

### **B.11.1 (Policy) Student Trustee**

Responsible Department: Board of Trustees, Office of the Chancellor

Board Adoption: 2-18-14

Last Board Action: 7-27-21, 5-17-22

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#### **Purpose**

In order to fully implement the Alamo Way policy of Principle Centered Leadership by providing students with leadership experiences and to ensure students participate in District governance, the Board welcomes the inclusion of a Student Trustee on the Board of Trustees. The mission of a Student Trustee is to serve as a non-voting student liaison to the Board of Trustees and Chancellor. The Student Trustee represents students' interests at District meetings and Board Committee meetings. The Board encourages each College to promote candidates who are deeply committed to the mission, vision and values of the Alamo Colleges, not an individual college, with a goal of ensuring that student interests are effectively represented. The Student Trustee is an example of the Alamo Colleges dedication to building student leaders and its ability to work alongside those leaders to further student success.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The Student Trustee shall be seated and recognized as the Student Trustee member of the Board at Board meetings, excluding any non-public executive session. The student member is entitled to participate in discussion of issues and receive all materials presented to members of the Board (except for executive session materials). The Student Trustee is a non-voting member and may not move or second a measure. The responsibilities of the Student Trustee are to:

1. Take all required Trustee training and participate in Board meetings, events and conferences.
2. Study documents presented to the Board of Trustees for board committee meetings and regular board meetings, excluding any non-public executive session materials.
3. Propose any items to be placed on the Board agenda to the Chancellor.
4. Review the upcoming Board of Trustees' agenda with the Student District Council.
5. Keep members of the Student District Council informed about issues brought before the Board of Trustees and seek student input on these issues.
6. Serve on a Board Committee should the Student Trustee be appointed by the Chair.

The Student Trustee will be held to the same standards of performance and behavior/accountability of an elected Trustee in recognition of the trust and importance of the office.

Transportation allowance/reimbursement for travel necessary to attend Board meetings and to attend to other official District business as authorized by the Board shall be provided for the Student Trustee at the same rate as that established for other Trustees. The Student Trustee may, upon prior approval by the Board Chair, attend conferences pre-approved for Trustee attendance

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and be reimbursed for expenses associated with the approved conferences pursuant to Board Policy.

#### **Term and Selection Process**

The student will be selected by the Board in March and serve a one-year term as a non-voting member of the Board from May 1 through April 30.

1. By February 1, each Student Government Association (SGA) will invite applications, through a broad-based information campaign directed at the student bodies of their respective colleges, based on a common criteria and form. A student candidate applicant must:
  - a. Be currently enrolled in one of the Alamo Colleges and maintain enrollment in at least six credit hours during the election period and throughout the Student Trustee's term of office (Summer enrollment is optional);
  - b. Be working toward an Alamo Colleges District credential and not be eligible to or actually graduate/complete until their term on the board will end;
  - c. Not hold an earned post-secondary degree;
  - d. Have and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5;
  - e. Demonstrate service commitment at their college and/or in the community;
  - f. Submit a personal essay concerning the Student Trustee's reasons for wishing to serve; and
  - g. Commit to taking Principle-Centered Leadership training within 60 days of being seated as Student Trustee.
2. A student can apply for selection as a Student Trustee candidate at only one campus.
3. A student is not required to give up any student employment with the Alamo Colleges in order to be seated as a Student Trustee.
4. Each Student Government Association ("SGA") will, through application screening and interviews, select a candidate who meets these criteria (one per college). These student candidates will be submitted to the Board, which will interview the candidates, consult with the administration and select one primary Student Trustee and one alternate. If for any reason the SGA of an individual College is not staffed or functioning sufficiently to perform these duties, then the College President may designate another appropriate campus organization to do so.

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5. The alternate Student Trustee will "shadow" the primary Student Trustee and attend Board Meetings and other appropriate events should the Student Trustee be absent, or replace the Student Trustee if she/he leaves prior to the completion of the term. At the approval of the Board Chair, the alternate Student Trustee may attend conferences pre-approved for Trustee attendance and be reimbursed for expenses associated with the approved conferences pursuant to Board Policy.

6. The Student Trustee serves at the will of the Board and may be recalled for failure to maintain qualifying requirements, nonperformance of duties, violation of the Student Code of Conduct, ethical lapse or failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress by a simple majority vote of the Board of Trustees or for any reason by a two-thirds supermajority vote of the Board.

7. A Student Trustee who is recalled may not run for a second term.

8. A student may serve only one term as Student Trustee.

9. A student may not serve as a Student Trustee during any period of service with any student media or other media outlets.

### **Scholarship**

The primary and alternate Student Trustees, in recognition of his/her service on the Board of Trustees, shall receive a scholarship. Each year, the Chancellor and staff will determine the amount and criteria for distribution.

### **Timeline**

The timeline for year one will begin when the policy is approved by the Board; the schedule for successive years will be as follows:

February – SGA application review/interview process; student candidates to be submitted to the Board (one candidate per college) by February 28

March – Board of Trustees application review/interview process

April – Student Trustee selected by the Board at its Regular meetings or at a Special Meeting, in either case voting after Executive Session.

April – Student Trustees (Trustee and alternate) sworn in at Regular Board meeting after election

May 1 – Student Trustee begins term (May 1 – April 30)

December – January – SGA's at each College invite applications for Student Trustee