
Merchant Card Processing

Authority: [G.S. 14-113.24](#) Credit, charge, or debit card numbers on receipts
[G.S. 143B-426.39](#) Powers and duties of the State Controller
[G.S. 147-86.10](#) Maximization of Receipts, including electronic payments
[G.S. 147-86.22](#) Fees Related to Electronic Payment Processing
[GS 66-58.12](#) Electronic and Digital Transactions, fees authorized

History: First Issued: October 31, 2006
Last Revised: March 24, 2025

Related Documents: [ECU Cash Management Plan](#)
[ECU Payment Card Processing Compliance REG07.85.01](#)

Additional References: [OSC Statewide Electronic Commerce Program](#)

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Note: Some files linked within this document may not be viewable without additional security access.

1. Introduction

The NC Office of the State Controller (OSC) has issued an E-Commerce Policy entitled “[Maximization of Electronic Payment Methods](#).” The policy states, in part, “When developing agency cash management plans, each state agency shall consider utilizing electronic payment methods, for both outbound and inbound payments. Each Agency and university shall consider the feasibility of accepting payments via credit/debit card (merchant cards) when appropriate, considering the volume and frequency of payments received.”

East Carolina University (hereinafter referred to as ECU) has determined that it is appropriate to accept merchant cards as an acceptable form of payment for certain types of receipts as described herein. Desirous of developing policies and procedures to ensure compliance with all applicable rules, regulations, and policies associated with merchant cards, the policies and procedures described herein have been adopted.
[Authorization for Merchant Card Transactions](#)

2. Types of Receipts and Types of Cards Accepted

Receipts

In its normal course of business ECU accepts merchant cards for the following types of receipts: Orientation fees, admission fees, parking and transportation fees (citations,

permits, and parking), tuition and related fees, housing charges, dining charges, student health fees, donations, event/program registrations, patient medical and dental charges, ticket sales for both performing arts and athletic events, employee paid benefit premiums, collections payments, and other various departmental items.

In the case of multiple divisions within ECU, approval for the acceptance of merchant cards must be obtained from the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance. This responsibility is delegated to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Financial Services. The eCommerce Manager, who reports within Financial Services, is responsible for providing recommendations and managing the merchant card process.

Cards Accepted

In its normal course of business ECU accepts the following merchant cards: VISA®, MasterCard® and Discover®. In limited locations ECU also accepts American Express®. When an application for a merchant id is submitted to Office of State Controller, the type of cards that will be accepted by that merchant id is specified on the application.

ECU outsourced credit card payment processing for the University Cashier's Office to TouchNet for the payment of tuition, fees, and other student related charges consolidated on student accounts. TouchNet's PayPath payment card processing service accepts the following merchant cards: VISA®, MasterCard®, Diners Club®, American Express®, Discover® and Discover affiliated cards. The University Cashier's office continues to accept PIN based debit cards only in the office. [Types of Merchant Cards Accepted](#)

3. Transaction Fees

ECU does not levy a transaction fee (surcharge) for any face-to-face (card-present) transactions. [Charging Transaction Fees](#)

ECU received approval from the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) to utilize TouchNet's payment card processing service on May 18, 2010 – which includes charging a 2.75% transaction fee – now 2.95% – for online payments for student fees including tuition, fees, housing, and dining and other charges consolidated to student accounts. The May 18, 2010 memo also served as ECU's specific approval to charge a transaction fee for cashier online payment card processing. This approval is in accordance with OSC's guidance on "Charging Transaction Fees" as referenced in the preceding paragraph and in accordance with G.S. 66-58.12.

ECU does not retain any portion of the transaction fee levied by TouchNet.

ECU requires TouchNet to ensure its practices related to charging the transaction fee do not violate any merchant card associations' rules.

The ECU Registrar's Office utilizes Credentials for their online transcript processing system. Current students and alumni access the Credentials system online, request a transcript and pay online. A convenience fee is charged.

