

# Procurement Card (P-Card) Program Policies and Guidelines Manual



Revised May 2025

Procurement Services

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Policies and guidelines will be changed to meet the needs of the Procurement Card (P-Card) Program. For the most current guidelines, please refer to

<https://www.atu.edu/purchasing/pcard.php>

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Welcome to the State of Arkansas/Arkansas Tech University Procurement Card (P-Card) Program. As an agency of the State of Arkansas, Arkansas Tech University is participating in this program that is designed to help better manage low-dollar supply purchases and bring many benefits to you, the University, and our vendors. The P-Card will facilitate the acquisition of lower dollar goods and services needed for conducting official University business. It is intended that the P-Card be issued to University full-time employees to enhance the University and departmental effectiveness or economy of operations. Liability for payment, total responsibility and accountability for the P-Card transactions resides at the department level. Personal purchases are strictly forbidden and may result in disciplinary action.

It is accepted that no policy and guideline statement can cover all eventualities. Exceptional cases will be resolved as circumstances and prudent business practices warrant on a case-by-case basis.

University departments, as a condition of participation in the P-Card program, shall abide by the terms of the guidelines unless written exception is requested and approved by Procurement and Risk Management Services.

The success of the Procurement Card Program and its continuing use depends on your participation and cooperation. Please be sure to read and follow the program guidelines as specified within this document.

## **1. WHAT IS THE PROCUREMENT CARD?**

The Procurement Card is a Mastercard credit card issued by Bank of America (BOA). It is a flexible purchasing tool which offers an alternative to the existing purchasing processes and provides an extremely efficient and effective method for purchasing and paying for items that have low dollar amounts or for vendors who may not accept purchase orders. **The P- Card is to be used only for official business purchases for Arkansas Tech University.**

The issuance of a P-Card to you represents the trust bestowed upon you by the University to protect its assets and integrity. Under your oversight, review and approval, **you provide the key point of control to maintain appropriate spending activities to protect your departmental funds.**

The Procurement Card will enable you to purchase non-restricted commodities, via the web or in person, directly from the vendors. Currently purchase orders are not issued on each PCard purchase. Posting of the PCard transactions to cardholder's budget does not take place at time of purchase, but when card charges are reconciled. For this reason, cardholders must be mindful of their available budget when using the card.

The Procurement Card will be issued in the individual cardholder's name with the wording "Arkansas Tech University" and "For Official Use Only" clearly indicated on the card.

The basic P-Card transaction consists of the following steps:

1. Cardholder enters a business and selects the item(s) needed, charges it on the P-Card, signs a sales/charge slip and takes receipt of the merchandise.
2. Merchant submits the transaction to Mastercard and in-turn they submit it to Bank of America for payment (merchant normally will receive their payment within 3 working days of the original transaction).
3. Bank of America bills ATU on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for all charges made by the various ATU departments for the proceeding 30 days.
4. ATU reconciles the receipts/charge slips from the P-Card Transaction Log and makes a single payment to Bank of America, on behalf of all the ATU departments, within five (5) working days of billing receipt. The Accounting Department debits/credits each appropriate departmental account after the reconciliation is made.

## 2. THE PROCUREMENT CARD PROGRAM BENEFITS

**Cardholders** - You will be able to obtain various supplies and services directly from our vendors without using a purchase order. This streamlines the purchasing process and can help improve turnaround time on receipt of your order. It significantly reduces the workload and processing costs related to the purchase and payment of supplies.

**Arkansas Tech University** - The Procurement Card program provides a cost-efficient, alternative method for purchasing low-dollar supplies and services. Built-in card features make the program easy to control and manage and reduce processing costs at all levels by reducing the number of requisitions, purchase orders, invoices and checks. The Procurement Card enables departments to focus on higher yield value added activities.

**Vendors** - Vendors who accept Mastercard will welcome the Procurement Card. When they accept the card for business purchases, vendors need not send invoices to Arkansas Tech University, and they will receive payment directly from Bank of America within 72 hours.

