

San José State University King Library

budget summary

As is typical in a university library, the majority of funding goes to staff salary and to subscriptions and purchases of digital collections. This breakdown has remained steady over the last four years, indicating stable and intentional long-term planning (SJSU, 2023). By prioritizing digital collections, the library is responding to patron needs for online access and investing in research materials. The operations budget gives clues to the library priorities-implementing extended study hours and late night study sessions demonstrates their support for students. The 60% allocation to personnel underscores the library's prioritization of professional staff and student workers as essential components in delivering services and achieving its mission. This aligns well with the library's stated goal to foster innovation and support diverse learners by ensuring human resource capacity is strong and sustainable. In conclusion, the SJSU King Library's budget demonstrates strong alignment with its mission and service goals. The emphasis on salaries ensures continued delivery of quality library services, while the acquisitions and facility improvement budgets support long-term access to scholarly resources and a modern, functional library environment.

citations

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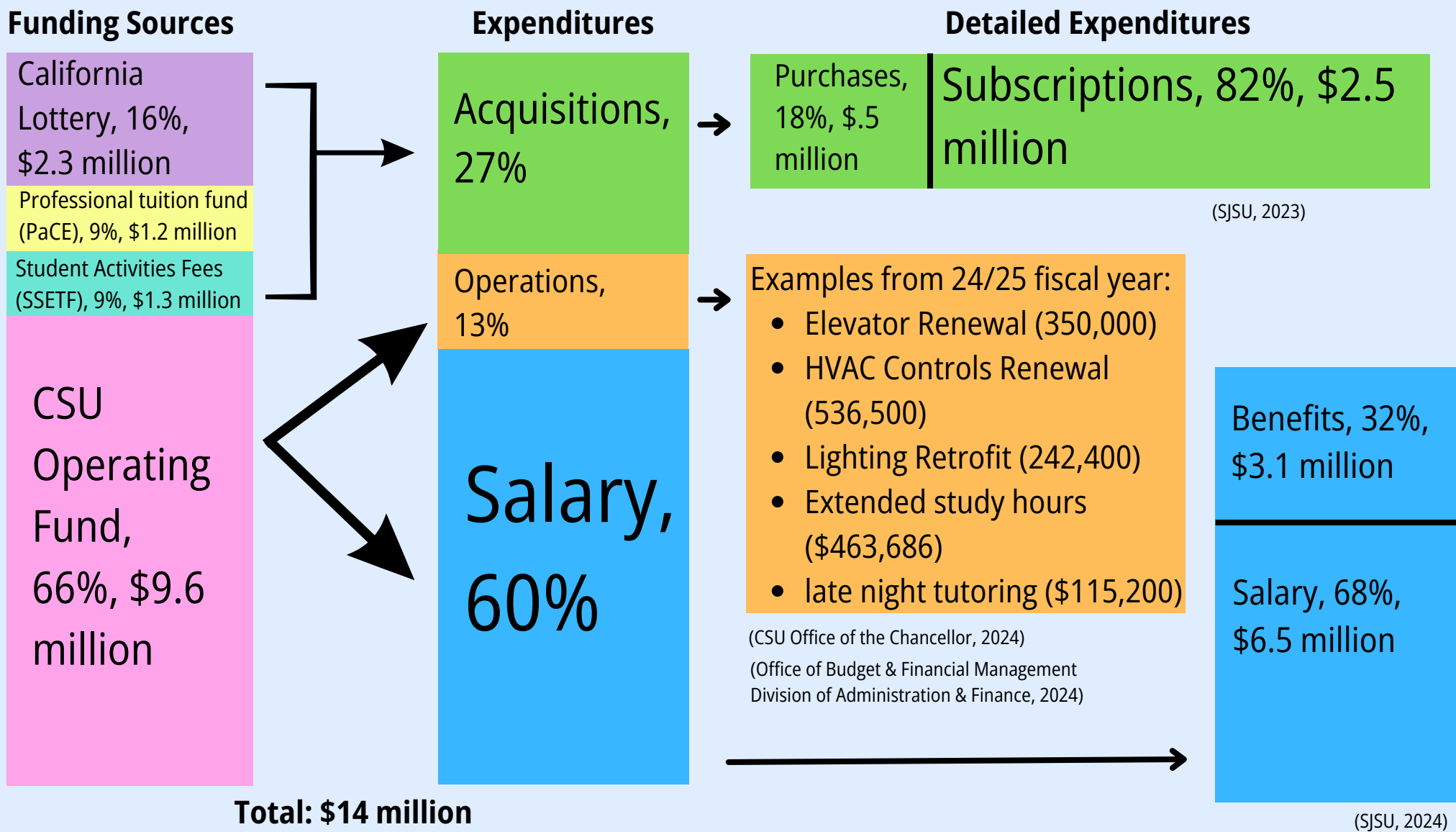
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San José State University King Library