The ECU Athletics Ticket Office, Theatre & Dance and Central Ticket Office utilize Paciolan Ticketing Software to issue tickets to events. Paciolan Ticketing software can be accessed for both seating/admission selection and payment online. Paciolan assesses ticket fees related to ticket production, printing, and delivery. The order fee covers costs such as postage, printing, and other ticket production costs. The Paciolan system assesses the ticket fees based on the nature of the event and ticket production methodology (print at home, mobile, in person or mailed); the fees are not charged based on the payment type.

4. Funding to Pay Costs

ECU adheres to all requirements pertaining to the securing of funding to pay for costs associated with processing merchant cards, including internal costs and costs paid to third party processors.

Merchant fees for credit card processing are treated as an expense to the department where the revenues were generated. State appropriations are used to pay merchant fees attributed to state receipts as referenced in G.S. 147-86.22. Institutional funds are used to pay merchant fees attributed to institutional receipts.

University related Foundations are charged merchant fees based on their respective merchant id activity. The Foundations allocate fees internally as donations are received to appropriately charge the expense of collecting the donation to the fund(s) where the revenue is recorded.

[Funding For Electronic Payment Service](#)

5. Methods of Capture

POS Terminals (stand-alone card readers): used primarily for card-present transactions (card swipe). POS Terminals are also used for card-not-present transactions such as mail orders and telephone orders and the required information to process the charge is manually keyed. POS Terminals use either a dedicated analog telephone line or an IP network connection. All POS Terminals are equipped with First Data's TransArmor encryption solution which encrypts/tokenizes the cardholder data upon entry. Due to the TransArmor solution, there is no cleartext cardholder data transmitted across the network, which eliminates the need to segment the POS terminals behind the PCI firewall. All POS terminals and applications have been self-assessed and found to be PCI compliant.

Local Application - connecting to Third Party Gateway: used for card present and card-not-present transactions. Paciolan® is utilized for Athletics, Central Ticket Office, Theatre

and Dance, and Educational Foundation (Pirate Club). Paciolan utilizes BlueFin P2PE in conjunction with CyberSource as its payment gateway. Campus Recreation & Wellness uses Fusion which utilizes the Freedom Pay P2PE solution for in person payments and integrates with TouchNet for online payments.

ECU Pharmacy utilizes QS/1 for their POS solution and payment gateway. Parking and Transportation utilizes Park Mobile (a mobile app) for metered parking, TIBA and Payment Express for the Student Center Parking Garage, as well as Pay by Space (meters) integrated with T2.

Internet Application – hosted by third party: TouchNet is used as ECU’s primary third-party gateway for all applications unless referenced in the preceding paragraph. ECU also utilizes First Data’s Commerce Hub. Due to the integration of ECU Physicians and Vidant (now referred to as the entity ECU Health), ECU Physicians now only collects payments on receivables incurred prior to the integration. They are utilizing First Data POS Terminals (referenced previously) as well as an online payment integration in MyChart. All new revenue incurred since the integration is processed on an ECU Health managed merchant account (not ECU’s).

6. Third Party Service Providers

Merchant Card Processing Services

The State of North Carolina has a Master Services Agreement (MSA) with Fiserv, which is the parent company of First Data Merchant Services (FDMS). Fiserv provides merchant card payment processing services to state and local government entities on a statewide enterprise basis.

ECU obtained approval to participate in the OSC Master Services Agreement (MSA), as required by OSC’s E-Commerce policy entitled “Master Services Agreements for Electronic Payments.” Accordingly, the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance executed an Agency Participation Agreement (APA) allowing ECU to subscribe to the MSA as a “participant.” The APA was reviewed before execution by ECU’s management, and management is aware of the responsibilities and obligations required by the terms of the APA, and by reference, the terms of the APA, and by reference, the terms of the MSA. ECU’s copy of the executed APA is filed in the office of the eCommerce Manager.

