

Academic Affairs Division

CASH HANDLING PROCEDURES

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

Following is summary of cash procedures. More detail on each step follows the summary:

1. Safeguarding Cash – A designated area within the Department should be maintained for the safe-keeping of cash and cash receipts, such as a safe or locked file cabinet.
2. Receiving cash –
 - Person receiving the cash cannot be the same person who has the responsibility for preparing the deposit.
 - All checks or other negotiable currency must be endorsed immediately upon receipt as follows:

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3. Cash Receipts – A pre-numbered or controlled cash receipt will be issued for each cash or credit card transaction.
4. Preparing Cash Deposit –
 - Count cash and reconcile to cash receipts.
 - Prepare original Deposit Slip.
 - Scan one original sized copy of deposit slip.
 - Make a copy of backup documentation.
 - Place cash/checks into designated sections of tamper-proof bag along with the original deposit slip. Also include a copy calculator tape with checks.
 - Complete an online PS Journal.
 - To PS Journal, upload scanned copies of deposit slip and backup documentation.
 - Submit Journal through workflow in PS-Finance for approval by persons designated with certifying signature authority.
 - After submitting journal into workflow, attach a completed Money Transmittal Form to sealed money bag. UH Police Officer or Security will pick up deposit(s) and deliver to Student Financial Services in the Welcome Center or designated Bank for Departments operating at remote sites.
 - Contact UHPD via web-request page at <http://uh.edu/police/transfers.html>.
 - **UH MAIL IS NOT TO BE USED FOR DELIVERY OF ANY CASH TRANSMITTAL.**
5. Timeliness of Deposits – All deposits will be submitted to Student Financial Services within a 24-hour period.

All employees have an obligation to report any suspected theft, fraud, embezzlement, or any other irregularity causing a loss of cash. Employees who are aware of criminal activity and fail to report such may be subject to disciplinary action. Employees are required to cooperate with any police or audit investigation, and they may be requested, to keep their knowledge of the investigation confidential.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR
RECEIPT, CUSTODY AND DEPOSIT OF UNIVERSITY FUNDS**

PURPOSE	Procedures for the handling of cash receipts are designed to provide accountability for monies received in accordance with accepted standards of internal controls.
REFERENCES	MAPP 05.01.01, SAM 03.F.04, Online Cash Handling Training
PROCEDURES	PART I: GENERAL STATEMENT PART II: PROCESSING CASH RECEIPTS AND REVENUE CLASSIFICATION PART III: PREPARING CASH AND CHECK DEPOSITS PART V: CREDIT CARD PROCEDURES PART VI: GIFT TRANSMITTAL FORMS PART VII: TIPS

PART I: GENERAL STATEMENT

Procedures for the handling of cash receipts are designed to provide accountability for monies received in accordance with accepted standards of internal controls. All employees within the Division of Academic Affairs are responsible for complying with the policies and procedures described below. Failure to adhere to these policies and procedures may result in disciplinary and/or legal action being taken. The charging of fees or agreements to provide services for compensation is prohibited except as outlined in Board of Regents Policy. Compliance with these procedures will protect employees when questions arise and protect the University from criticism by auditors and other reviewing officials. The Office of Student Financial Services or a designated Banking Institution is responsible for receiving all University monies after completion of paperwork for reviewing and forwarding on to the University's Bank. Gift receipts will be sent directly to the Treasurer's Office.

All employees have an obligation to report any suspected theft, fraud, embezzlement, or any other irregularity causing a loss of cash. Employees who are aware of criminal activity and fail to report such may be subject to disciplinary action. Employees are required to cooperate with any police or audit investigation, and they may be requested, to keep their knowledge of the investigation confidential.

PART II: PROCESSING CASH RECEIPTS AND REVENUE CLASSIFICATION

Definition of cash

In accordance with MAPP 5.01.01, the term cash includes all forms of payment that may be received, excluding internal documents such as Service Center Requests and Expenditure Reallocations or Corrections, but including currency (U.S. and foreign), checks, traveler checks, money orders, credit card and debit card charges, and wire transfers. In short, anything that may be presented to a bank for payment. While some forms of cash, such as currency, are obviously more sensitive to improper handling, it is important to keep in mind that the policy does not make a distinction between the various forms of payment when specifying the requirements for its processing.

Authority to receive payments

MAPP 5.01.01 states that cash is not to be accepted or issued by any university employee for any purpose unless that employee has been authorized by the College/Division Administrator for the purpose specified. All employees authorized to handle cash must be certified annually by taking the mandatory online training for Cash Handling. In addition, employees handling cash should undergo a criminal history background check, prior to assuming the responsibility.

Each Department designates a staff person, who is under the supervision of the Department Manager, to receive the cash; however does not have the responsibility for preparing the cash for deposit.