## 3. ALLOWABLE and NON-ALLOWABLE CHARGES

This list is not intended to be exhaustive of either category. Please contact Procurement with any questions. [purchasing@atu.edu](mailto:purchasing@atu.edu) or 479-968-0269

### Allowable

- Advertising (no contract/agreement involved)
- Conference registrations-Also allowed on the TCard
- Shipping charges-Those **not** handled by the campus post office.
- Office Supplies-Required to be purchased with Pcard.
- Subscriptions
- Educational supplies-Classrooms, labs, etc.
- Business cards-only purchased using [ATUPrintCenter.com](http://ATUPrintCenter.com) link.
- Institutional memberships
- Promotional items and prizes. **Must follow the Gift/Prize/Award process and must not be using Agency funds.** See [www.atu.edu/purchasing](http://www.atu.edu/purchasing) for current gift/prize/award process.
- Local restaurant purchases-Must follow the local catering guidelines published at [atu.edu/purchasing](http://atu.edu/purchasing)

### Prohibited

- Personal purchases or any items not related to University business.

- Gift cards or gift certificates.
- Agency purchases
- Services such as construction, lawn care, etc.
- Appliances unless cardholder is a FAMA staff member
- ATU Foundation purchases
- Any purchase requiring an agreement, such as Terms and Conditions.
- Software licensing or upgrades such as Microsoft or Adobe.
- Maintenance and service agreements
- Printing-Wet ink on paper via a printing press. All printing must be bid via Procurement Services.
- Any items listed on a mandatory State of AR or University contract.

Including but not limited to

- Air conditioners, computers, software, cell phone, tires, bathroom tissue and paper towels, vehicles.
- Internal vendor providers
  - Facilities Management services
  - Food Services-Chartwells (all locations)
- Leased Items
  - Copiers and folding machines
  - Water coolers
  - Welding tanks
- Candles
- Capital Equipment \$5,000 or greater including tax and freight.
- Cash advances
- Construction or remodeling
- Furniture
- Gifts, contributions, sponsorships, or pledges.
- Internet service or cell phone service
- Medical service
- Restaurant charge-unless within the local catering guidelines published at [atu.edu/purchasing](http://atu.edu/purchasing)
- Space heaters
- T-Shirts
- Alcoholic beverage
- Bottled water
- Break room supplies (paper plates, cups, and cutlery)
- Candy, soft drinks, food, and coffee
- Decorative items

- E-Bay and Etsy purchases-May only be used with pre-approval from Procurement Services.
- Flowers, plants, or greeting cards. Includes sympathy cards or flowers.
- Medications-Over-the-counter and prescription
- Party or holiday decorations
- Plaques and awards.
- Supplies and food for celebrations such as birthday or retirement.
- Any travel expense aside from conference registration. (see allowable list)
- Individual Meals-Including optional add on meals to conference registrations.
- Temu and Shein purchases

#### **4. MAKING A PURCHASE**

When making a P-Card transaction the Cardholder shall check as many sources as reasonable to assure the best price, quality, service and delivery is in the best interest of the University. There are many methods of procuring with the P-Card.

**Purchasing In Person** - The Cardholder takes the P-Card to the supplier and verifies the supplier accepts the Mastercard card. The Cardholder selects the order, carefully ensuring that the selection is not listed as an exception to the allowable items/services that can be procured with the P-Card and that the total cost does not exceed the control limits set for the Cardholder's P-Card. The Cardholder takes the order to the supplier's cash register and presents the P-Card for payment.

The supplier either swipes the P-Card through a card reader or calls for an authorization. The supplier then asks the Cardholder to sign for the charges. The supplier issues the Cardholder a copy of the slip, cash register tape or paid invoice. The Cardholder shall retain all P-Card transaction documentation and provide it to the Cardholder Liaison for logging on the P-Card Transaction Log.

**Phone Orders** - The Cardholder may telephone an order to a supplier. The supplier shall request the Cardholder's P-Card number and expiration date. For security reasons, ensure others do not overhear or view this information. The Cardholder advises the supplier that the **University is not tax exempt** and shall pay all applicable sales tax. The Cardholder shall ensure the supplier includes a P- Card authorization slip, cash register tape or paid invoice with the delivery of the order. All orders shall be made delivery to the University department's official shipping address thru central receiving. The Cardholder shall ensure all transaction documentation is provided to the Cardholder Liaison for logging to

the P-Card Transaction Log.

