Next Scheduled Review: August 1, 2010



Policy Statement

This policy provides the bases on which the Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system) would consider expansion of the system.

Reason for Policy

The rationale and criteria established herein are intended to serve as a guide for the chancellor and other internal or external groups, organizations, or individuals who may seek expansion of the system.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. NOTICE

The chairman of the board and the chancellor shall confer when a serious overture is made on behalf of a candidate institution and prior to the initiation of:

- (1) a comprehensive analysis of the candidate institution; and
- (2) any commitments by the system for or against the potential expansion.

2. RATIONALE FOR EXPANSION

Expansion is one of many strategic means of responding to the mission and vision for the system and the needs of the state of Texas. The specific reasons for considering expansion include the following:

- (1) building a shared vision;
- (2) serving more students;

- (3) providing more programs to meet regional needs;
- (4) pursuing excellence by strengthening existing programs and services;
- (5) responding to an identified state need;
- (6) broadening and strengthening public support; and
- (7) improving efficiency and effectiveness through collaboration.

3. ATTRIBUTES USED FOR EVALUATING CANDIDATE INSTITUTIONS

Once a decision is made to evaluate a particular candidate institution, a comprehensive analysis of the institution is necessary to provide the chancellor and the board with an assessment of the institution's academic, financial, and legal status. It will also help to predict what resources will be required to ensure that the candidate can meet or exceed expectations consistent with existing system members. The key attributes of concern are:

- (1) compatibility with the system's vision;
- (2) present and projected financial viability;
- (3) academic standing;
- (4) geographic niche and demographics of the service area;
- (5) impacts on existing system members;
- (6) cost effectiveness of administration and program delivery;
- (7) adequacy of physical assets;
- (8) impacts from non-system institutions;
- (9) legal review;
- (10) demands on system infrastructure;
- (11) student and alumni sentiment; and
- (12) public support base.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

The board authorizes the chancellor to establish a process to implement the system expansion policy. This regulation should address the formal process and the timelines for a full and careful analysis of all opportunities for merger and acquisition.

The publication, *Rationale and Criteria for Considering the Expansion of The Texas A&M University System*, as approved by the board in December 1998, will be the basis for the consideration of expansion of the system.

This publication discusses in detail the considerations and expectations of the board for the process and the information necessary to make an informed decision for the benefit of the system and the state of Texas. This publication, as approved by the board, will be interpreted, maintained and modified when necessary by the System Office of Academic Affairs.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Rationale and Criteria for Considering the Expansion of The Texas A&M University System
<http://www.tamus.edu/offices/academic/index.html>

Contact Office

The Office of the Chancellor
(979) 458-6000