[Master Service Agreement](#)

Payment Gateway Services

The Common Payment Service (CPS) is the State’s payment gateway used for Internet merchant card transactions. OSC has mandated that all State entities subject to the State Cash Management Law use CPS unless an exemption has been approved.

ECU obtained approval to participate in the CPS, as required by OSC’s E-Commerce policy entitled, “Master Services Agreements for Electronic Payments.”

A third-party gateway service provider may also be utilized, provided it is one pre-approved by OSC. Some gateway providers offer a capture solution that also has a “presentment engine” (in addition to the “payment gateway”), which provides hosting of the university’s website. Some gateway providers cannot use Fiserv as the processor/acquirer but use their own processor/acquirer. ECU requested and was approved to use TouchNet® as its primary payment gateway. ECU also requested and was approved to use other third-party gateways that are application specific, which include: CyberSource, Blackboard Transact Payment Express, Freedom Pay and BlueFin.

Payment Applications

Capture solutions utilizing POS Software applications are obtained from vendors which have provided proof of PCI compliance.

Other Service Provider

ECU utilizes Credentials INC to provide electronic transcripts to students, alumni, and others where authorized. While completing a transcript request, Credentials will collect credit card information on behalf of ECU’s Registrar’s Office.

ECU Admissions utilizes both CFNC, a UNC mandated online application solution, and Common Application. CFNC utilizes First Data’s Commerce Hub for payment processing. Common Application utilizes their own merchant account and processes transactions on behalf of ECU utilizing CashNet as their payment gateway.

7. Proprietary Card Companies

ECU elected to accept American Express® for certain merchant activity and entered into a master agreement maintained by the OSC. [Types of Merchant Cards Accepted](#) The Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance executed an Agency Participation Agreement (APA) allowing ECU to subscribe to the Master Agreement with American Express as a “participant.” The APA was reviewed before execution by ECU’s management, and management is aware of the responsibilities and obligations required by the terms of the APA, and by reference, the terms of the Master Agreement. ECU’s copy of the executed APA is filed in the office of the eCommerce Manager.

8. Data and System Security

PCI DSS Compliance

Each of the merchant card associations has established security standards that all merchants and processors must follow to ensure that cardholder data, as well as the payment network, is protected and kept secure. The standards are referred to collectively as the "Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS)," which has been issued by the [PCI Security Council](#). The primary focus of the PCI DSS is to help merchants (agencies) improve the security of cardholder information by improving overall security standards

which reduces the chances of security breaches. The policies and resulting procedures are intended to help ensure that cardholder data and the electronic commerce network are protected and kept secure, thereby avoiding potential fines. Reference OSC's Programs section – Payment Card Industry (PCI) Security Compliance Program for more information. [Payment Card Industry \(PCI\) Security Compliance Program](#)

The most useful document to view is: "PCI Applicability to Capture Methods."
[PCI Applicability to Capture Methods](#)

ECU will take all necessary steps to ensure that all merchant card applications (merchant numbers) used by the university are kept compliant with the PCI DSS. ECU will advise OSC, and keep OSC updated with, the name of the agency's PCI contact. This individual is usually the eCommerce Manager.

To assist in validating ECU's compliance with the PCI DSS, ECU has enrolled with Coalfire, OSC's selected vendor for providing PCI Security Validation Services. Enrollment is at the "chain level" and provides for: 1) an annual Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) to be completed online; and 2) vulnerability scans required for all capture solutions having external-facing IP addresses (URLs and PC capture software). Scans do apply to ECU's applications, and all applicable IP addresses have been enrolled with Coalfire to be scanned monthly. The completion of the annual Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) will be performed via Coalfire's portal and will be the responsibility of the eCommerce Manager. Fiserv has assigned ECU unique "chain" merchant numbers for MasterCard® (including Diner's Club)/VISA®/ Discover® and for American Express®. For security purposes, the chain number and merchant numbers are not listed here.

The university's chain number is enrolled in Coalfire under the following option: SAQ and Vulnerability Scanning.