**Internet Orders** – The Cardholder may use vendor's website to submit an order to a supplier. The Cardholder shall ensure the supplier includes a P-Card authorization slip, cash register tape, paid invoice and/or delivery slip with the order. If the supplier intends to email the P-Card transaction documentation as a separate item, the Cardholder shall ensure the documentation is emailed to the Cardholder's official email address. The Cardholder shall ensure all transaction documentation is provided to the Cardholder Liaison for logging to the P-Card Transaction Log. Internet orders may be subject to Use Tax. When placing Internet orders make sure that it is a secure site. (padlock closed symbol)

Orders placed for delivery must be delivered to an ATU campus address. To request an exception to this rule, the cardholder must consult Procurement Services prior to purchase.

## **5. GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- Procurement cards will only be issued to an individual in the individual's name. Cardholder must be a full-time employee of Arkansas Tech University. Procurement cards will not be transferable between individuals.
- Each department may assign a cardholder liaison.
- Cardholders will be linked to their department by their FOAP.
- Cardholder liaisons will be responsible for the basic accounting procedures and maintenance of the P-Card Transaction Log along with the applicable back-up documentation applicable to all transactions for each cardholder assigned to them by the department head.
- Cardholder liaison may be a liaison for him/herself.
- Cardholder liaison may be responsible for more than one department account. Employee's department head and appropriate Vice-President must approve the employee agreement request for a card, assign the cardholder liaisons for each individual card user and submit this information to Procurement before the process of issuing a card can begin.
- Upon receipt of this approved agreement Procurement Services will contact the approving departmental head to establish the account number to be charged, dollar limits, transaction limits, MCC blocking codes and other required information that must be established before the application for the P-Card can be submitted to Bank of America.
- Department head approval delegates transaction authority to the cardholder. Bank of America is to be paid each billing cycle from the departmental funds that are given on the Transaction Log.
- Cardholder liaisons will have the capability to, and will be



responsible for logging each cardholder's transactions to the P-Card Transaction Log and maintaining the documentation for each transaction.

- Departments will be responsible to assure credit card charges are accurate on their budget.

## 6. PARTIES INVOLVED

**Agency** - Arkansas Tech University who arranges with the card issuer, Bank of America for the issuance of procurement cards to approved departments and agrees to accept liability for the employees' use of the cards.

**Cardholder** - a full-time employee of Arkansas Tech University who is approved by his/her department head to use the procurement card to execute purchase transactions on behalf of their department.

**Card Issuer** - Bank of America services were contracted for/by the State of Arkansas, to issue Mastercard procurement cards to Arkansas Tech University employees, to bill the University for all purchases made on the cards, and to collect payment from Arkansas Tech University on behalf of the vendors.

**Department Head** - Arkansas Tech University official who must approve employee's request for a procurement card, designate budget information for purchases on the purchasing card, and submit applications to Procurement Services. Department head approval delegates transaction authority to the cardholder.

**Cardholder Liaison** - this is an OPTIONAL step for the cardholder. The Liaison is responsible for obtaining the statement and completing the transaction log for the cardholder, only if the cardholder has delegated this to them.

**Vendor** - the merchant from whom a cardholder is making a purchase.

## 7. CARDHOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Cardholders are responsible for knowing and applying all of the rules related to the P-Card program. The Procurement Card may not be used for travel with the exception of conference registration (see page 15), entertainment, cash and other categories as included in the Blocked Merchant Category Code list included in these policies and procedures. Misuse of the card will subject the Cardholder to disciplinary action in accordance with Arkansas Tech University Policies and Procedures relating to disciplinary action and termination for cause. See below for compliance improvement plan. The Cardholder must:

- Ensure the Procurement Card is used only for legitimate ATU

business purposes.

- Maintain the Procurement Card in a secure location at all times.
- Not allow other individuals to use the Procurement.
- Adhere to the purchase limits and restrictions of the Procurement Card and ensure the total transaction amount of any single transaction does not exceed limit set by Department Head.
- Adhere to the purchasing rules and regulations of not splitting orders to circumvent the bid limit.
- Follow all Procurement card processes including submission of log and receipts by the monthly due date.
- Obtain all sales slips, register receipts, and/or Procurement Cards slips.
- Attempt to resolve disputes or billing errors directly with the vendor and immediately notify Procurement Services if the dispute or billing error is not satisfactorily resolved.
- Ensure that an appropriate credit for the reported disputed items(s) or billing error appears on a subsequent Cardholder's Statement.
- **Not accept cash in lieu of a credit to the Procurement Card account. Immediately report a lost or stolen card to BOA at 1-888-449-2273 (24 hours a day, 365 days a year).**
- Immediately notify Procurement Services of a lost or stolen Card at the first opportunity during business hours.
- Return the Procurement Card to Procurement upon terminating employment with Arkansas Tech University or upon request of the Procurement Card Administrator or Department Head.
- If the cardholder is changing departments within Arkansas Tech University, he/she must contact Procurement to coordinate the change.

