FPU-7.002 Student Financial Aid.

(1) **Purpose.** The University is committed to the principle that every student who applies for financial aid will be given full consideration.

(2) **The Office of Financial Aid.** The Office of Financial Aid is the single office designated to coordinate the collection of data for all programs of financial aid for use in university system and state information systems. The Office of Financial Aid is responsible for coordinating the award and distribution of all financial aid.

(3) **Financial Aid Policy Committee.** The Financial Aid Policy Committee:
   a) Recommends University policy on matters relating to financial aid;
   b) Recommends specific financial aid program objectives in support of the University’s master plan; and
   c) Facilitates the conduct of financial aid activities.

(4) **Distribution of Financial Aid.**
   a) Financial need and academic merit shall be given primary consideration in the awarding of financial aid to students. All awards are based in part on availability of funding and application date.
   b) Need-based funds are distributed on a priority basis to students who have a demonstrated financial need, as determined by a nationally recognized need-analysis system, and have timely completed all student aid application requirements. Need-based financial aid packages vary in size due to student classification, family financial status, availability of funds and application date.
   c) Academic merit assistance is awarded to students according to their academic credentials.
   d) The University recognizes special student qualities or student talents in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and may award scholarships, grants and waivers for such attributes for recruitment in support of the University’s enrollment goals and educational objectives.
   e) Institutional resources used to fund financial aid awards include, but are not limited to, state lottery funds, financial aid fees collected as a component of tuition, differential tuition dedicated to financial aid, interest earnings from designated University accounts, and any other federal, state, institutional, foundation and other aid programs that are locally administered.
   f) Financial aid resources must be used in a manner that serves the University’s plan for equalizing educational opportunity.
   g) The student must be academically engaged in each course in which the student is enrolled or all or part of the student’s federal aid may be in jeopardy. Academic engagement is evidenced by:
      i) Physically attending classes where there is in an opportunity for direct interaction between the instructor and students;
      ii) Submitting academic assignments;
      iii) Taking exams, interactive tutorials or computer-assisted instruction;
      iv) Attending a study group that is assigned by the University; and/or
      v) Participating in online discussions about academic matters.

*Authority: FBOG regulations 1.001, 3.009
History: New 2.5.14, Amended: 3.16.17*