There are numerous versions of the SAQ that is to be completed, depending upon the capture method and upon whether or not a third-party service provider is utilized. [PCI DSS Self-Assessment Questionnaire \(SAQ\)](#) If multiple outlet numbers are utilized by a university (e.g., multiple divisions) a separate SAQ is to be completed by each division (paper form, not online). Each division may qualify for a different version of the SAQ. Through Coalfire, there should only be one SAQ completed online, the version that is the most stringent.

ECU currently engages the services of a Quality Security Assessor (QSA) from Agio to provide PCI security services which includes performing a PCI gap analysis. Based on an assessment of ECU's merchant card analysis, it has been determined that ECU functions as a service provider and therefore the appropriate validation form to be submitted annually is SAQ-D for Service Providers.

ECU has merchant numbers associated with its capture solutions having external facing IP addresses (URLs or POS Capture software) that require monthly vulnerability scans and are enrolled with Coalfire for the purpose of receiving scheduled monthly scanning. The merchant numbers are not listed here for security purposes.

The third-party capture applications must be and remain compliant with the PCI DSS. Among several other requirements specified by PCI DSS, default passwords are not used, and the vendor must provide updates for their software to be implemented within 30 days of the release of any security patches.

ECU has merchant numbers that do not require vulnerability scanning, as they do not involve external-facing IP addresses. The merchant numbers are not listed here for security purposes.

In accordance with Requirement 12.8 of the PCI DSS, the third-party gateway vendors, functioning as “service providers,” such as TouchNet, must be and remain PCI DSS compliant. A “written agreement” must be in place in which the vendor acknowledges their responsibility to protect the cardholder data which they have or could impact the security. The written agreement language is contained in the original contract, and additionally in any amendments to the original contract. ECU monitors the vendor’s compliance on an ongoing basis. Evidence of compliance will be obtained from the gateway service provider annually. [PCI Data Security Standard Validation for Service Providers](#)

Issues detected by the Self-Assessment Questionnaires (SAQ), by Coalfire’s vulnerability scans, by failure of a service provider to demonstrate compliance, or any other means will be brought to the attention of the PCI Compliance Committee, serving as the PCI delegated authority on behalf of the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance. The PCI Compliance Committee will notify the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance and the CIO for Information Technology & Computing Services when such issues arise that present immediate and significant impacts to the University. A plan for remediation will immediately be developed for each incident of non-compliance detected, and the Office of the State Controller will be advised.

ECU has policies that address the twelve primary requirements of the PCI DSS, categorized as follows:

- a) Build and maintain a secure network (Requirements 1 & 2): ECU has segmented a section of its network behind a dedicated firewall to protect cardholder data. This PCI VLAN configuration isolates PCI network traffic from all other general network traffic. ECU does not use vendor supplied defaults for system passwords and for other security parameters. Users are provided annual training, as well as required to acknowledge annually they have read, understand, and agree to abide by all PCI related policies, procedures, guidelines, and requirements.
- b) Protect Cardholder Data (Requirements 3 & 4): ECU does not store third-party PANs electronically. ECU ensures transmission of cardholder data and sensitive

information across public networks to remote PCI compliant destinations is encrypted.

- c) Maintain a vulnerability management program (Requirements 5 & 6): ECU uses and regularly updates anti-malware software. ECU does not develop systems and applications that process credit cards.
- d) Implement strong access control measures (Requirements 7, 8 and 9): All user access to payment card systems is restricted by user id and access is granted to users on a need-to-know basis. All system users are assigned unique ID's which are reviewed and purged regularly. Physical access to cardholder data is restricted: merchant copies of payment slips contain truncated card numbers. All other PAN storage is outsourced to PCI – compliant payment processors such as TouchNet.
- e) Regularly monitor and test networks (Requirements 10 & 11): ECU tracks and monitors all access to network resources. An ASV (Approved Scanning Vendor) performs monthly vulnerability scans of ECU systems.
- f) Maintain an information security policy (Requirement 12): ECU maintains several policies that address information security - please reference [ECU ITCS Policies and Procedures](#). There have also been standards and requirements specific to PCI developed and shared with all users. The merchant numbers are not listed here for security purposes.

