

2024 Local Agency Biennial Notice

Name of Agency: Ventura Unified School District
 Mailing Address: 255 W. Stanley Avenue, Ste. 100, Ventura, CA 93001
 Contact Person: Rose Ramirez Phone No. 805-641-5000, ext. 1009
 Email: rose.ramirez@venturausd.org Alternate Email: N/A

Accurate disclosure is essential to monitor whether officials have conflicts of interest and to help ensure public trust in government. The biennial review examines current programs to ensure that the agency's code includes disclosure by those agency officials who make or participate in making governmental decisions.

This agency has reviewed its conflict of interest code and has determined that (*check one BOX*):

An amendment is required. The following amendments are necessary:

(*Check all that apply.*)

- Include new positions
 Revise disclosure categories
 Revise the titles of existing positions
 Delete titles of positions that have been abolished and/or positions that no longer make or participate in making governmental decisions
 Other (*describe*) Reorganizing the Board Bylaw, Appendix, and updating the number of officials in each designated position.

The code is currently under review by the code reviewing body.

No amendment is required. (If your code is over five years old, amendments may be necessary.)

Verification (to be completed if no amendment is required)

This agency's code accurately designates all positions that make or participate in the making of governmental decisions. The disclosure assigned to those positions accurately requires that all investments, business positions, interests in real property, and sources of income that may foreseeably be affected materially by the decisions made by those holding designated positions are reported. The code includes all other provisions required by Government Code Section 87302.



 Signature of Chief Executive Officer

9/24/24

 Date

All agencies must complete and return this notice regardless of how recently your code was approved or amended. Please return this notice no later than **October 3, 2024**, or by the date specified by your agency, if earlier, to: **E-Mail to: form700clerk@ventura.org**

or
Mail to: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
800 S. Victoria Avenue, L# 1920
Ventura, CA 93009-1920

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE FPPC.

Redlined
Conflict of Interest Code

Ventura Unified School District

Resolution #24-18

**ADOPTING REVISIONS THROUGH THE
BIENNIAL REVIEW OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

WHEREAS: the Political Reform Act, Government Code section 87300-87313, requires each public agency in California to adopt a conflict of interest Code; and

WHEREAS: the Governing Board of the Ventura Unified School District has previously adopted a local conflict of Interest code; and

WHEREAS: past and future amendments to the Political Reform Act and implementing regulations may require conforming amendments to be made to the district's conflict of interest code; and

WHEREAS: a regulation adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, 2 CCR 18730, provides that incorporation by reference of the terms of that regulation, along with an agency-specific appendix designating positions and disclosure categories shall constitute the adoption and amendment of a conflict of interest code in conformance with Government Code 87300 and 87306; and

WHEREAS: Ventura Unified School District has recently reorganized Board Bylaw 9270, reviewed its positions, and the duties of each position, and has determined that changes to the current conflict of interest code are necessary; and

WHEREAS: any earlier resolutions, bylaws, and/or appendices containing the district's conflict of interest code shall be rescinded and superseded by this resolution and Appendix; and

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT: the Ventura Unified School District Governing Board adopts the following Conflict of Interest Code including its Appendix of Designated Employees and Disclosure Categories.

The foregoing Resolution was considered, passed, and adopted by this Board at its regular meeting of September 24, 2024.

AYES: 4 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1

By: 
President, Board of Trustees
Ventura Unified School District

9-24-24
Date

By: 
Clerk, Board of Trustees
Ventura Unified School District

9/24/24
Date

Bylaw 9270: Conflict Of Interest

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 11/14/2006 | Last Revised Date: 09/27/2022 | Last Reviewed Date: 09/27/2022

Incompatible Activities

Governing Board members shall not engage in any employment or activity which is inconsistent with, incompatible with, in conflict with or inimical to the Board member's duties as an officer of the district. (Government Code 1126)

Conflict of Interest Code

The Governing Board desires to maintain the highest ethical standards and help ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the district and the public. Accordingly, no Board member, district employee, or other person in a designated position shall participate in the making of any decision for the district when the decision will or may be affected by the Board member's, district employee's, or other designated persons financial, family, or other personal interest or consideration.

Even if a prohibited conflict of interest does not exist, a Board member shall abstain from voting on personnel matters that uniquely affect the Board member's relatives. However, a Board member may vote on collective bargaining agreements and personnel matters that affect a class of employees to which the Board member's relative belongs. Relative means an adult who is related to the Board member by blood or affinity within the third degree, as determined by the common law, or an individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (Education Code 35107)

A relationship within the third degree includes an individual's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and the similar family of the individual's spouse/registered domestic partner unless the individual is widowed or divorced.

The Board shall adopt for the district a conflict of interest code that incorporates the provisions of 2 CCR 18730 by reference, specifies the district's designated positions, and provides the disclosure categories required for each position. The conflict of interest code shall be submitted to the district's code reviewing body for approval, in accordance with Government Code 87303 and within the deadline for submission established by the code reviewing body. (Government Code 87303)

The district's conflict of interest code shall comprise of the terms of California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 18730 and any amendments to it adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, together with a district attachment specifying designated positions and the specific types of disclosure statements required for each position.

Upon direction by the code reviewing body, the Board shall review the district's conflict of interest code in even-numbered years, and submit by October 1 any changes to the code reviewing body or, if no change is required, the Board shall submit a written statement to that effect. If no change in the code is required, the district shall submit by October 1 a written statement to that effect to the code reviewing body. If a change in the code is necessitated by changed circumstances, the district shall submit an amended code to the code reviewing body. (Government Code 87306.5)

When a change in the district's conflict of interest code is necessitated by changed circumstances, such as the creation of new designated positions, changes to the duties assigned to existing positions, amendments, or revisions the amended code shall be submitted to the code reviewing body within 90 days after the changed circumstances necessitating the amendments have become apparent. (Government Code 87306)

When reviewing and preparing conflict of interest codes, the district Superintendent or designee shall provide officers, employees, consultants and members of the community adequate notice and a fair opportunity to present their views. (Government Code 87311)

If a Board member or designated employee determines that he/she has a financial interest in a decision, as described in Government Code 87103, this determination shall be disclosed. The member shall be disqualified from voting unless his/her participation is legally required. (2 CCR 18700)

