

State University of New York at New Paltz
Criteria for Making Budget Decisions

Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary defines criterion as: *A standard on which a judgment or decision may be based; a characterizing mark or trait.*

1. Is the program/function central to our core mission and future direction?
2. "Need to do" vs. "want to do," i.e., essentiality
3. Significant, positive impact on student learning and development
4. Demonstrated impact on student recruitment, retention, and graduation
5. Program/function provides an essential student support service
6. Demonstrated impact on the recruitment/retention of high-quality faculty and staff
7. Demonstrated impacts on faculty/student collaboration
8. Number of students per full-time faculty in a given program, taking into account the inherent nature of the program
9. Contributes to General Education
10. Delivery of supporting courses to other majors
11. Viable enrollment (e.g., number of applications and enrollments by program)
12. Demonstrated impact on important external relationships
13. Is this program/function duplicated on the campus?
14. Provides a uniquely valuable service to the region/state
15. Program/function has a consistently positive record of performance
16. Action results in a net gain of resources, taking the full cost of the program/activity into account
17. Is our current practice the most efficient/cost effective way to perform the function?
18. Faculty and OTPS (i.e., Other Than Personnel Service) costs per student
19. Demonstrated impact on the health and safety of the campus environment