budget breakdown



(Office of Budget & Financial Management Division of Administration & Finance, 2024) (SJSU, 2023) (SJSU, 2024)

(SJSU, 2024)

***Please note that despite our best efforts and help from librarians, some information is from 22/23 and some is from 24/25, so budget is not exactly balanced.**

San José State University King Library

assets summary

Communication

King Library is fairly transparent in public facing documents, but the ease of access of these documents is not always satisfactory. This is true for their 2023 self study that includes detailed information on organizational structure, budget, as well as current weaknesses and opportunities (San José State University King Library, 2023). Policies and rules are clearly stated on the website, but board minutes are notably lacking. The goals and mission around transitioning towards digital collections and providing support for digital scholarship are very clearly communicated through the words of organization spokespeople, the library's collection and hiring decisions, and even changes in the physical space of the library itself. King Library often communicates with students through features in the campus newspaper, SJSU NewsCenter (San José State University Library, 2025d). The library also has an active Instagram account with over 5000 followers where it posts both information about services provided at the library and viral video content such as the ice-bucket challenge (SJSU Library).

citations

San José State University King Library. (2023, March 1). San José State University King Library self study 2018–2023: 2023 program plan review – final.

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San José State University King Library

assets breakdown

Organizational Structure

King Library is managed by the dean while daily administration is delegated by associate deans. Below that there are two major divisions:

Research and Scholarship

- This group includes the special collections and university archives
- Subject librarians, collections strategy librarians, and user engagement librarians are here as well
- Most people in this group are faculty with librarian in their job title

(San José State University King Library, 2023)

(San José State University King Library, 2025)

Innovation and Resource Management

- This group includes subdivisions for user experience, digital scholarship, and resource management and delivery
- Supports SJSU's transition towards digital scholarship
- Most in this group have staff positions

Employee Breakdown:

Faculty: 28
Staff: 40
Management: 6
Student employees: 55

Physical Spaces

Collections

King Library includes a number of physical special collections including the university archives, the Beethoven Center, the Steinbeck Center, the California Room for local history, and the Africana, Asian American, Chicano, & Native American Studies Center.

(San José State University Library, 2025b)

Innovation Spaces

These spaces are designed to support innovation, software/hardware development, and entrepreneurship. They include the KLEVR Lab for virtual reality, the Materials Library, the Prototyping Lab, the Incubator Space, and fully equipped video production spaces.

(San José State University King Library, 2023)

Digital Technologies and Software Services

SJSU is dedicated to providing cutting edge tools for students to support digital scholarship. Their Digital Scholarship Services, a host of tools provided by staff from Innovation and Resource Management, offer help to students in the areas of digital publishing, digital humanities, digital preservation, web development, and the use of artificial intelligence in research and teaching. King Library also stands on the forefront of AI use in libraries with its KingbotGPT that provides detailed and accurate help to patrons through access to carefully curated local datasets.

(San José State University Library, 2025a) (San José State University Library, 2025c)