System Security Requirements for Merchant Card Services

ECU incorporates the following requirements into its processing of merchant cards:

- a) System Settings: ECU changes vendor default security settings prior to installing the system on the network. ECU disables or changes default accounts and passwords prior to installing the system on the network. ECU hardens production systems by removing all unnecessary services and protocols. ECU requires use of its VPN or remote access for administrative access.
- b) Stored Data Protection: ECU disposes of sensitive cardholder data in a secure manner when that data is no longer needed. In general, cardholder data is destroyed after 36 months (3 years). ECU does not store the full contents of any payment card from the magnetic stripe in any manner. ECU strictly prohibits storage of the card-validation codes (three-digit values printed on the signature panel of a card) in any manner. All POS terminals and related systems print truncated payment card numbers when displaying cardholder data. Since payment card data is not stored electronically, there is no longer a need to sanitize account numbers before logging in the audit trail. Access to payment card numbers is restricted to users by application. No bulk merchant card data is stored electronically.
- c) Transmitted Data Protection: ECU encrypts transmission of cardholder data and sensitive information across public networks to PCI compliant destinations. ECU does not transmit payment card numbers via email.
- d) Anti-Malware Protection: ECU's Information, Technology and Computing Services monitors and ensures all desktops, laptops, and server computing systems, where applicable, connected to the ECU PCI VLAN have ITCS-supported anti-

malware software (preferably the most current version) correctly installed, configured, activated, and updated with the latest version of virus definitions before or immediately upon connecting to the network. Updates are managed by ITCS and pushed to users connecting to the network as needed.

[ECU Antivirus Policy](#)

[ECU PCI Vulnerability Management Requirements](#)

- e) Applications and Systems Security: ECU's PCI VLAN is maintained in accordance with the firewall configurations as specified by requirement number 1 of the PCI DSS. All systems on ECU's PCI VLAN must be updated with the latest security patches within 30 days of their release in compliance with ECU PCI Policy. (ECU does not develop software for payment card processing; therefore, sensitive cardholder data sanitization is not applicable.) Any sensitive cardholder data stored in cookies via capture methods described in section 2.5 of the PCI DSS must be secured or encrypted.
- f) Account Security: ECU manages merchant account security by requiring users to authenticate at each sign on with a unique user ID and password. Passphrases must be – at minimum fifteen characters long, contain characters from 3 of the 4-character sets (numbers, lower case letter, upper case letter and special characters.) Passwords on ECU merchant systems will expire on a regular basis, no longer than ninety (90) days. ECU requires use of its VPN for remote administrative access. ECU PCI Access Control Requirements requires encrypted passwords and unique user accounts for access to PCI systems. All user accounts are regularly reviewed to ensure that malicious, out-of-date, and unknown accounts do not exist. Vendor accounts on ITCS systems are disabled when not in use. Five failed password attempts result in domain account lockout. User terminations are reviewed weekly by ECU's ITCS Security. ITCS revokes access for terminated employees for enterprise software systems. The eCommerce Manager and departmental system administrators revoke access for terminated employees for all other software systems. The list of terminations is sent to other security managers on campus such as Student and TouchNet so that access can be revoked as well. Management can request that ITCS terminate access immediately on a case-by-case basis.
[ECU Passphrase Requirements](#)
- g) Physical Access: ECU does not allow PANs to be stored electronically on University systems. ECU maintains a listing of all devices used to process credit card data. Multiple physical security controls prevent unauthorized access to University facilities. Cardholder data printed on paper or received by fax is be protected against unauthorized access. ECU owned merchant terminals are destroyed if no longer needed. The destruction process is managed by the eCommerce Manager.
- h) Retention: The merchant copy of receipts shall be kept for 3 years. Cardholder data must be deleted or destroyed before it is physically disposed (e.g. shredding).
- i) Access Tracking: Per PCI DSS requirements, all access to systems with cardholder data is logged within the respective system. Logs contain successful and unsuccessful login attempts. Logs related to workstations and servers are also

maintained which contain successful and unsuccessful login attempts, file integrity monitoring, all access to the audit logs, etc. Critical system clocks are synchronized with ECU's time server, and logs include date and time stamps. Logs are secured, regularly backed up and retained for 6 months online and one year offline.