## **Digital Wallet and Online Account Card Storage**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for safeguarding University Purchase Cards (P-Cards) and Travel Cards (T-Cards) from fraud and unauthorized use, specifically targeting threats associated with the use of e-wallets and digital payment platforms. This policy applies to all university employees, who are issued P-Cards and T-Cards for official business purposes. It covers the use of P-Cards and T-cards across all payment methods, including traditional card payments, e-wallets, and digital wallets (e.g., PayPal, Apple Pay, Google Pay, etc.). Card holders may not store p-card or t-card numbers to any digital wallet, online account, online payment platform, or any other storage method.

## **Compliance Improvement Plan**

ATU Procurement and Travel Services will follow these guidelines for university pcard and tcard holders that are consistently unable to meet card log submission deadlines and/or document requirements. Cardholder will progress through these steps if non-compliance issue persists.

1. Email communication to card holder with details of incomplete log submission.

2. Email communication to card holder and card holder supervisor with details of incomplete log submissions.
3. Scheduled re-training for card holder with supervisor in attendance.
4. Suspension of card for one billing cycle.
5. Meeting with card holder and supervisor to discuss potential closure of card and alternate purchasing processes for small dollar items.

## **8. CARDHOLDER LIAISON RESPONSIBILITIES**

Cardholders may designate a Liaison for their department. A Cardholder Liaison may also be liaison for his/her own card. However, if the cardholder liaison(s) is also a procurement cardholder, it will be the responsibility of the liaison to have the monthly charges incurred on the liaison's procurement card reviewed and signed by their department head or another person within the department. The cardholder liaison must attend all required training sessions and will be notified of these by email message. Responsibilities include:

- Collecting vendor receipts and procurement card receipts from each Cardholder, validation of those documents and reconciling to Bank of America billing statements.
- Maintain a P-Card Transaction Log for each card within that department.
- Log each transaction as the Cardholder presents the individual transactions and maintains the back up (receipts, sales slips, packing list, etc.) for future audit purposes.
- Retaining all charge slips and receipts for audit by internal and external auditors.
- Identifying and updating transactions, which require the submission of use tax and/or account changes within 45 days of the transaction posting date.
- Attempts to resolve any disputes with vendor and/or Bank of America not resolved by Cardholder. **Note:** there is a 60-day period for resolution of disputes.
- Changing the default account and/or object code for individual cards as needed.
- Notifying Procurement Services of lost or stolen cards.
- Requesting Procurement to cancel a Cardholder's card e.g. (terminated employees, loss of purchasing card privileges) as approved by Department Head.
- Collecting canceled cards from Cardholders and forwarding to Procurement Department.

## **9. PROCUREMENT SERVICES RESPONSIBILITIES**

Procurement Services will assign a P-Card Coordinator to be responsible for the over-all P-Card program. Responsibilities include

- Auditing submitted card agreements for completeness.

- Submitting completed application to Bank of America and receiving Procurement Card from Bank of America.
- Training Cardholders before releasing Procurement Card.
- Having Cardholder sign Cardholder agreement, signifying agreement with the terms of the Procurement Card program.
- Handling disputed charges/discrepancies not resolved by Cardholder or Liaison.
- Initiating change of Procurement Card default account and/or object code upon request of Cardholder Liaison.
- Securing revoked Procurement Cards and submitting information to Bank of America.
- Processing upload of bill to accounting for charging individual departments. Reviewing the Bank of America's invoice, preparing for payment and submitting to the ATU Disbursing/Accounts Payable Department for payment.
- Reconciling accounting statements as to payments to Bank of America and charges to individual departments.
- Reviewing usage of Procurement Card data for appropriateness.
- Performing audit functions and/or coordinating them with the ATU Internal Auditor.

## **10. CARDHOLDER ELIGIBILITY**

Criteria to receive a Procurement Card is as follows:

- Applicant must be a full-time employee of Arkansas Tech University.
- His/her Department Head and the appropriate Vice President must approve applicant's request for a Procurement Card.
- Employee must complete online Pcard training prior to receiving
- Each individual Cardholder must sign a Cardholder agreement in the presence of a Procurement staff member.