Statements of economic interests submitted to the district by designated employees in accordance with the conflict of interest code shall be available for public inspection and reproduction. (Government Code 81008)

Board members and designated employees shall annually file a Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 in accordance with the disclosure categories specified in the district's conflict of interest code. A Board member who leaves office or a designated employee who leaves district employment shall, within 30 days, file a revised statement covering the period of time between the closing date of the last required statement and the date of leaving office or district employment. (Government Code 87302, 87302.6)

Conflict of Interest under the Political Reform Act

A district official, including a Board member, designated employee, or other person in a designated position shall not make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use an official position to influence a governmental decision in which the district official knows or has reason to know that there is a disqualifying conflict of interest. A disqualifying conflict of interest exists if the decision will have a "reasonably foreseeable material financial effect," which is distinguishable from the effect on the public generally, on the district official, the district official's immediate family, or any financial interest described in 2 CCR 18700. (Government Code 87100, 87101, 87103; 2 CCR 18700-18707)

A district official makes a governmental decision when, within the authority of the office or position, the district official authorizes or directs any action on a matter, votes or provides information or opinion on it, contacts or appears before another district official for the purpose of affecting the decision, or takes any other action specified in 2 CCR 18704.

However, a district official shall participate in the making of a contract in which the district official has a financial interest if such participation is required by the rule of necessity or legally required participation pursuant to Government Code 87101 and 2 CCR 18705.

Conflict of Interest from Campaign Contributions

To avoid improper influence over the Board's decision-making involving the issuance of a license, permit, or other entitlements for use, including a contract, district officers, which includes Board members or agency heads, shall comply with Government Code 84308, including the following: (Government Code 84308)

1. A district officer is prohibited from accepting, soliciting, or directing a contribution of more than \$250 from any party or participant to a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, including a contract, or from that person's agent, while the proceeding is pending before the Board and for 12 months following the date a final decision is rendered in the proceeding, if the Board member knows or has reason to know that the party or participant has a financial interest in the Board's decision.
2. Any district officer who received a contribution of more than \$250 from a party or participant in the preceding 12 months shall disclose that fact on the record of the proceeding prior to the Board rendering a decision in the proceeding. If the district officer willfully or knowingly received the contribution and knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest in the Board's decision, the district officer shall not make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use the official position to influence the Board's decision.
3. A district officer who receives a contribution that would otherwise require disqualification as described in Item #2 above may participate in the proceeding if the contribution is returned within 30 days from the time the district officer knows or should have known about the contribution and the proceeding.
4. A district officer who unknowingly accepts, solicits, or directs a contribution of more than \$250 during the 12 months after the date of the Board's final decision on the proceeding may cure the violation by returning the contribution, or the portion exceeding \$250, within 14 days of accepting, soliciting, or directing the contribution, provided the district officer did not knowingly or willfully accept, solicit, or direct the prohibited contribution. The district officer shall maintain records of curing the violation.

The provisions in Government Code 84308 as specified above do not apply to labor contracts, competitively bid contracts, and personal employment contracts. (Government Code 84308)

Financial Interest

Board members and designated employees shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the Board or in any contract they make in their capacity as Board members or designated employees. (Government Code 1090)

A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract if his/her interest includes, but is

not limited to, any of the following: (Government Code 1091.5)

1. That of an officer who is being reimbursed for his/her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of an official duty
2. That of a recipient of public services generally provided by the public body or board of which he/she is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the board
3. That of a landlord or tenant of the contracting party if such contracting party is the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state or an adjoining state, any department or agency of this state or an adjoining state, any county or city of this state or an adjoining state, or any public corporation or special, judicial or other public district of this state or an adjoining state unless the subject matter of such contract is the property in which such officer or employee has such interest as landlord or tenant in which even his/her interest shall be deemed a remote interest within the meaning of, and subject to, the provisions of Government Code 1091
4. That of a spouse of an officer or employee of the district if his/her spouse's employment or officeholding has existed for at least one year prior to his/her election or appointment
5. That of a nonsalaried member of a nonprofit corporation, provided that such interest is disclosed to the Board at the time of the first consideration of the contract, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records
6. That of a noncompensated officer of a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation which, as one of its primary purposes, supports the functions of the nonprofit board or to which the school Board has legal obligation to give particular consideration, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records
7. That of a person receiving salary, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses from a governmental entity, unless the contract directly involves the department of the government entity that employs the officer or employee, provided that such interest is disclosed to the Board at the time of consideration of the contract, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records.
8. That of an attorney of the contracting party or that of an owner, officer, employee or agent of a firm which renders, or has rendered, service to the contracting party in the capacity of stockbroker, insurance agent, insurance broker, real estate agent, or real estate broker, if these individuals have not received and will not receive remuneration, consideration, or a commission as a result of the contract and if these individuals have an ownership interest of less than 10 percent in the law practice or firm, stock brokerage firm, insurance firm or real estate firm

In addition, a Board member or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract made pursuant to competitive bidding under a procedure established by law if his/her sole interest is that of an officer, director, or employee of a bank or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has the relationship of borrower or depositor, debtor or creditor. (Government Code 1091.5)

A Board member shall not be deemed to be financially interested in a contract if he/she has only a remote interest in the contract and if the remote interest is disclosed during a Board meeting and noted in the official Board minutes. The affected Board member shall not vote or debate on the matter or attempt to influence any other Board member to enter into the contract. Remote interests are specified in Government Code 1091(b); they include, but are not limited to, the interest of a parent in the earnings of his/her minor child. (Government Code 1091)

A Board member may enter into a contract if the rule of necessity or legally required participation applies as defined in Government Code 87101.

Even if there is no prohibited or remote interest, a Board member shall abstain from voting on personnel matters that uniquely affect a relative of the Board member. A Board member may vote, however, on collective bargaining agreements and personnel matters that affect a class of employees to which the relative belongs. "Relative" means an adult who is related to the person by blood or affinity within the third degree, as determined by the common law, or an individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (Education Code 35107)

A relationship within the third degree includes the individual's parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, and the similar family of the individual's spouse unless the individual is widowed or divorced.