- j) Security Breaches – Incident Plan: ECU adheres to all requirements pertaining to the establishment of a security incident plan as required by the PCI Data Security Standard and other applicable policies. This plan includes any actions necessary to secure any exposed data, to report the incident to appropriate university management, to report the incident to the Office of the State Controller, and to adhere to applicable statutes, including the NC Identity Theft Protection Act. Please reference OSC's E-Commerce Policy entitled "[Merchant Card Security Incident Plan](#)."

9. Training

As specified by requirement number 12 of the PCI DSS, ECU requires all employees having access to merchant card data and/or the cardholder data environment to complete PCI training and pass an assessment test annually.

Via ECU's PCI SharePoint site, the following documents are made available to all ECU faculty, staff and student employees.

- a) ECU PCI Access Control Requirements
- b) ECU PCI Audit Plan
- c) ECU PCI Data Classification-Protection-Retention Standards
- d) ECU PCI Glossary
- e) ECU PCI Log Management Requirements
- f) ECU PCI Network Security Standards
- g) ECU PCI Security Program Overview and Requirements
- h) ECU PCI Third-Party Service Provider Security Requirements
- i) ECU PCI Vulnerability Management Requirements
- j) ECU PCI Vulnerability Ranking Procedure

ECU's eCommerce Manager is responsible for training initiatives. Other training initiatives that are in progress and/or being considered include the following:

- a) Offering sessions at Financial Services Annual Training – usually in March/April.
- b) Clientline and Chargeback Training.

Participation can be tracked using participant sign in sheets, and on-line attendance tracking as applicable.

10. Business Functions

Authorizations for merchant card payments are obtained as follows:

- a) For face-to-face transactions, the card holder's signature must be verified.

- b) For on-line card not-present transactions using TouchNet, in general both Secure Code and Address Verification are required. There are a few merchants that have membership auto-renewals and in those instances only address verification is required.
- c) Prior to the finalization of a merchant card transaction, an authorization approval code must be obtained from the merchant card processor – depending upon the capture method being used.
- d) If ECU cannot obtain authorization, the payment card is not accepted, and an alternative means of payment will be requested.
- e) Reference is made to OSC's E-Commerce Policy entitled, ["Authorization for Merchant Card Transactions."](#)

Refunds and Credits for merchant card payments are processed as follows:

ECU does not issue cash refunds for payments made via payment cards. Total and/or partial refunds are issued based on the original transaction, to the card and the merchant account originally utilized.

ECU outsourced payment card processing for student tuition, fees, housing and dining charges to TouchNet and utilizes TouchNet's PayPath for merchant card processing. Staff in the Cashier's Office are set up as reviewers and can only request refunds. The University Cashier and the Operations Manager are set up as approvers and authorize the refund based on university records, reasons for the request, and supporting documentation provided by the cashiering staff.

Fulfillment and Shipping of Goods:

ECU fulfills and ships goods in several instances across campus. Payment is collected prior to the fulfilling and shipping of any goods. Payment typically includes a delivery fee depending on the shipping method selected. Sales tax is also applied when necessary and determined by the delivery address provided by the customer.

Cut-off Times and Close Outs are as follows:

Most POS Terminals are closed manually at the end of each business day. Some POS Terminals are setup with an auto-close for midnight in the event the staff do not close the terminal manually. There are also a few satellite locations which only close their terminal twice per week due to minimal activity and complications with submitting deposits to campus.

The following cutoff times are established for Internet transactions: 11:00 pm CST/12:00 midnight EST via TouchNet. The same timeframes apply for all other payment gateway processors.

