

Management Flexibility – Increase in Purchasing Benchmark for The University of North Carolina at Wilmington

The guidelines for Special Responsibility Constituent Institutions (SRCI) authorize the Board of Governors to set separate purchasing benchmarks for each SRCI at levels up to \$500,000. Essentially, each institution may secure goods and services for amounts not exceeding the established benchmark using institutional procedures rather than routing bids through the Division of Purchase and Contract in Raleigh.

The University of North Carolina at Wilmington has conducted a self-assessment of its purchasing capabilities and, as a result of the assessment, requests an increase in its purchasing benchmark to \$500,000 from \$200,000. In accordance with the Board's guidelines, the Vice President for Finance has consulted with the Director of Purchase and Contract and the State Budget Officer to determine an appropriate benchmark for the institution.

It is recommended that the purchasing benchmark for the University of North Carolina at Wilmington be set at \$500,000 effective February 1, 2006.