Additional Requirements for Boards that Manage Public Investments

Any Board member who manages public investments pursuant to Government Code 87200 and who has a financial interest in a decision shall, upon identifying a conflict or potential conflict of interest and immediately prior to the consideration of the matter, do all of the following: (Government Code 87105; 2 CCR 18707)

1. Publicly identify each financial interest that gives rise to the conflict or potential conflict of interest in detail sufficient to be understood by the public, except that disclosure of the exact street address of a residence is not required.
2. Not discuss or vote on the matter, or otherwise act in violation of Government Code 87100. The Board member shall not be counted toward achieving a quorum while the item is discussed.

However, the Board member may speak on the issue during the time that the general public speaks on it and may leave the dais to speak from the same area as members of the public. The Board member may listen to the public discussion and deliberations of the matter with members of the public.

3. Leave the room until after the discussion, vote, and any other disposition of the matter is concluded, unless the matter has been placed on the portion of the agenda reserved for uncontested matters.

If the item is on the consent calendar, the Board member shall either make a motion to remove the item from the consent calendar or the Board member shall abstain from voting on the consent calendar. In any event, the Board member shall refrain from discussing or voting on the item. However, the Board member is not required to leave the room during consideration of the consent calendar.

4. If the Board's decision is made during closed session, disclose the interest orally during the open session preceding the closed session. This disclosure shall be limited to a declaration that the recusal is because of a conflict of interest pursuant to Government Code 87100. The Board member shall not be present when the item is considered in closed session and shall not knowingly obtain or review a recording or any other nonpublic information regarding the Board's decision

Conflict of Interest under Government Code 1090 - Financial Interest in a Contract

Board members, employees, or district consultants shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the Board on behalf of the district, including in the development, preliminary discussions, negotiations, compromises, planning, reasoning, and specifications and solicitations for bids. If a Board member has such a financial interest in a contract made by the Board, the contract is void. (Government Code 1090)

A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract in which there is only a "remote interest," as specified in Government Code 1091, if the interest is disclosed during a Board meeting and noted in the official Board minutes. The affected Board member shall not vote or debate on the matter or attempt to influence any other Board member or district official to enter into the contract. (Government Code 1091)

In addition, a Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract in which the interest is a "noninterest" as defined in Government Code 1091.5. Noninterest includes a Board member's interest in being reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties, in the employment of a spouse/registered domestic partner who has been a district employee for at least one year prior to the Board member's election or appointment, or in any other applicable circumstance specified in Government Code 1091.5.

Common Law Doctrine Against Conflict of Interest

A Board member shall abstain from any official action in which the Board member's private or personal interest may conflict with official duties.

Incompatible Offices and Activities

Board members shall not engage in any employment or activity or hold any office which is inconsistent with, incompatible with, in conflict with, or inimical to the Board member's duties as an officer of the district. (Government Code 1099, 1126)

Gifts

Board members and designated employees may accept gifts only under the conditions and limitations specified in Government Code 89503 and 2 CCR 18730.

The limitations on gifts do not apply to wedding gifts and gifts exchanged between individuals on birthdays, holidays and other similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value. (Government Code 89503)

In addition, the limitation on gifts does not apply to informational materials such as books, reports, pamphlets, calendars, and periodicals. (Government Code 82028)

Gifts of travel and related lodging and subsistence shall be subject to the current prevailing gift limitation, except when: as described in (Government Code 89506):

1. The travel is in connection with a speech given by a Board member or designated employee, provided the lodging and subsistence expenses are limited to the day immediately preceding, the day of, and the day immediately following the speech and the travel is within the United States.
2. The travel is provided by a person or agency specified in Government Code 89506, including a government, governmental agency or authority, bona fide public or private educational institution, as defined in Revenue and Taxation Code 203, or nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Gifts of travel exempted from the gift limitation, as described in Items #1 and 2 above, shall nevertheless be reportable on the recipient's Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 as required by law.

A gift of travel does not include travel provided by the district for Board members and designated employees. (Government Code 89506)

Honoraria

Board members and designated employees shall not accept any honorarium, which is defined as any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private conference, convention, meeting, social event, meal, or like gathering, in accordance with law. (Government Code 89501, 89502)

The term honorarium does not include: (Government Code 89501)

1. Earned income for personal services customarily provided in connection with a bona fide business, trade or profession unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade or profession is making speeches
2. Any honorarium which is not used and, within 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to the district for donation into the general fund without being claimed as a deduction from income for tax purposes

Appendix

Designated Positions/Disclosure Categories

It has been determined that persons occupying the following positions manage public investments and shall file a full statement of economic interests pursuant to Government Code 87200:

Governing Board Members

Superintendent of Schools

1. Persons occupying the following positions are designated employees in Category 1:

Assistant/Associate Superintendent

General Counsel

Personnel Commission

Designated persons in this category must report:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries or of any land owned or used by the district. Such interests include any leasehold, beneficial or ownership interest or option to acquire such interest in real property.
 - b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which:
 - i. Are engaged in the acquisition or disposal of real property within the district
 - ii. Are contractors or subcontractors which are or have been within the past two years engaged in work or services of the type used by the district or
 - iii. Manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery or equipment of the type used by the district
2. Persons occupying the following positions are designated employees in Category 2:

All Directors (Certificated and Classified)
 Principal Assistant
 Principal
 Project Coordinator
 Project Specialist
 Supervisor/Manager

Designated persons in this category must report investments or business positions in or income from sources which:

- a. Are contractors or subcontractors engaged in work or services of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs, or
 - b. Manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery or equipment of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs. For the purposes of this category, a principal's department is his/her entire school.
3. Consultants are designated employees who must disclose financial interests as determined on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee's written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements based upon that description. All such determinations are public records and shall be retained for public inspection along with this conflict of interest code:

A consultant is an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, makes a governmental decision whether to: (2 CCR 18701)

- a. Approve a rate, rule or regulation
- b. Adopt or enforce a law
- c. Issue, deny, suspend or revoke a permit, license, application, certificate, approval, order or similar authorization or entitlement
- d. Authorize the district to enter into, modify or renew a contract that requires district approval
- e. Grant district approval to a contract or contract specifications which require district approval and in which the district is a party
- f. Grant district approval to a plan, design, report, study or similar item
- g. Adopt or grant district approval of district policies, standards or guidelines

A consultant is also an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, serves in a staff capacity with the district and in that capacity participates in making a governmental decision as defined in 2 CCR 18702.2 or performs the same or substantially all the same duties for the district that would otherwise be performed by an individual holding a position specified in the district's Conflict of Interest Code. (2 CCR 18701)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

