NSTAR FAQ’s:

Q: What is NSTAR?
A: A centralized budget data collection system and solution for budgeting, planning, forecasting, reporting and analysis.

Q: Will this replace the Status of Funds reports from Business Objects and the data warehouse?
A: No. The Status of Funds reports will remain in the data warehouse. The budget reports in this system are specific to the university budget development and preparation process for State mandated reports the Budget Office must prepare.

Q: Who needs access at this time?
A: Individuals that have historically been involved in development and preparation of the State or Local budget and related budget documents. Generally a JFR, budget or business manager in your department would access the system to input budgets.

Q: What would a department use the NSTAR system for?
A: Budget input during the annual budget process. There are worksheets in NSTAR that can help managers plan their budgets as well as budget management and analytical reports that will be valuable for management to refer to during the year.

Q: Where can I find the latest Budget Process Information and Guidelines?
A: On the Budget Office Website under Budget Management.

Q: I am a department head; do I need NSTAR access to authorize budgets?
A: You are not required to authorize budgets from within the system. The budget submittal in NSTAR is your authorization. You should review budget reports from NSTAR after your budgets have been input to ensure they are accurate. Whoever enters your budgets into NSTAR will have access to these reports.

Q: How do I get access?
A: Your JFR or VP must authorize your access AND you must complete the NSTAR Security Form and pass the User Test. Training video are located on the Budget Office Website under NSTAR.

Q: Who should I call for help?
A: Please contact the University Budget Office Team directly at 523-5667.

Q: Does NSTAR replace Business Objects?
A: No, the two systems serve very different needs.

Q: Does NSTAR allow budgeting at the sub unit level?
A: No, this is a limitation with PeopleSoft Financials.