

### **B.5.5 (Policy) Sponsorship or Endorsement of Public Events**

Responsible Department: Office of the Chancellor, Legal Services

Board Adoption: 8-18-09

Last Board Action: 8-18-09

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The following guidelines specify the conditions under which the Board or the College District will lend its sponsorship or endorsement to receptions, meetings, and other public events:

1. In general, Board sponsorship of public events will be considered appropriate when the purpose of the event is consistent with the mission and goals of the College District and when it potentially serves to enhance the College District's capability to serve its educational role in the community.
2. Board sponsorship or endorsement of such public events must be proposed to and approved by a majority of the Board at an official meeting of the Board.
3. Board joint sponsorship and financing of such public events with internal or external groups must be proposed to and approved by a majority of the Board at an official meeting of the Board.
4. Since Texas case law stipulates that individual Board members have no official authority except when functioning as a member of the Board in an official meeting, a distinction should be made between individual endorsement of an event and official endorsement by the Board, as provided above.
5. Because the College District is a publicly supported institution, the Board shall exercise care to ensure that its endorsements of public events do not promote or reflect favoritism toward any particular group.
6. The Board recognizes that the Chancellor's office and the colleges at times will be called upon to sponsor or help finance events of external groups or organizations. If such expenditure serves the mission and goals of the College District, and enhances the College District's capability to serve its educational role in the community, and such sponsorship is in the interest of the College District, it is permitted if authorized by the Chancellor or the Chancellor's designee prior to expenditure. Any such sponsorship shall be reported to the Board at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Any such sponsorship that requires an expenditure greater than the amount authorized by the Chancellor must be authorized by a majority vote of the Board.

*Legal Reference - TACC Policy Reference Manual*

BAA(LEGAL) - Board Legal Status: Powers, Duties, Responsibilities