## **11. CARDHOLDER LIABILITY**

The Procurement Card is a corporate purchasing Mastercard charge card, which will not affect the Cardholder's personal credit. Your department is liable for all charges made on the P- Card issued to you. This includes transactions made on a lost or stolen card before it is reported lost or stolen. However, it is the Cardholder's responsibility to ensure that the card is used within stated guidelines of the Procurement Card Cardholder Manual as well as Arkansas Tech University's Policies and Procedures relating to the expenditure of Arkansas Tech University. See compliance improvement plan page 8.

**Ultimate responsibility for use/misuse of charges rest with the cardholder.**

## **12. CARDHOLDER TERMINATION**

Procurement and Risk Management Services is required to close an account if a Cardholder:

1. Moves to a new job in which a Procurement Card is not required
2. Terminates Arkansas Tech University employment
3. For any of the following reasons, which will also subject Cardholder to disciplinary action in accordance with Arkansas Tech University Policies and Procedures, relating to disciplinary action and termination for cause.
  - a. The Procurement Card is used for personal or unauthorized purposes.  
**Note:** Use of the card for personal and/or unauthorized purposes could be interpreted as fraud, which could be grounds for employee termination.
  - b. The Procurement Card is used to purchase alcoholic beverages or any substance, material, or service, which violates policy, law or regulation pertaining to Arkansas Tech University.
  - c. The Cardholder splits a purchase to circumvent the limitations of the Arkansas Procurement Law.
  - d. The Cardholder uses another Cardholder's card to circumvent the purchase limit assigned to either Cardholder or the limitations of Arkansas Procurement Law.
  - e. The Cardholder fails to obtain approval for promotional and/or student awards from The Controller's Office.
  - f. The Cardholder fails to provide, when requested, information about any specific purchase.
  - g. The Cardholder does not adhere to all of the Procurement Card policies and guidelines.
  - h. Failure to provide a receipt will result in employee reimbursing the University for the purchase.
4. Misuse or abuse of the Procurement Card may result in temporary suspension of Procurement card.

### **13. DOCUMENTATION OF EXPENDITURES**

The Cardholder must provide valid documentation of each transaction to their Liaison. The Cardholder Liaison must review all documentation submitted and determine that valid and complete documentation is on file for every transaction listed on each Cardholder's statement. Each Cardholder will provide valid documentation of each transaction to the Liaison within three (3) working days after each transaction. All documentation for each and every transaction must be maintained for audit purposes and shall be placed in a permanent file for a minimum of two (2) years from the date the current fiscal year the funds were expended.

Valid source documentation may be:

1. A receipt and/or card transaction slip from the merchant.
2. An order form for books, subscriptions, or similar items.
3. An invoice showing credit card payment.
4. A packing slip from the delivery annotated by the Cardholder

as ordered by, received by, paid by and signature of the Cardholder.

All documentation must include the following minimum information. Any information not printed on the receipt must be hand written by the card holder and initialed.

1. Vendor name.
2. Date of the purchase
3. Description and quantity of each item purchased.
4. Per item cost, if available from the merchant.
5. Total cost of the transaction.
6. Cardholder name and card number.
7. Tax amount charged for purchase.
8. Delivery address (if applicable)

If documentation is unavailable, the Cardholder is to contact the vendor and make every effort to obtain a duplicate receipt. Only under very limited circumstances will a Lost/Unobtainable Procurement Card Receipt Form be accepted. Completion of this form will be required for each transaction where the documentation is unavailable whether the Cardholder did not provide the documentation through no fault of his/her own, or through willful or negligent default.

#### **14. LOST, MISPLACED OR STOLEN PROCUREMENT CARDS**

Cardholders are required to immediately report any lost or stolen Procurement Card to **Mastercard at 1-800-MASTERCARD911** (24 hours a day, 365 days a year). The Cardholder must also immediately notify his/her Liaison and/or Procurement about the lost or stolen card at the first opportunity during normal business hours.

#### **15. SPENDING CONTROLS**

The Procurement Card is to be used only for the purchase of supplies and services. Arkansas Tech University's spending parameters for each procurement card issued is initially set at **\$500.00 per individual single transaction** with a monthly maximum that will be determined on an individual basis. Arkansas Tech University, through the Procurement Services will adjust limits as determined by demonstrated and/or special need and only after proper approval has been obtained.