2 CCR 18110-18997
 2 CCR 18438.1-18438.8
 2 CCR 18700-18760
 2 CCR 18722-18740
 2 CCR 18753-18756
 Ed. Code 1006
 Ed. Code 35107
 Ed. Code 35230-35240
 Ed. Code 35233
 Ed. Code 41000-41003
 Ed. Code 41015
 Fam. Code 297.5
 Gov. Code 1090-1099
 Gov. Code 1125-1129
 Gov. Code 53234-53235.2
 Gov. Code 81000-91014
 Gov. Code 82011
 Gov. Code 82019
 Gov. Code 82028
 Gov. Code 82030
 Gov. Code 82033
 Gov. Code 82034
 Gov. Code 84308
 Gov. Code 87100-87103.6
 Gov. Code 87200-87210
 Gov. Code 87300-87313
 Gov. Code 87500
 Gov. Code 89501-89503
 Gov. Code 89506
 Gov. Code 91000-91014
 Pen. Code 85-88
 Pub. Cont. Code 6102
 Rev. & Tax Code 203

Description

Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission
 Campaign contribution-based conflicts of interest
 Conflicts of Interest
 Disclosure of interests
 Conflict of interest codes
[Prohibition against school district employees serving on county board of education](#)
[School district employees](#)
[Corrupt practices](#)
[Prohibitions applicable to members of governing boards](#)
[Moneys received by school districts](#)
[Investments](#)
[Rights, protections, and benefits of registered domestic partners](#)
[Prohibitions applicable to specified officers](#)
[Incompatible activities](#)
[Ethics training](#)
[Political Reform Act](#)
[Code reviewing body](#)
[Definition; designated employee](#)
[Definition; gift](#)
[Definition; income](#)
[Definition; interest in real property](#)
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[Statement of economic interests](#)
[Honoraria and gifts](#)
[Ethics; travel](#)
[Enforcement](#)
[Bribes](#)
[Bribery of public official; voidable contract](#)
[Taxable and exempt property - colleges](#)

Management Resources References

Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion

Description

105 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.69 (2022)
 63 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 868 (1980)
 65 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 606 (1982)
 68 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 171 (1985)
 69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 255 (1986)

Management Resources References

	Description
Attorney General Opinion	80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 320 (1997)
Attorney General Opinion	81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 327 (1998)
Attorney General Opinion	82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 83 (1999)
Attorney General Opinion	85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 60 (2002)
Attorney General Opinion	86 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 138(2003)
Attorney General Opinion	89 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 217 (2006)
Attorney General Opinion	92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 19 (2009)
Attorney General Opinion	92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (2009)
Court Decision	Davis v. Fresno Unified School District (2015) 237 Cal.App.4th 261
Court Decision	Klistoff v. Superior Court (2007) 157 Cal.App.4th 469
Court Decision	Kunec v. Brea Redevelopment Agency (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 511
Court Decision	McGee v. Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC, et al. (2016) 247 Cal. App. 4th 235
Court Decision	Thorpe v. Long Beach Community College District (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 655
CSBA Publication	Conflict of Interest: Overview of Key Issues for Governing Board Members, Fact Sheet, July 2010
Fair Political Practices Commission Publication	Can I Vote? A Basic Overview of Public Officials' Obligations Under the Conflict-of-Interest Rules, 2005
Institute For Local Government Publication	Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Personal Financial Gain Laws, 2009
Institute for Local Government Publication	Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Transparency Laws, 2009
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Institute for Local Government
Website	Fair Political Practices Commission
Website	CSBA

Cross References

	Description
1340	Access To District Records
1340	Access To District Records
1700	Relations Between Private Industry And The Schools
3230	Federal Grant Funds
3230	Federal Grant Funds
3300	Expenditures And Purchases
3311	Bids
3311	Bids
3400	Management Of District Assets/Accounts
3400	Management Of District Assets/Accounts
3470	Debt Issuance And Management
3600	Consultants
4117.2	Resignation
4136	Nonschool Employment

Cross References**Description**

4217.2	Resignation
4236	Nonschool Employment
4317.2	Resignation
4336	Nonschool Employment
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1-E(1)	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
7140	Architectural And Engineering Services
7140	Architectural And Engineering Services
7214	General Obligation Bonds
7214	General Obligation Bonds
9000	Role Of The Board
9005	Governance Standards
9140	Board Representatives
9200	Limits Of Board Member Authority
9220	Governing Board Elections
9222	Resignation
9230	Orientation
9320	Meetings And Notices
9321	Closed Session
9321-E PDF(1)	Closed Session
9321-E PDF(2)	Closed Session
9323	Meeting Conduct

Exhibit (PDF) 9270-E PDF(1): Conflict Of Interest

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/21/2021 | **Last Revised Date:** 04/27/2021

DELETE

See PDF on the next page.

~~Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission Title 2,~~

~~Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations~~

~~Government Code 18730. Provisions of Conflict of Interest Codes~~

~~(a) Incorporation by reference of the terms of this regulation along with the designation of employees and the formulation of disclosure categories in the Appendix referred to below constitute the adoption and promulgation of a conflict of interest code within the meaning of Government Code 87300 or the amendment of a conflict of interest code within the meaning of Government Code 87307 if the terms of this regulation are substituted for terms of a conflict of interest code already in effect. A code so amended or adopted and promulgated requires the reporting of reportable items in a manner substantially equivalent to the requirements of Article 2 of Chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code 81000 et seq. The requirements of a conflict of interest code are in addition to other requirements of the Political Reform Act, such as the general prohibition against conflicts of interest contained in Government Code 87100, and to other state or local laws pertaining to conflicts of interest.~~

~~(b) The terms of a conflict of interest code amended or adopted and promulgated pursuant to this regulation are as follows:~~

~~(1) Section 1. Definitions.~~

~~The definitions contained in the Political Reform Act of 1974, regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission (2 Cal. Code of Regs. sections 18100, et seq.), and any amendments to the Act or regulations, are incorporated by reference into this conflict of interest code.~~

~~(2) Section 2. Designated Employees.~~

~~The persons holding positions listed in the Appendix are designated employees. It has been determined that these persons make or participate in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on financial interests.~~

