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November 15, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: System and Campus Heads

FROM: *Joseph C. Rallo, Ph.D.*, Commissioner of Higher Education

RE: Changes to BoRSF Endowment Matching Opportunities

At its meeting of November 2, 2016, the Board of Regents approved a restructuring of the Board of Regents Support Fund (BoRSF), which aligned all expenditures with State, system, and campus priorities, as well as adjusted the allocation of BoRSF dollars to respond to significantly lower expendable earnings. As a result, beginning in FY 2017-18, the BoRSF's two non-competitive endowment subprograms – Endowed Professorships and Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships – will no longer operate as they traditionally have. The First-Generation Scholarships program will cease to provide matches after FY 2016-17; Endowed Professorships will be subject to a change in its match ratio, providing \$20,000 matches to \$80,000 non-State contributions except for campuses with fewer than 15 matched slots already in place. The purpose of this memo is to clarify how existing unmatched applications will be processed and matched as the BoRSF moves forward under the new structure.

Pursuant to Board action, each affected campus should compile a complete list in rank order of funding preference of all eligible unmatched Professorships and First-Generation Scholarships applications for which match is requested (both previously submitted and new) under the non-competitive programs governed by policies in place as of December 2016. This list must be submitted to Ms. Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs, by 4:30 p.m. Central time on Friday, June 30, 2017. All applications must adhere to submission requirements set forth in the current Endowed Professorships and Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships program policies, including verification that the institution has received and deposited the minimum required in non-State matching funds and that these funds meet program eligibility requirements. For new requests, documentation must be submitted to the Board as set forth in the policy; resubmission of documentation already on file with the Board for unmatched applications previously submitted is not necessary, though these Professorships should be included in the campus's complete list.

The Board recognizes that some donors may have included contributions to be matched with BoRSF funds in their wills or estate documents prior to the Board's approval of a new BoRSF structure. Accordingly, the Board will match such requests under the following conditions: 1) the donor has specifically indicated in the will or estate document that the contribution is intended to be matched with BoRSF funds under the guidelines of Endowed Professorships or Endowed First-Generation Undergraduate Scholarships; and 2) the document committing the contribution is executed prior to July 1, 2017. Campuses and related foundations and development offices should communicate changes in BoRSF policies and programs to current and prospective donors as soon as possible to ensure no willed donations are put into place under matching programs and policies no longer available.

We appreciate your continuing interest and participation in the BoRSF endowment matching programs. If you have questions about the Board action or June 2017 submission requirements, please contact me (carrie.robison@regents.la.gov).

cc: Chief Academic Officers
Chief Research and Economic Development Officers
Foundation and Development Leaders
Members, Board of Regents