The annual state budget cycle starts with a call from the Office of the President to the Campuses for budget items. The UC Regents approve the UC Budget Proposal that is then sent to the State of California. The Governor releases his first draft in January and a revision in May. The Legislature must approve a State Budget in mid-June.

To the right is a summary chart indicating the roles of the State, University, Campus, and Departments during the process.
Planning and Budget Process for the Campus

The Chancellor/EVC has responsibility for the funding decisions on campus – whether it is new fund allocations or budget cuts. The Chancellor/EVC determines the approach for consultation with the stakeholders on campus in the form of Cabinets, Councils, Advisory Committees, or Town Halls. It is important to the Chancellor/EVC to involve many different groups in budgetary decisions on the campus.

In late Fall/early Winter, a budget call letter from the Chancellor/EVC to the Deans and Vice Chancellor’s will typically request basic budget information of their Organization along with their funding requests or their proposed strategies for budget reductions. During the Spring, the Chancellor/EVC coordinates budget meetings with members of the Chancellor’s Budget Advisory Council and Academic Senate Committee on Planning and Budget, allowing the Dean or Vice Chancellor to discuss their organizational budget and strategic plans and to obtain feedback from these groups.

After the individual meetings, usually in late April through early June, the funding requests or proposed strategies for budget reduction are reviewed as a comprehensive unit and the consultation efforts with the stakeholders begin. The Chancellor/EVC will finalize the specific budget allocations or reduction decisions and communicate those decisions to the campus desirably in late June in preparation for the fiscal year beginning on July 1. However, if funding in the State Budget is volatile and/or if system-wide funding methodologies from the Office of the President are uncertain, then traditionally there are delays in communicating campus decisions.