

Overview of State Requirements for UW Information Technology Investments

Background on RCW 43.105

- Under State of Washington RCW 43.105, **all authority for state agency information technology (IT) acquisitions or projects is held by the Information Services Board (ISB)**, which is supported by Department of Information Services (DIS). ISB establishes standards and guidelines for state IT investments, and may delegate some authority for IT acquisitions to state agencies and institutions.
- The **University of Washington has been delegated authority by ISB for up to \$1.83 million in total investment costs for each IT project or acquisition. Projects must be low risk and impact.** Academic and research acquisitions or projects are exempt from ISB approval and requirements.
- The **UW created administrative policy statement (APS) 2.3 to provide a framework to ensure compliance with state standards and guidelines for IT investments.**
- Under APS 2.3, **every IT project with a five-year system life cycle cost totaling more than \$1 million must have prior written approval from the UW Information Management Advisory Committee (I-MAC) before that project is commenced .**
- The **State Office of Financial Management must review and approve all administrative system projects having more than 1000 hours of effort.**

Implications for UW IT Governance

- The UW must comply with ISB standards and guidelines in order maintain its delegated authority. **Failure to comply will result in reduction of the UW's maximum delegated authority to \$10,000.**
- These **requirements apply to all IT projects and acquisitions, regardless of UW funding source (GOF, DOF, RCR, SS), except for those that are exempt, as specified above.**
- **A robust governance structure is necessary to provide appropriate executive oversight and assurance** that technology investments are appropriately managed and aligned with strategic business goals.
- DIS requires that **projects be broken into discrete phases and that funds be released by project phase** once the project has been approved by the appropriate governance body.