

Club Budget Approval Process

Student Activities Department & Student Fund – KFUPM

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1. Executive Summary

This page explains how a Club President prepares and submits the club's semester budget for review in Student Activities and final approval by the Student Fund.

This process covers:

- Preparing an itemized budget with clear justification and a tentative date for competitions.
- Review by the Club Supervisor and Director, including return-for- changes when needed.
- Final Student Fund review, with approval or return-for-revision.
- Follow-up and escalation paths if the process stalls due to inactivity.

Note: after the budget is approved, funds will be released through petty cash requests and the competition awards disbursement request process.

2. Key Characteristics of This Process

Student Activities review comes first

The budget is reviewed by the Club Supervisor and then the Director before it is forwarded to the Student Fund.

Follow-ups help prevent stalled budgets

If a required revision is not completed within about one week, a follow-up/escalation path helps keep the process moving.

Accountability stays with the club

The Club President remains responsible for the budget content even if staff step in to keep the process moving.

3. Key Process Logic

- Each budget item needs a clear justification (why it is needed, what goal it supports, value to students, and why this amount). Competition-related items also require a tentative event date.
- The Club Supervisor and Director either approve the budget or return it with comments for the Club President to revise.
- After the budget is forwarded to the Student Fund, the Student Fund reviews it against the jointly agreed budget policy and, for procured items, performs a high-level pricing sanity check focused on clear outliers. The Student Fund either approves the budget or returns it to the Club President for revision. Revised budgets go through Supervisor and Director approval again before being sent back.
- If a required revision is not completed within about one week, the process includes a follow-up/escalation path so the budget is not blocked by inactivity.

4. Process Actors and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Club President	Accountable Initiator. Drafts the budget, provides justification, and remains accountable for the content throughout the process, including during administrative escalations.
Club Supervisor	Endorser. Reviews for completeness, realism, and compliance. Ensures corrections requested by higher authorities are properly reflected before resubmission.
Director – Student Activities	Strategic Authority & Continuity Steward. Validates alignment with Student Activities strategy and policy. Coordinates escalations and corrections to prevent operational delays. Exercises delegated, policy-bound adjustments strictly for continuity and compliance purposes.
Student Fund	Final budget approver. Applies the jointly agreed budget policy and performs a risk-based pricing sanity check for procured items (e.g., vendor services, direct purchases, and subscriptions), focusing on clear outliers. Approves the budget or returns it for revision with comments and the basis for return (policy and/or pricing).

5. Process Map (BPMN)

BPMN Diagram Notice: This document export excludes the interactive BPMN diagram.

To view the full process map, please visit:

dsa-pdp.pages.dev → **Club Budget Approval Process**

6. Process Walkthrough & Business Logic

Step	Actor	Action	Business Rules
1.0	Club President	Prepare budget with justification	Include an itemized budget and a clear justification for each item. For competitions, include a tentative event date.
1.1	Club President	Submit to Club Supervisor	Sends the budget for Supervisor review.
2.0	Club Supervisor	Review and decide	Reviews the budget and either endorse it with optional comments or returns it to the Club President with comments for revision.
2.1	Club President	Revise and resubmit (if returned)	Updates the budget based on comments, then resubmits to the Club Supervisor.
2.2	Club Supervisor / Director	Follow up after 1 week (if stalled)	If the required revision is not completed within one week, the Supervisor follows up and may escalate to the Director. The Director may apply limited, policy-compliant edits to keep the process moving while the Club President remains accountable. After Director edits, the process moves to Step 4.0.
3.0	Director – Student Activities	Review and decide	Reviews the budget and either approves it or returns it to the Club President with comments for revision. If it is returned, the process moves to Step 2.1 (the Club President revises and resubmits to the Supervisor).
4.0	Director – Student Activities	Forward to Student Fund	Sends the approved budget to the Student Fund.
4.1	Student Fund	Review and decide	Reviews the budget against the jointly agreed policy and performs a high-level pricing sanity check for procured items (assets), focusing on clear outliers. Either approves the budget or returns it to the Club President for revision (with comments and the basis for return). If approved, the process moves to Step 6.0. If returned, the process moves to Step 5.0.

Step	Actor	Action	Business Rules
5.0	Club President	Revise after Student Fund return (if returned)	Reviews the Student Fund comments and updates the budget accordingly (consulting the Club Supervisor/Director as needed). If the revision is not completed within 1 week, the process moves to Step 5.5.
5.1	Club President	Submit revised budget for Supervisor approval	Sends the revised budget to the Club Supervisor.
5.2	Club Supervisor	Approve revised budget	Approves the revised budget. The process moves to Step 5.3.
5.3	Club Supervisor	Submit revised budget for Director approval with optional comments	Sends the Supervisor-approved revision to the Director.
5.4	Director – Student Activities	Approve revised budget	Approves the revised budget.
5.5	Director – Student Activities	Revise budget (Director override)	If the Club President does not complete the revision within 1 week, the Director may revise the budget as an override (consulting the Supervisor) so the process can continue.
5.6	Director – Student Activities	Forward revised budget to Student Fund	Sends the revised budget back to the Student Fund for final approval.
6.0	Student Fund	Final approval	Approves the budget and communicates the approval outcome back to Student Activities.

7. Exception Handling

Scenario A: Budget revision is not completed within one week

Trigger: The budget is returned for revision and the revision is not completed within one week.

Timeout: 1 week.

Escalation Path:

1. The Supervisor attempts follow-up with the President.
2. If inactivity persists, the request is escalated to the Director.

Continuity Action:

- The Director may apply limited, policy-compliant edits to keep the process moving.
- The Club President remains accountable for the budget.
- Adjustments are limited to compliance, policy enforcement, or continuity needs and do not constitute discretionary budget ownership.

8. Inputs & Outputs

Inputs

- Itemized budget breakdown
- Activity justification
- Tentative competition date (for competitions)

Outputs

- Budget approval decision communicated by the Student Fund
- Documented revision history and comments (if applicable)

9. Governance, Accountability & Reporting

Accountability Principle

The Club President remains accountable for budget content throughout the process. Administrative interventions do not transfer ownership.

Student Fund Review Basis

- Student Activities and the Student Fund maintain a jointly agreed budget policy (e.g., eligible items, caps, required documentation requirements, and approval criteria).
- Pricing checks at budget stage are limited to identifying clear outliers.
- Student Fund return decisions should state the basis for return (policy and/or pricing) so the revision path is clear.

Cycle Time Targets

These targets apply to staff decision time only and do not include time waiting for the Club President to revise and resubmit.

- **Club Supervisor decision:** ≤ 2 business days from Club President submission.
- **Director decision:** ≤ 3 business days from Supervisor submission
- **Student Fund review:** ≤ 3 business days from budget receipt.

Audit & Traceability

All approvals, rejections, comments, escalations, and administrative adjustments must be recorded.