Receipt of Cash

A pre-numbered receipt or the use of an alternate receipt process is required each time cash is received. The use of receipts is a critical element of internal control, as well as the resolution of any differences or problems that may arise at a later time with the payer. Any alternate receipt method must be approved by Operational Support or UHS Treasurer’s office.

All checks or other negotiable currency must be restrictively endorsed immediately upon receipt by the department as follows:

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Money Orders and Foreign drafts, which are those items drawn against foreign banks and requiring presentation to that bank for payment must be processed on a separate Journal Entry Form. These items can be identified by the lack of transit coding at the bottom of the check.

Timely processing of deposits

If the total is greater than \$100, then the deposit must be made within one working day. Although not recommended, a department can take up to five days to make a deposit if the total cash received is less than \$100. Deposits held in departmental areas must be kept under lock and key. Departments should not hold checks because the proper cost center cannot be identified or has not yet been created, nor should the department deposit the receipt to one departmental cost center for later transfer to the correct cost center. There are University of Houston System and University of Houston clearing cost centers to be used in these cases. Contact the UH System Treasurer’s office for assistance in the use of a clearing cost center is required.

Transmittal of deposits

Deposits shall be made using authorized bank bags obtained from Student Financial Services. Departments need to make arrangements with the University of Houston Police Department (UHPD) to transmit funds to Student Financial Services or a designated Banking Institution.

Gift transmittals are to be hand delivered to the Treasurer’s office.

UH MAIL IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY CASH TRANSMITTAL

PART III: PREPARING CASH AND CHECK DEPOSITS

Supplies Needed:

1. Deposit Slips – Deposit Slips can be ordered by sending a memo to Treasury at mail code 2009 with the following information:
 - a. Number of deposit slips per order (100 per book, minimum order 200)
 - b. How your department name should appear (attach current deposit ticket if available).
 - c. PS Cost Center to be charged.
 - d. Your name and telephone number.
2. Money Transmittal Form and Tamper Resistant Bags are available from Student Financial Services (SFS). Contact Student Financial Services and provide a PS Journal Entry for purchase.

Steps for Preparing Deposit:

Count cash and reconcile to cash receipts.

Complete a PS On- Line Journal.

Prepare original Deposit Slip.

Make copies of backup documentation to be submitted with Deposit Slip. Examples of backup documentation:

- Copy of Check
 - The University requires that checks be retained a minimum of six months. Departments requiring a longer period of retention should submit a letter of explanation on file with Cash Handling policy.
- Copy of receipt document

Assembling Deposit

Items placed in the tamper-proof bag are:

Place checks and/or cash in the designated section of bag.

Place copy of calculator tape in with checks.

Original Deposit Slip

Scan and upload Backup Documentation as attachment to PS Journal.

One (1) copy of deposit slip on letter-sized paper (either taped or copied).

Journal Approval

Submit Journal, along with scanned backup documentation, into workflow for approval using the following path: Department-SFS-General Accounting.

Deposit Delivery

- Complete a Money Transmittal Form.
- Contact UHPD or UH Security and request pickup and delivery of Deposit to Student Financial Services window at Welcome Center or designated Banking Institution. Contact UHPD via web-request page at <http://uh.edu/police/transfers.html>.
- UHPD will sign Money Transmittal Form and return the top copy to retain for records.

Reconciliation

Cash Journals will be reconciled against entries into PeopleSoft cost centers during the monthly reconciliation process.

PART IV: CREDIT CARD PROCEDURES

All departments that do not have a credit card machine will process a journal (online), including a signature of the person responsible for the credit card verifying that this charge is correct, which will be sent to the Treasury Department in order for the transaction to be processed. The Treasury Department will run the credit card numbers through their machine and complete the process of charging the credit card used. General Accounting will verify that the charge has been processed and complete the transaction by processing the journal.

PART V: GIFT TRANSMITTAL FORMS

- Endowed gift (check, cash, negotiable stocks or bonds) received by a department should be forwarded to the Treasurer's Office with a Gift Transmittal Form (GTF) and documentation within one working day of receipt. The GTF must include a certifying signature which indicates the approval of the funds deposit into a cost center that has been established with any applicable funding source restrictions.
- Non-endowed gift should be sent to Donor/Alumni Records with GTF and documentation within one working day of receipt. The GTF must include a certifying signature which indicates the approval of the funds deposit into a cost center that has been established with any applicable funding source restrictions.
- Unidentified deposits (those where the purpose and recipient of the payment cannot be identified, including gifts) are referred to the Treasurer's Office for research and deposit to the university's depository institution and recording in the unidentified receipts cost center. The Treasurer's Office and the submitting department will research the source of funds to determine the appropriate cost center for the receipt of funds

Obtain GTF form on at following website: <http://www.uh.edu/finance/pages/forms.htm>.