~~(3) Section 3. Disclosure Categories.~~

~~This code does not establish any disclosure obligation for those designated employees who are also specified in Government Code section 87200 if they are designated in this code in that same capacity or if the geographical jurisdiction of this agency is the same as or is wholly included within the jurisdiction in which those persons must report their financial interests pursuant to article 2 of chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code sections 87200, et seq.~~

~~In addition, this code does not establish any disclosure obligation for any designated employees who are designated in a conflict of interest code for another agency, if all of the following apply:~~

~~(A) The geographical jurisdiction of this agency is the same as or is wholly included within the jurisdiction of the other agency;~~

~~(B) The disclosure assigned in the code of the other agency is the same as that required under Article 2 of Chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act, Government Code 87200; and~~

~~(C) The filing officer is the same for both agencies. 1/~~

~~Such persons are covered by this code for disqualification purposes only. With respect to all other designated employees, the disclosure categories set forth in the Appendix specify which kinds of financial interests are reportable. Such a designated employee shall disclose in his or her statement of economic interests those financial interests he or she has which are of the kind described in the disclosure categories to which he or she is assigned in the Appendix. It has been determined that the financial interests set forth in a designated employee's disclosure categories are the kinds of financial interests which he or she foreseeably can affect materially through the conduct of his or her office.~~

~~(4) Section 4. Statements of Economic Interests: Place of Filing.~~

~~The code reviewing body shall instruct all designated employees within its code to file statements of economic interests with the agency or with the code reviewing body, as provided by the code reviewing body in the agency's conflict of interest code. 2/~~

~~(5) Section 5. Statements of Economic Interests: Time of Filing.~~

~~(A) Initial Statements. All designated employees employed by the agency on the effective date of this code, as originally adopted, promulgated and approved by the code reviewing body, shall file statements within 30 days after the effective date of this code. Thereafter, each person already in a position when it is designated by an amendment to this code shall file an initial statement within 30 days after the effective date of the amendment.~~

~~(B) Assuming Office Statements. All persons assuming designated positions after the effective date of this code shall file statements within 30 days after assuming the designated positions, or if subject to State Senate confirmation, 30 days after being nominated or appointed.~~

~~(C) Annual Statements. All designated employees shall file statements no later than April 1.~~

~~(D) Leaving Office Statements. All persons who leave designated positions shall file statements within 30 days after leaving office.~~

~~(5.5) Section 5.5. Statements for Persons Who Resign Prior to Assuming Office.~~

~~Any person who resigns within 12 months of initial appointment, or within 30 days of the date of notice provided by the filing officer to file an assuming office statement, is not deemed to have assumed office or left office, provided he or she did not make or participate in the making of, or use his or her position to influence any decision and did not receive or become entitled to receive any form of payment as a result of his or her appointment. Such persons shall not file either an assuming or leaving office statement.~~

~~(A) Any person who resigns a position within 30 days of the date of a notice from the filing officer shall do both of the following:~~

~~(1) File a written resignation with the appointing power; and~~

~~(2) File a written statement with the filing officer declaring under penalty of perjury that during the period between appointment and resignation he/she did not make, participate in making or use the position to influence any decision of the agency or receive, or become entitled to receive, any form of~~

~~payment by virtue of being appointed to the position.~~

~~(6) Section 6. Contents of and Period Covered by Statements of Economic Interests.~~

~~(A) Contents of Initial Statements. Initial statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property and business positions held on the effective date of the code and income received during the 12 months prior to the effective date of the code.~~

~~(B) Contents of Assuming Office Statements. Assuming office statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property and business positions held on the date of assuming office or, if subject to State Senate confirmation or appointment, on the date of nomination, and income received during the 12 months prior to the date of assuming office or the date of being appointed or nominated, respectively.~~

~~(C) Contents of Annual Statements. Annual statements shall disclose any reportable investments, interests in real property, income and business positions held or received during the previous calendar year provided, however, that the period covered by an employee's first annual statement shall begin on the effective date of the code or the date of assuming office, whichever is later.~~

~~(D) Contents of Leaving Office Statements. Leaving office statements shall disclose reportable investments, interests in real property, income and business positions held or received during the period between the closing date of the last statement filed and the date of leaving office.~~

~~(7) Section 7. Manner of Reporting.~~

~~Statements of economic interests shall be made on forms prescribed by the Fair Political~~

~~Practices Commission and supplied by the agency, and shall contain the following information:~~

~~(A) Investments and Real Property Disclosure. When an investment or an interest in real property^{3/} is required to be reported,^{4/} the statement shall contain the following:~~

- ~~1. A statement of the nature of the investment or interest;~~
- ~~2. The name of the business entity in which each investment is held, and a general description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged;~~
- ~~3. The address or other precise location of the real property;~~
- ~~4. A statement whether the fair market value of the investment or interest in real property exceeds \$1,000, exceeds \$10,000, or exceeds \$100,000.~~

~~(B) Personal Income Disclosure. When personal income is required to be reported,^{5/} the statement shall contain:~~

- ~~1. The name and address of each source of income aggregating \$250 or more in value or \$50 or more in value if the income was a gift, and a general description of the business activity, if any, of each source;~~
- ~~2. A statement whether the aggregate value of income from each source, or in the case of a loan, the highest amount owed to each source, was \$1,000 or less, greater than \$1,000, or greater than~~

~~\$10,000;~~

~~3. A description of the consideration, if any, for which the income was received;~~

~~4. In the case of a gift, the name, address and business activity of the donor and any intermediary through which the gift was made; a description of the gift; the amount or value of the gift; and the date on which the gift was received;~~

~~5. In the case of a loan, the annual interest rate and the security, if any, given for the loan.~~

~~(C) Business Entity Income Disclosure. When income of a business entity, including income of a sole proprietorship, is required to be reported,^{6/} the statement shall contain:~~

~~1. The name, address, and a general description of the business activity of the business entity;~~

~~2. The name of every person from whom the business entity received payments if the filer's pro rata share of gross receipts from such person was equal to or greater than \$10,000.~~

~~(D) Business Position Disclosure. When business positions are required to be reported, a designated employee shall list the name and address of each business entity in which he/she is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or in which he/she holds any position of management, a description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged, and the designated employee's position with the business entity.~~

