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To: Chancellors
Provosts
Chief Business Officers
Senior Student Affairs Officers
Senior Student Enrollment Officers
Chief Diversity Officers
Compliance Officers

From: Johannes Britz, *Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs*
Julie Gordon, *Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration*

Re: Fiscal Year 2026 UW System Administrative Policy Priorities

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an accounting of the policy work completed in fiscal year 2025 and to notify universities of the University of Wisconsin System Administrative (SYS) policies and procedures that are scheduled for revision or development during fiscal year 2026. A listing of the monthly distribution dates for fiscal year 2026 is provided at the end of this memorandum. All SYS policies, procedures, and guidance documents for review that month will be distributed in a single email on these dates to minimize the burden on campus stakeholders who may wish to provide feedback.

In fiscal year 2025, 65 SYS policies, procedures and guidance documents were approved. This included six (6) new SYS policies, five (5) new interim policy actions, and 37 SYS policy revisions that were approved by the Universities of Wisconsin President. This also included two (2) new SYS procedures and four (4) revisions to existing SYS procedures. Additionally, two (2) new guidance documents were approved. Lastly, nine (9) SYS policies, procedures, or guidance documents were rescinded.

Furthermore, the Universities of Wisconsin Administration (UWSA) undertook multiple initiatives to enhance the policy process; this work included:

- Presenting the SYS policy process to the combined shared governance groups to increase transparency;
- Combining the Finance and General Administrative Policy Committee and Academic and Student Affairs Policy Committee to increase efficiency and facilitate communication between policy owners; and
- Beginning discussions with the Board of Regents Office to identify opportunities for collaboration and communication to increase transparency for stakeholders.

Below is a list of SYS policy priorities for fiscal year 2026. The policies were identified as high priority due to the policy's content, the last revision date, or other emergent factors (e.g., changes to federal or state regulation, audit findings). University leadership and Shared Governance Representatives were asked to provide input on SYS policy priorities that should be undertaken by UWSA in the coming year. Comments were given to UWSA policy owners for final consideration in this plan's development. Our thanks to your staff for their time in developing the attached priorities.

Where possible, the quarter that the policy work is expected to begin is indicated to allow universities to plan and allocate resources to comment on draft policies. As necessary, policy owners will work with the Board of Regents Office to update Regent Policy Documents in conjunction with relevant SYS policies. Procedures

associated with policies under revision will also be reviewed and drafts distributed with the relevant policies as necessary. Plans to develop new procedures are listed in the priorities below.

The list below is not exhaustive, as new issues may arise as the year progresses, leading to other policy matters taking precedence. As we become aware of such issues, we will do our best to inform the universities in our Quarterly Policy Priorities Update memos (sent in October, January, and April). To stay abreast of when draft SYS policies are available for comment or when a SYS policy or procedure has been approved, view the newsfeed stories on the [UW Policies webpage](#).

Fiscal Year 2026 Policy Priorities (by area)

Operational (000 Series)

- SYS 1, *Development, Revision, and Approval of UW System Administrative Policies, Procedures, & Guidelines* **[Revise, Q2]**
- SYS 1.A, *UW System Administrative Policy, Procedure, & Guidelines Development, Review, and Approval Process* **[New, Q2]**
- SYS 2, *Development, Revision, and Approval of Academic and Student Affairs Policies* **[Rescind, Q2]**
- SYS 3, *Development, Revision, and Approval of Finance and General Administration Policies & Procedures* **[Rescind, Q2]**

Academic and Student Affairs (100 Series)

- SYS 102, *Policy on University of Wisconsin System Array Management: Program Planning, Delivery, Review and Reporting* **[Revise]**
- SYS 110, *Criteria and Approval of Wisconsin Technical College Liberal Arts and Pre-professional Transfer Program* **[Revise, Q1]**
- SYS 115, *Associate Degree Standards* **[Revise, Q1]**
- SYS 135, *UW System Undergraduate Transfer Policy* **[Revise, Q1]**
- SYS 138, *Award of Credit by Prior Learning Assessment* **[Revise, Q1]**
- SYS 140, *UW System Guidelines for Articulation Agreements Between UW System Institutions and WTCS Districts* **[Rescind, Q1]**
- SYS 145, *Development and Operation of Off-Campus International and Study Away Programs for University of Wisconsin System Students* **[Revise]**
- SYS 146, *University of Wisconsin System Faculty and Academic Staff for Study Abroad and Study Away* **[Revise]**
- SYS 180, *Campus Early Education and Care Centers* **[Revise, Q1]**
- SYS 185, *Awarding of UW System Credit in Wisconsin Schools* **[Revise, Q1]**

Human Resources (200 Series)

- SYS 220, *Affirmative Action Data Collection* **[Revise]**

Financial Administration (300 Series)

- SYS 308, *Budget Transfers* **[Revise]**
- SYS 314, *Financial Management of Auxiliary Operations* **[Revise, Q2]**
- SYS 322, *Physical Plant Services Chargebacks* **[Revise, Q2]**
- SYS 342, *Extramural Support Administration* **[Revise, Q3]**

Procurement (500 Series)

- SYS 520, *Board of Regents Procurement Authority* **[Revise]**
- SYS 520.A, *Allowable Ways to Purchase* **[New]**
- SYS 520.B, *Board Procurement Delegation* **[New]**
- SYS 521, *Authority to Sign Procurement Contracts in the UW System* **[Revise]**
- SYS 540, *Non-Competitive Procurement Contracts* **[Revise]**

Risk Management & Compliance (600 Series)

- SYS 620, *Working in Isolation Policy* **[Revise]**
- SYS 625, *Youth Protection and Compliance* **[Revise, Q2]**
- SYS 645, *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Compliance* **[Revise, Q1]**

Tuition and Fees (800 Series)

- SYS 805, *Tuition and Fees Policies for Credit Instruction* **[Revise]**

Information Security (1000 Series)

- SYS 1000, *Information Security: General Terms and Definitions* **[Revise, Q3]**
- SYS 1039, *Information Security: Risk Management* **[Revise, Q1]**
- SYS 1040, *Information Security: Privacy Policy* **[Revise, Q4]**
- SYS 1041, *Information Security: Logging and Monitoring* **[Revise, Q2]**

University Personnel System Operational Policies (1200 Series)

- SYS 1202, *Equal Employment Opportunity* **[Revise]**
- SYS 1218, *Military Leave* **[Revise, Q3]**
- SYS 1275, *Recruitment Policies* **[Revise]**
- SYS 1290, *Code of Ethics* **[Revise, Q2]**
- SYS 12xx, *Position Management* **[New, Q1]**
- SYS 12xx, *Volunteers and Employee Volunteerism* **[New, Q1]**

Intellectual Property (1300 Series)

- SYS 1310, *Copyrightable Materials Ownership, Use, and Control* **[Revise, Q1]**

FY 2026 University Policy Distribution Dates

- July 25, 2025
- August 22, 2025
- September 26, 2025
- October 24, 2025
- November 21, 2025
- December 19, 2025
- January 23, 2026
- February 20, 2026
- March 20, 2026
- April 24, 2026
- May 22, 2026
- June 19, 2026

Please distribute this memorandum to other individuals at your university who work with these policies. Any thoughts or suggestions should be directed to Sarah Ebben, Policy Analyst (sarah.ebben@wisconsin.edu).

cc: Jay O. Rothman, President
Cabinet
Academic Staff Representatives
Faculty Representatives
University Staff Representatives
Student Representatives