#### **16. REFUNDS AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS**

Any refunds received by the Cardholder as results of a P-Card transaction shall be deposited back into the appropriate account and documentation reflecting the transaction shall be attached to the P-Card Transaction Log to support such. Any promotional type items received as the results of a P-Card transaction shall become the

property of Arkansas Tech University and shall be utilized by the applicable university department.

## **17. CARD DECLINES**

Should a vendor decline the Procurement Card, the Cardholder should immediately contact Procurement for assistance. If purchase is being made outside normal business hours, the employee must find an alternate payment method or terminate the purchase and contact the Procurement during normal business hours.

## **18. EMERGENCY TRANSACTIONS**

Emergency transactions over \$5,000.00 may not be handled with the Procurement Card due to State/University procurement regulations. For any transaction, which does not meet the spending controls assigned to the card, the Cardholder must contact Procurement Services for assistance.

## **19. CREDITS**

Vendors will issue all credits to the individual Procurement Card account for any item they have agreed to accept for return. This credit will appear on a subsequent statement. **Under no circumstances should a Cardholder accept cash in lieu of a credit to the Procurement Card account.**

## **20. UNRESOLVED DISPUTES AND BILLING ERRORS**

The Cardholder is responsible for contacting the vendor to resolve any disputed charges or billing errors. If the matter is not resolved with the vendor, the Cardholder or Liaison should, contact Procurement Services for assistance.

**Note:** The total amount billed by Bank of America will be charged to the individual department accounts and credits for disputed transactions will be posted to department accounts when the credit appears on the Bank of America billing.

## **21. SECURITY AND STORAGE**

**Procurement Cards** - Cardholders should always treat the Procurement Card with at least the same level of care as one does with their own personal credit cards. The card should be maintained in a secure location and the card account number should be carefully guarded. The only person entitled to use the card is the person whose name appears on the face of the card. The card may not be lent to another person for any reason.

**Program Documentation** - The Department Cardholder or liaison will maintain vendor receipts /packing slips/charge slips. Procurement will maintain vendor receipts/packing slips/charge slips. Procurement

will maintain all other documentation concerning the Procurement Card program. This documentation includes, but is not limited to applications, cardholder agreements, agency billing statements, reconciliation of accounting statements, documentation, and copies of transmittals and correspondence with Bank of America.

## **22. MERCHANT CATEGORY CODE BLOCKING**

Arkansas Tech University has adopted the State of Arkansas's Blocked Merchant Category Code List without any adjustments. Transactions will be blocked at the point-of-sale level at the types of vendors on the Blocked Merchant Category Code List attached to these procedures.

## **23. PROCUREMENT CARD SET UP, MAINTENANCE AND CLOSURE**

All contact with Bank of America for card set up, maintenance and closure (except for reporting lost or stolen cards) will be handled by Procurement Services (968-0269).

### **Card Set Up**

1. Arkansas Tech University employee completes a Procurement Card application and submits to his/her Department Head for completion and approval.
2. Department Head signature approval delegates transaction authority to the Cardholder.
3. Application is forwarded to employee's Vice President for final approval.
4. Approved application is to be sent to Procurement Services.
5. Procurement reviews the application for completeness and submits application to Bank of America in an approved format.
6. Upon receipt of the Procurement Card from Bank of America, Procurement Services will conduct a training session with the Cardholder prior to issuing the card. Training takes place via Blackboard course.
7. Cardholder signs Cardholder Agreement signifying agreement with the terms of the Procurement Card program.

### **Card Maintenance**

Procurement will use all available tools of Bank of America software for the maintenance of cards.

### **Closure**

1. Lost or Stolen Cards - Cardholder must immediately report the lost/stolen
2. Terminated Employee Human Resources or employee supervisor should immediately notify Procurement by phone of the termination. A request for closing the Cardholder account will be submitted to Bank of America by Procurement within 1 day of receiving the notification. All Procurement Cards are to be returned to Procurement for disposal.



3. Other Card Revokes/Closures – Procurement Services will notify Bank of America immediately of all revokes and closures.