~~(E) Acquisition or Disposal During Reporting Period. In the case of an annual or leaving office statement, if an investment or an interest in real property was partially or wholly acquired or disposed of during the period covered by the statement, the statement shall contain the date of acquisition or disposal.~~

~~(8) Section 8. Prohibition on Receipt of Honoraria.~~

~~(A) No member of a state board or commission, and no designated employee of a state or local government agency, shall accept any honorarium from any source, if the member or employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on his/her statement of economic interests. This section shall not apply to any part-time member of the governing board of any public institution of higher education, unless the member is also an elected official.~~

~~Subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of Government Code 89501 shall apply to the prohibitions in this section. This section shall not limit or prohibit payments, advances, or reimbursements for travel and related lodging and subsistence authorized by Government Code 89506.~~

~~(8.1) Section 8.1. Prohibition on Receipt of Gifts of \$300 or More.~~

~~(A) No member of a state board or commission, and no designated employee of a state or local government agency, shall accept gifts with a total value of more than \$300 in a calendar year from any single source, if the member or employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on his/her statement of economic interests. This section shall not apply to any part-time member of the governing board of any public institution of higher education, unless the member is also an elected official.~~

~~Subdivisions (e), (f) and (g) of Government Code 89503 shall apply to the prohibitions in this section.~~

~~(8.1) Section 8.2. Loans to Public Officials.~~

~~(A) No elected officer of a state or local government agency shall, from the date of his or her election to office through the date that he or she vacates office, receive a personal loan from any officer, employee, member, or consultant of the state or local government agency in which the elected officer holds office or over which the elected officer's agency has direction and control.~~

~~(B) No public official who is exempt from the state civil service system pursuant to subdivisions (e), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution shall, while he or she holds office, receive a personal loan from any officer, employee, member, or consultant of the state or local government agency in which the public official holds office or over which the public official's agency has direction and control. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made to a public official whose duties are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.~~

~~(C) No elected officer of a state or local government agency shall, from the date of his or her election to office through the date that he or she vacates office, receive a personal loan from any person who has a contract with the state or local government agency to which that elected officer has been elected or over which that elected officer's agency has direction and control. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made by banks or other financial institutions or to any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, if the loan is made or the indebtedness created in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to the elected officer's official status.~~

~~(D) No public official who is exempt from the state civil service system pursuant to subdivisions (e), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution shall, while he or she holds office, receive a personal loan from any person who has a contract with the state or local government agency to which that elected officer has been elected or over which that elected officer's agency has direction and control. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made by banks or other financial institutions or to any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, if the loan is made or the indebtedness created in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to the elected officer's official status. This subdivision shall not apply to loans made to a public official whose duties are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.~~

~~(E) This section shall not apply to the following:~~

- ~~1. Loans made to the campaign committee of an elected officer or candidate for elective office.~~
- ~~2. Loans made by a public official's spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such persons, provided that the person making the loan is not acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not otherwise exempted under this section.~~
- ~~3. Loans from a person which, in the aggregate, do not exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) at any given time.~~
- ~~4. Loans made, or offered in writing, before January 1, 1998.~~

~~(8.3) Section 8.3. Loan Terms.~~

~~(A) Except as set forth in subdivision (B), no elected officer of a state or local government agency shall, from the date of his or her election to office through the date he or she vacates office, receive a personal loan of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more, except when the loan is in writing and clearly states the terms of the loan, including the parties to the loan agreement, date of the loan, amount of the loan, term of the loan, date or dates when payments shall be due on the loan and the amount of the payments, and the rate of interest paid on the loan.~~

~~(B) This section shall not apply to the following types of loans:~~

~~1. Loans made to the campaign committee of the elected officer.~~

~~2. Loans made to the elected officer by his or her spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such person, provided that the person making the loan is not acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not otherwise exempted under this section.~~

~~3. Loans made, or offered in writing, before January 1, 1998.~~

~~(C) Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any other provision of Title 9 of the Government Code.~~

~~(8.4) Section 8.4. Personal Loans.~~

~~(A) Except as set forth in subdivision (B), a personal loan received by any designated employee shall become a gift to the designated employee for the purposes of this section in the following circumstances:~~

~~1. If the loan has a defined date or dates for repayment, when the statute of limitations for filing an action for default has expired.~~

~~2. If the loan has no defined date or dates for repayment, when one year has elapsed from the later of the following:~~

~~a. The date the loan was made.~~

~~b. The date the last payment of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more was made on the loan,~~

~~e. The date upon which the debtor has made payments on the loan aggregating to less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) during the previous 12 months.~~

~~(B) This section shall not apply to the following types of loans.~~

~~1. A loan made to the campaign committee of an elected officer or a candidate for elective office.~~

~~2. A loan that would otherwise not be a gift as defined in this title,~~

~~3. A loan that would otherwise be a gift as set forth under subdivision (A), but on which the creditor has taken reasonable action to collect the balance due.~~

~~4. A loan that would otherwise be a gift as set forth under subdivision (A), but on which the creditor, based on reasonable business considerations, has not undertaken collection action. Except in a criminal~~

~~action, a creditor who claims that a loan is not a gift on the basis of this paragraph has the burden of proving that the decision for not taking collection action was based on reasonable business considerations.~~

~~5. A loan made to a debtor who has filed for bankruptcy and the loan is ultimately discharged in bankruptcy.~~

~~(9) Section 9. Disqualification.~~

~~No designated employee shall make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his/her official position to influence the making of any governmental decision which he/she knows or has reason to know will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect, distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on the official or a member of his/her immediate family or on:~~

~~(A) Any business entity in which the designated employee has a direct or indirect investment worth \$1,000 or more;~~

~~(B) Any real property in which the designated employee has a direct or indirect interest worth \$1,000 or more;~~

~~(C) Any source of income, other than gifts and other than loans by a commercial lending institution in the regular course of business on terms available to the public without regard to official status, aggregating \$250 or more in value provided to, received by or promised to the designated employee within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made;~~

~~(D) Any business entity in which the designated employee is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position or management; or~~

~~(E) Any donor of, or any intermediary or agent for a donor of, a gift or gifts aggregating \$300 or more in value provided to, received by, or promised to the designated employee within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made.~~

