The University of Texas at Austin

Office of the Chief Information Officer

High Value/High Risk Information Technology Purchase Policy
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High Value/High Risk Information Technology Purchase Policy

1. Background

In order to improve the quality, consistency, and security of commodity IT services offered to faculty, students, and staff, the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) of the University must review the use of campus funds on computer-related products and acquisitions that are considered high-risk to the university (e.g., based on data classification, public relations requirements, IT resource consumption) or that are of $100,000 or more.

2. Purpose

Review of high-risk/high-value technology and computer-related purchases will:

- Ensure that acquisitions are compatible with current campus standards and strategic technology directions.
- Identify opportunities for cost savings through aggregated purchases or use of campus resources.
- Ensure that purchased products or services comply with campus security, privacy, accessibility, and data management policies and related laws.
- Facilitate CIO and CISO understanding of campus computing needs as they evolve.
- Enable evaluation of impact on related units, infrastructure, and facilities, and notification of impacted parties as necessary.

3. Scope

Technology and computer-related items subject to review include but are not limited to:

- Hardware purchases
- Software purchases
- Maintenance/support renewals
- Requests for proposals
- Outsourcing agreements

The CIO and CISO will comment on the purchase and notify impacted colleges, schools, or units within 5 business days of receiving the purchase request in order to avoid impeding implementation of funded grants or other urgent or time-sensitive purchases. However, this timeframe could be extended in special cases where significant impact or risk are identified. If the CIO and CISO identify significant impact or risk with a purchase, the purchase request will be forwarded to the Operational IT Committee (OIT), the highest level operational IT governance committee, for their review and recommendations. OIT will respond to the purchase request within 10 business days of receipt from the CIO and CISO.

4. Revision History

Version	Date	New	Original
High Value/High Risk Information Technology Purchase Policy	3/4/2011	Converted web page to PDF. Edited to include background, purpose, and scope sections.	

5. Approvals

Name	Role	Members	Date
Chief Information Security Officer	Approval	Cam Beasley	March 7, 2011
Chief Information Officer	Approval	Brad Englert	March 7, 2011