

TRUSTEES' CODE OF CONDUCT

1. A Trustee shall devote time, thought, and study to his or her duties as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California State University.
2. A Trustee shall learn how the California State University functions—its uniqueness, strength, and needs—and its place in postsecondary education.
3. A Trustee shall carefully prepare for, regularly attend, and actively participate in the Board meetings and committee assignments.
4. A Trustee shall accept and abide by the legal and fiscal responsibilities of the Board as specified in federal and state law and the regulations, rules of procedure, standing orders, and resolutions of the Board of Trustees.
5. A Trustee shall base his or her vote upon all information available in each situation and shall exercise his or her best judgment in making decisions that affect the course of the California State University.
6. A Trustee shall vote according to his or her individual conviction, and may challenge the judgment of others when necessary; yet a Trustee shall be willing to support the majority decision of the Board and work with fellow Board members in a spirit of cooperation.
7. A Trustee shall maintain the confidential nature of Board deliberations in closed session. This includes written and verbal communication concerning the closed session. A Trustee shall avoid acting as spokesperson for the Board unless specifically authorized to do so.
8. A Trustee shall understand the role of the Board as a policy making body and avoid participation in administration of that policy unless specifically authorized to do so by the Board.
9. A Trustee shall learn and consistently use designated institutional channels when conducting Board business (e.g., responding to faculty and student grievances, responding to inquiries concerning the status of a presidential search).
10. A Trustee shall comply with conflict of interest policies and requirements prescribed in state law. A Trustee shall refrain from accepting duties, incurring obligations, accepting gifts or favors, engaging in private business or professional activities when there is, or would appear to be, a conflict or incompatibility between the Trustee's private interests and the interests of the California State University.

11. A Trustee shall refrain from actions and involvements that may prove embarrassing to the California State University.
12. A Trustee shall act and make judgments always on the basis of what is best for the California State University as a whole and for the advancement of higher education in general.

Procedure for Responding to Breaches of the Code of Conduct

1. Should evidence or allegations of violations of the Code of Conduct by a Trustee of the California State University come to the attention of the Chair of the Board, which after further review by the Chair appears to constitute a breach of the Code of Conduct, the Chair and the Vice Chair shall discuss the matter with the Trustee to obtain additional facts and perspective and to seek a mutually agreeable resolution.
2. Should the Code continue to be violated by the Trustee after discussion with the Chair and the Vice Chair, the Chair, after appropriate consultation, will place the matter on the agenda for appropriate action by the Board of Trustees. The Board shall discuss the matter in open session, allowing the Trustee whose conduct is at issue to provide an explanation of the conduct. The Board may then by majority vote censure the Trustee.
3. Should the Board censure the Trustee, formal notification of the censure shall be communicated to the Governor, as President of the Board, and to any separate recommendatory or appointive authority of the Trustee, e.g., the Academic Senate of the California State University, the California State Student Association, or the CSU Alumni Council.

CSU Alumni Trustee Selection Criteria
“Qualities of a CSU Alumni Trustee Candidate”

- Candidate must be an alumnus/alumna of the California State University system, willing to serve, and nominated by a campus in the CSU system. Alumnus/alumna status is defined as having earned a degree from a CSU campus.
- Candidate for the position of Alumni Trustee should have demonstrated records of excellence in professional achievement, community service, and service to their university. He/she should have documented successful high-level fiscal stewardship.
- Candidate should possess a breadth and depth of management experience, judgment, maturity, and team concept experience.
- Candidate should possess the qualities of prudence and reason, but not afraid to take calculated risks when necessary – a “focused visionary.”
- Candidate should be a person of proven influence and integrity, articulate, and task-oriented. He/she should feel comfortable working in a political environment and should be at ease with corporate leaders, legislators, and leaders in the academic community. National level experience in business, government, non-profit, or academic leadership is a plus.
- Candidate should exhibit a solid, long-standing commitment to post-secondary education, and demonstrated leadership in issues affecting higher education at the CSU.
- Candidate should possess the financial resources and personal time commitment to meet the obligations of the office.
- Candidates for the Alumni Trustee position should be prepared to abide by the Board of Trustees Code of Conduct document. *Above.*