~~(9.3) Section 9.3. Legally Required Participation.~~

~~No designated employee shall be prevented from making or participating in the making of any decision to the extent his or her participation is legally required for the decision to be made. The fact that the vote of a designated employee who is on a voting body is needed to break a tie does not make his or her participation legally required for purposes of this section.~~

~~(9.5) Section 9.5. Disqualification of State Officers and Employees.~~

~~In addition to the general disqualification provisions of section 9, no state administrative official shall make, participate in making, or use his or her official position to influence any governmental decision directly relating to any contract where the state administrative official knows or has reason to know that any party to the contract is a person with whom the state administrative official, or any member of his or her immediate family has, within 12 months prior to the time when the official action is to be taken:~~

~~(A) Engaged in a business transaction or transactions on terms not available to members of the public, regarding any investment or interest in real property; or~~

~~(B) Engaged in a business transaction or transactions on terms not available to members of the public regarding the rendering of goods or services totaling in value one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more.~~

~~(10) Section 10. Manner of Disqualification.~~

~~When a designated employee determines that he or she should not make a governmental decision because he or she has a disqualifying interest in it, the determination not to act must be accompanied by disclosure of the disqualifying interest. In the case of a voting body, this determination and disclosure shall be made part of the agency's official record; in the case of a designated employee who is the head of an agency, this determination and disclosure shall be made in writing to his or her appointing authority; and in the case of other designated employees, this determination and disclosure shall be made in writing to the designated employee's supervisor.~~

~~(11) Section 11. Assistance of the Commission and Counsel.~~

~~Any designated employee who is unsure of his or her duties under this code may request assistance from the Fair Political Practices Commission pursuant to Government Code section 83114 or from the attorney for his or her agency, provided that nothing in this section requires the attorney for the agency to issue any formal or informal opinion.~~

~~(12) Section 12. Violations.~~

~~This code has the force and effect of law. Designated employees violating any provision of this code are subject to the administrative, criminal and civil sanctions provided in the Political Reform Act, Government Code sections 81000-91015. In addition, a decision in relation to which a violation of the disqualification provisions of this code or of Government Code section 87100 or 87450 has occurred may be set aside as void pursuant to Government Code section 91003.~~

~~1. Designated employees who are required to file statements of economic interests under any other agency's Conflict of Interest Code, or under Article 2 for a different jurisdiction, may expand their statement of economic interests to cover reportable interests in both jurisdictions, and file copies of this expanded statement with both entities in lieu of filing separate and distinct statements, provided that each copy of such expanded statement filed in place of an original is signed and verified by the designated employee as if it were an original. See Government Code 81004.~~

~~2. See Government Code 81010 and the Code of Regulations, Title 2, Section 18115 for the duties of filing officers and persons in agencies who make and retain copies of statements and forward the originals to the filing officer.~~

~~3. For the purpose of disclosure only (not disqualification), an interest in real property does not include the principal residence of the filer.~~

~~4. Investments and interests in real property which have a fair market value of less than \$1,000 are not investments and interests in real property within the meaning of the Political Reform Act.~~

~~However, investments or interests in real property of an individual include those held by the individual's spouse and dependent children as well as a pro rata share of any investment or interest in real property of any business entity or trust in which the individual, spouse and dependent children own, in the aggregate, a direct, indirect or beneficial interest of 10 percent or greater.~~

~~5. A designated employee's income includes his/her community property interest in the income of his/her spouse but does not include salary or reimbursement for expenses received from a state, local or federal government agency.~~

~~6. Income of a business entity is reportable if the direct, indirect or beneficial interest of the filer and the filer's spouse in the business entity aggregates a ten percent or greater interest. In addition, the disclosure of persons who are clients or customers of a business entity is required only if the clients or customers are within one of the disclosure categories of the filer.~~

Exhibit 9270-E(1): Conflict Of Interest

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: Pending

**Conflict of Interest Code of the
Ventura Unified School District**

The provisions of 2 CCR 18730 and any amendments to it adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, together with the Appendix specifying designated positions and disclosure categories, are incorporated by reference and shall constitute the district's conflict of interest code.

Governing Board members and designated employees shall file a Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 in accordance with the disclosure categories listed in the Appendix. The Statement of Economic Interest shall be filed with the district's filing officer and/or, if so required, with the district's code reviewing body. The district's filing officer shall make the statements available for public review and inspection.

APPENDIX

Disclosure Categories

1. Category 1 - Full Disclosure: A person designated Category 1 shall disclose:

Full Disclosure: Because it has been determined that the district's Board members and/or Superintendent "manage public investments," they and other persons designated for "full disclosure" shall disclose, in accordance with Government Code 87200:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries, or of any land owned or used by the district. Such interests include any leasehold, beneficial or ownership interest or option to acquire such interest in real property.

Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries, or of any land owned or used by the district.

- b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which are engaged in the acquisition or disposal of real property within the district, are contractors or subcontractors which are or have been within the past two years engaged in work or services of the type used by the district, or manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery, or equipment of the type used by the district.

Investments, business positions, and sources of income, including gifts, loans, and travel payments.

2. Category 2: A person designated Category 2 shall disclose:

- a. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which are contractors or subcontractors engaged in work or services of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs.
- b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery, or equipment of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs. For the purposes of this category, a principal's department is his/her entire school.

Designated Positions

# of Positions	Designated Positions Title	Disclosure Category	Filing Officer*
5	Governing Board Members	1	COB
1	Superintendent of Schools	1	COB
3	Associate/Assistant Superintendent	1	VUSD
3	Personnel Commission	1	VUSD
1	General Counsel	1	VUSD
19 18	All Directors (Certificated and Classified)	2	VUSD
27	Principals	2	VUSD
21 20	Assistant Principals	2	VUSD
23	Project Coordinator	2	VUSD
02	Project Specialist	2	VUSD
15 12	Supervisor Manager	2	
0	Consultant	1 or 2**	VUSD

* COB = County Clerk of the Board; VUSD = Ventura Unified School District

Disclosures for Consultants**

Consultants are designated employees who must disclose financial interests as determined on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee's written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements based upon that description. All such determinations are public records and shall be retained for public inspection along with this conflict of interest code.

