The Fiscal Year 2007-2008 appropriation for the LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans Campus is $207,803,456, $5,399,336 more than the revised operating budget for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. Significant highlights of the operating budget:

- $3.2 million in state general funds, above formula funding were used to fund the following strategic investments:
  
  - The continuation of the Dental School’s programs in Baton Rouge to address the oral health needs in the region;
  
  - Leased space for the School of Public Health in close proximity to the Downtown Campus, existing space in the UNO Technology Park presents challenges logistically and for the school in its efforts to expand enrollment;
  
  - Enhanced biomedical research capabilities in order to attract superior research faculty and students;
  
  - Annualization of Nursing faculty salary increases given in FY 06-07 in order to retain current faculty and reward merit and productivity;
  
  - In FY 06-07, The Board of Regents supported a proposal by the LSU and Tulane Health Sciences Centers to allocate funds from a block grant from the United States Department of Education to provide $10,000 incentive awards to individuals who met the criteria of Louisiana residency; graduate of an accredited medical school in Louisiana and matching into a LSU or Tulane medical residency program in New Orleans. Partial grant funding was provided by the Board of Regents for FY 07-08 and state general funds are being set aside to make the program whole for this fiscal year.
  
  - Salary increases for faculty with promotions in rank;
  
  - Preservation and maintenance of facilities and infrastructure;

- $3.3 million was allocated for faculty salary increases, including over $2.1 million from the faculty salary pool.

- Funds were allocated for the $1,500 employee pay increase to classified and unclassified employees.

- $1.7 million was allocated for increases in employer contributions to retirement and health insurance.
• $.5 million was allocated for 2007-2008 classified merit increases and the annualization of 2006-2007 classified merit increases.

• $5,996,000 was allocated from the Higher Education Initiatives Fund for facilities improvements.

• $17,666,870 was appropriated from tobacco tax revenues dedicated to the Louisiana Cancer Research Center, a decrease of $744,693.