All funds settle to the Credit Card Clearing Account specified in the Merchant Card Participant Setup Form. ECU has three credit card clearing accounts: Brody School of Medicine, School of Dental Medicine and Main Campus.

11. Fiscal Office Functions

Reference is made to the guidelines specified on OSC's SECP Website for [Merchant Card Reconciliation](#).

Merchant Card Receipts are accounted for daily and reconciled as follows:

Tools utilized in the reconciliation process include but are not limited to: DST's Core Banking System, OSC's North Carolina Financial System (NCFS), Business Track (previously Clientline), AMEX Online Portal, CPS-VCCT; and Wells Fargo's CEO – Commercial Electronic Office.

The following reports are used in the reconciliation process: Treasury Reports from CEO, and ECU's TYDF 100 Report, Sections 1-6, Summary Sheet for Certifications.

All merchant card payments are certified and reported through NCFS in accordance with established procedures, as "type 4" transactions daily.

The University Cashier's Office, Financial Services and ECU Physicians are responsible for ensuring that all necessary reconciliations are performed.

Bank account statements received for the settlement account will be reconciled within 15 days of the statement being generated.

ECU has multiple merchant numbers associated with the MasterCard/VISA chain number and with the American Express chain number established for decentralized merchant processing within the various departments. To facilitate daily reconciliation and certification for all merchant activity, the University Cashier's Office obtains Wells Fargo CEO treasury reports daily. All activity from each day's settlement report is verified to receipts recorded in both the Banner Student and Miscellaneous Receipts modules.

Discrepancies are investigated and resolved as identified. The University Cashier's Office balancing reports are forwarded to Cash Management unit in Financial Services and state receipts are balanced daily to ensure a timely month end close.

Chargebacks: On occasion, cardholders originate payment disputes with their card issuers, resulting in chargebacks posting to the credit card clearing account.

Reference is made to OSC's E-Commerce Policy entitled, "[Customer Transaction Disputes](#)" and to procedures prescribed in the [Merchant Services Operating Guide](#).

Copies of transaction slips and other relevant documentation will be kept for a minimum of 18 months and in accordance with ECU's official records retention schedule.

ECU will comply with requests from STMS and TouchNet for copies of transaction documents within the timeframe set forth in the notification/documentation request.

ECU will act in good faith in resolving any disputes received from cardholders.

The credit card clearing accounts are set up as composite accounts to allow for debit chargeback entries. Allowing chargeback complies with merchant card requirements.

- a) For student accounts, the amount of the chargeback is debited to the student's account and a negative receipt adjustment is entered in the Banner system to reflect the cash reduction in the clearing account.
- b) For all other transaction types, the University Cashier's Office notifies the department where the credit card receipt originated that a charge has been reversed or charged back. The University Cashier's Office requests the department prepare a negative receipt adjustment which is entered in the Banner system to reflect both the reduction in revenue and the reduction in the credit card clearing account.

Paying Invoices: All invoices for services received (e.g., Merchant Services, CPS, etc.) shall be paid timely, in accordance with established university procedures for accounts payable.

On a periodical basis, the interchange rates shall be inspected to ensure that the best rates are being obtained.

Responsibility for inspecting the invoices received and approving for payment is that of ECU's Financial Services.

12. Other

ECU complies with The UNC System PCI compliance monitoring.

Revision History:

March 27, 2018 – reviewed in its entirety and updated

April 5, 2019 – reviewed in its entirety and updated

March 19, 2021 – reviewed in its entirety and updated – minor grammar updates

February 11, 2022 – reviewed, updated a link, and minor grammar corrections

March 17, 2023 – reviewed, updated information due to changes to campus systems and processes, updated OSC links.

March 21, 2024 – reviewed, updated information due to changes in business names, systems being utilized and fees being assessed

March 24, 2025 - updates to links, Internet Application, Payment Applications, PCI DSS Compliance, Training sections