## **24. RECONCILIATION, APPROVAL AND ALLOCATION OF BILLING**

### **Receipt and Payment of Bank of America Billing**

1. Bank of America bills Arkansas Tech University within 3-5 days after the close of the billing cycle on the 15th of each month.
2. Procurement will review the bill for any obvious errors in charges or un-posted payments.
3. Procurement will audit transaction logs, reconcile logs to the statement and submit the billing to Disbursing/Accounts Payable for a payment to be issued to Bank of America.
4. Payment will be transmitted in accordance with Bank of America instructions. Allocation of Procurement Card Charges to Departments

Bank of America will submit monthly a billing statement to Arkansas ATU and all P-Card transactions will be charged according to the information that is completed on the transaction log.

The total amount billed by Bank of America will be charged to the individual department budget and credits for disputed transactions will be posted to department budgets when credit appears on the Bank of America billing.

## **25. TAXES**

Despite the fact Arkansas Tech University is a State Agency, we are not tax exempt and are fully responsible for all sales and use taxes on all incurred purchases.

As a general rule, the purchase of tangible property is considered taxable. If the merchant charges the proper tax on the P-Card transaction then normally no other action will be required. If no taxes were charged then the ATU Disbursing Department must prepare a payment of “use” tax to the State of Arkansas. Any questions pertaining to taxes should be directed to ATU Disbursing Department.

As a general rule, the purchase of tangible property is considered taxable and very few are non-taxable.

## **26. END OF FISCAL YEAR PROCEDURE**

Goods and services shall be expended in the year they are received. When the P-Card is used, the supplier may hold the P-Card transaction posting for several days and it could take 2-3 days for the actual posting to the Bank of America billing which is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Either of

these events could create an accounting problem at the end of the fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>). To ensure that P-Card expenditures are properly recorded in the year goods and services are received, the deadline for these purchases is the within the first week of June. Year-end notices are sent ahead of these deadlines to all card holders.

## **27. AUDIT**

Arkansas Tech University's internal control policies and procedures are as follows:

### **Cardholder will:**

1. Maintain a P-Card Transaction Log
2. Log each transaction accordingly with detailed information
3. Match Cardholder receipts to the monthly statement obtained from Bank of America's website.
4. Enter Index, Fund, Org, Account Program
5. Maintain a detailed report of the above and forward a copy to the Procurement Services and Accounts Payable, within (3) calendar days after receipt of monthly statement.
6. Retain all transaction receipts and vouchers for audit by internal and external auditors for 2 years.

### **Procurement will:**

1. Reconcile monthly statement for payments to Bank of America and charges to individual departments.
2. Make periodic audits of card use and p-card charges for appropriateness. Areas to be monitored include, but not limited to, compliance with State of Arkansas Procurement Laws/Regulations, compliance with Procurement Card regulations, compliance with Arkansas Tech University's regulations, and sales and use tax charges. Non-use of card by cardholders will also be monitored.

## **28. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

Arkansas Tech University employee conference registration and entry fees can be paid with a University issued Procurement Card (P-Card)..

Items not reimbursable are located on page 8 of the [State of Arkansas Travel Regulations](#). Travel arrangements associated with attending a conference must be made using the travel guidelines found in the [ATU Travel Policies and Procedures](#). Examples of travel related charges that are **not** allowed on the P-Card include but are not limited to

- Meals
- Lodging
- Cash Advances
- Any Transportation
- Fuel
- Any Personal Charges
- Entertainment

- Flowers
- Valet Parking
- Laundry
- Cleaning
- Alcohol
- Movies
- Communication if not business related
- Spousal Conference Registration

Please obtain appropriate approvals before making any registration charges on the P-Card. The approval limits below have been approved by the Executive Council for conference registrations. Proof of the approval can be a signature on the P-Card log or an email attached to the log. Grant accounts will require approval from the Budget office.

- Under \$500.00 -Department Head
- \$500.00 – \$999.99 -Dean
- \$1,000.00 and over -Vice-President
- International any amount – Vice-President and President

### **Steps to follow for P-Card Conference Registration**

1. Obtain the appropriate approval based upon the guidelines above.
2. If you are a P-Card holder, proceed with making your conference registration, *remembering that no forms of entertainment may be paid for by the University*. If not, please contact your departmental administrative assistant or designated P-Card holder to arrange for payment.
3. Retain a detailed receipt of the conference registration listing all components of the conference registration fee.
4. Submit all receipts and/or approval documents with P-Card log to Procurement at the end of the billing cycle.

# FORMS

Current forms may be found online at [www.atu.edu/purchasing](http://www.atu.edu/purchasing).