PART VI: CASH HANDLING TIPS

- Cash Received Totaling \$100.00 or more needs to be deposited within one (1) working day
- Cash Received Totaling less than \$100.00 needs to be deposited within five (5) working days
- Authorize a single person to handle cash at any one time
- Keep cash in a secure area (safe, lock box, locked desk drawer, etc.)
- Use PS "Speed Type"
- Ensure each journal has its own back-up
- Attach a deposit slip for each BANK line
- Attach back-up with amounts supporting each line of the journal
- Don't attach two journals to a single deposit slip
- Don't attach small pieces of paper – use letter size
- Don't attach unnecessary documents to journal

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR
PETTY CASH/CHANGE FUND**

PURPOSE	Procedures for the handling of petty cash are designed to provide accountability for monies received in accordance with accepted standards of internal controls.
REFERENCES	MAPP 05.01.01, SAM 03.A.07
PROCEDURES	PART I: GENERAL STATEMENT PART II: POLICY PROVISIONS PART III: CUSTODIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

PART I: GENERAL STATEMENT

Procedures for the handling petty cash are designed to provide accountability for monies received in accordance with accepted standards of internal controls. All employees of Academic Affairs are responsible for complying with the policies and procedures described below. Failure to adhere to these policies and procedures may result in disciplinary and/or legal action being taken against the employee. The charging of fees or agreements to provide services for compensation must undergo an approval process in which the governing body (i.e. Board of Regents) grants such authority. Compliance with these procedures will protect employees when questions arise and protect the University from criticism by auditors and other reviewing officials.

All employees have an obligation to report any suspected theft, fraud, embezzlement, or any other irregularity causing a loss of cash. Employees who are aware of criminal activity and fail to report such may be subject to disciplinary action. Employees are required to cooperate with any police or audit investigation and they may be requested to keep their knowledge of the investigation confidential.

PART II: POLICY PROVISIONS

Departmental petty cash funds will be authorized only in extraordinary cases where need and accountability can be demonstrated. All departmental cash funds require the approval of the division business administrator and the Treasurer.

An individual will be assigned the responsibility of the petty cash fund. The Petty Cash Custodian will complete an "Acknowledgment of Receipt of Funds & Policies and Procedures Related Thereto" Exhibit A - SAM 03.A.07 and a copy will be retained by the department.

Cash handlers and fund custodians are certified annually by completing the required online training.

Petty cash and change fund custodians are also required to complete and submit an Acknowledgement of Receipt of Funds and/or Cash Policies and Procedures Certification http://www.uh.edu/finance/Doc_Ref/MAPP%20050101%20-%20Addendum%20A.doc to the Treasurer's Office on an annual basis.

The petty cash fund will be established for a designated amount from which payments and/or reimbursements for small dollar expenses may be made.

The maximum amount of petty cash to be expended, reimbursed, and/or advanced per transaction is \$100.00. Reimbursements greater than \$100.00 will be processed through Accounts Payable.

A properly completed "Voucher Request Form for Disbursement of Petty Cash" Exhibit B – SAM 03.A.07 and acceptable documentation is required for cash reimbursement.

The reimbursement request must be supported by proper receipts. The following types of receipts are acceptable:

- a. Original, numbered receipts with the company name and address imprinted on the receipt, which includes an itemized listing or description of items purchased.
Copies of receipts mentioned above are acceptable but must be certified by the department head as a valid receipt, which has not been previously reimbursed.
- b. Numbered or non-numbered receipts that do not have a company's or individual's name imprinted on the receipt, providing the name and address of individual or company is included by person seeking reimbursement.
- c. COD charge lists are acceptable only if they are marked paid and signed by the individual delivering the items, or stamped paid with a company stamp and signed by the individual delivering the items.
- d. Register tape from cash registers that have the company's name and date of purchase at the top of the tape, and all items are circled and described by individual seeking reimbursement.
- e. Price tags taken from various items which contain a computerized or other type numbering system, and name of company is supplied.
- f. Hand written paper receipts which contain a full name, address and telephone number of person from whom purchased, and is signed by this person (provided they are verified by the department head, and a full description is made as to why no other type of receipt mentioned above can be obtained).

Petty cash funds will be replenished by the custodian on or before the last day of each month and must be replenished on or before the last day of the fiscal year.

Requests for replenishment of petty cash funds will be made on a voucher by the fund custodian and submitted to Accounts Payable. This request will be accompanied by the receipts received during the accounting period. A check will be issued to the custodian of the fund.

PART III: CUSTODIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Safe and secure storage.
2. Petty cash fund will be kept separate from all other funds.
3. Ensure that each transaction is for the established purpose.
4. Provide proper documentation to support the expenditure.
5. Balance the fund each time a disbursement is made or a minimum of once a month.
6. Report non-balance of the fund to the chief financial officer or designee in a timely manner.
7. Report theft from the fund to the Chief Financial Officer and UHPD.