A consultant is an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, makes a governmental decision whether to: (2 CCR 18701)

1. Approve a rate, rule, or regulation
2. Adopt or enforce a law
3. Issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any permit, license, application, certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization or entitlement
4. Authorize the district to enter into, modify, or renew a contract that requires district approval
5. Grant district approval to a contract or contract specifications which require district approval and in which the district is a party
6. Grant district approval to a plan, design, report, study, or similar item
7. Adopt or grant district approval of district policies, standards, or guidelines

A consultant is also an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, serves in a staff capacity with the district and in that capacity participates in making a governmental decision as defined in 2 CCR 18702.2 or performs the same or substantially all the same duties for the district that would otherwise be performed by an individual holding a position specified in the district's Conflict of Interest Code. (2 CCR 18701)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

2 CCR 18110-18997
 2 CCR 18438.1-18438.8
 2 CCR 18700-18760
 2 CCR 18722-18740
 2 CCR 18753-18756
 Ed. Code 1006
 Ed. Code 35107
 Ed. Code 35230-35240
 Ed. Code 35233
 Ed. Code 41000-41003
 Ed. Code 41015
 Fam. Code 297.5
 Gov. Code 1090-1099
 Gov. Code 1125-1129
 Gov. Code 53234-53235.2
 Gov. Code 81000-91014
 Gov. Code 82011
 Gov. Code 82019
 Gov. Code 82028
 Gov. Code 82030
 Gov. Code 82033
 Gov. Code 82034
 Gov. Code 84308
 Gov. Code 87100-87103.6
 Gov. Code 87200-87210
 Gov. Code 87300-87313
 Gov. Code 87500
 Gov. Code 89501-89503
 Gov. Code 89506
 Gov. Code 91000-91014
 Pen. Code 85-88
 Pub. Cont. Code 6102
 Rev. & Tax Code 203

Description

Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission
 Campaign contribution-based conflicts of interest
 Conflicts of Interest
 Disclosure of interests
 Conflict of interest codes
[Prohibition against school district employees serving on county board of education](#)
[School district employees](#)
[Corrupt practices](#)
[Prohibitions applicable to members of governing boards](#)
[Moneys received by school districts](#)
[Investments](#)
[Rights, protections, and benefits of registered domestic partners](#)
[Prohibitions applicable to specified officers](#)
[Incompatible activities](#)
[Ethics training](#)
[Political Reform Act](#)
[Code reviewing body](#)
[Definition; designated employee](#)
[Definition; gift](#)
[Definition; income](#)
[Definition; interest in real property](#)
[Definition; investment](#)
[Campaign Disclosure](#)
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[Conflict of interest code](#)
[Statement of economic interests](#)
[Honoraria and gifts](#)
[Ethics; travel](#)
[Enforcement](#)
[Bribes](#)
[Bribery of public official; voidable contract](#)
[Taxable and exempt property - colleges](#)

Management Resources References

Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion
 Attorney General Opinion

Description

105 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen.69 (2022)
 63 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 868 (1980)
 65 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 606 (1982)
 68 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 171 (1985)
 69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 255 (1986)

Management Resources References

	Description
Attorney General Opinion	80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 320 (1997)
Attorney General Opinion	81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 327 (1998)
Attorney General Opinion	82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 83 (1999)
Attorney General Opinion	85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 60 (2002)
Attorney General Opinion	86 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 138(2003)
Attorney General Opinion	89 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 217 (2006)
Attorney General Opinion	92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 19 (2009)
Attorney General Opinion	92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (2009)
Court Decision	Davis v. Fresno Unified School District (2015) 237 Cal.App.4th 261
Court Decision	Klistoff v. Superior Court (2007) 157 Cal.App.4th 469
Court Decision	Kunec v. Brea Redevelopment Agency (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 511
Court Decision	McGee v. Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC, et al. (2016) 247 Cal. App. 4th 235
Court Decision	Thorpe v. Long Beach Community College District (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 655
CSBA Publication	Conflict of Interest: Overview of Key Issues for Governing Board Members, Fact Sheet, July 2010
Fair Political Practices Commission Publication	Can I Vote? A Basic Overview of Public Officials' Obligations Under the Conflict-of-Interest Rules, 2005
Institute For Local Government Publication	Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Personal Financial Gain Laws, 2009
Institute for Local Government Publication	Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Transparency Laws, 2009
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Institute for Local Government
Website	Fair Political Practices Commission
Website	CSBA

Cross References

	Description
1340	Access To District Records
1340	Access To District Records
1700	Relations Between Private Industry And The Schools
3230	Federal Grant Funds
3230	Federal Grant Funds
3300	Expenditures And Purchases
3311	Bids
3311	Bids
3400	Management Of District Assets/Accounts
3400	Management Of District Assets/Accounts
3470	Debt Issuance And Management
3600	Consultants
4117.2	Resignation
4136	Nonschool Employment

Cross References**Description**

4217.2	Resignation
4236	Nonschool Employment
4317.2	Resignation
4336	Nonschool Employment
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
6161.1-E(1)	Selection And Evaluation Of Instructional Materials
7140	Architectural And Engineering Services
7140	Architectural And Engineering Services
7214	General Obligation Bonds
7214	General Obligation Bonds
9000	Role Of The Board
9005	Governance Standards
9140	Board Representatives
9200	Limits Of Board Member Authority
9220	Governing Board Elections
9222	Resignation
9230	Orientation
9320	Meetings And Notices
9321	Closed Session
9321-E PDF(1)	Closed Session
9321-E PDF(2)	Closed Session
9323	Meeting Conduct

**Amended
Conflict of Interest Code**

Bylaw 9270: Conflict Of Interest

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/14/2006 | Last Revised Date: 09/24/2024 | Last Reviewed Date: 09/24/2024

The Governing Board desires to maintain the highest ethical standards and help ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the district and the public. Accordingly, no Board member, district employee, or other person in a designated position shall participate in the making of any decision for the district when the decision will or may be affected by the Board member's, district employee's, or other designated persons financial, family, or other personal interest or consideration.

Even if a prohibited conflict of interest does not exist, a Board member shall abstain from voting on personnel matters that uniquely affect the Board member's relatives. However, a Board member may vote on collective bargaining agreements and personnel matters that affect a class of employees to which the Board member's relative belongs. Relative means an adult who is related to the Board member by blood or affinity within the third degree, as determined by the common law, or an individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (Education Code 35107)

A relationship within the third degree includes an individual's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and the similar family of the individual's spouse/registered domestic partner unless the individual is widowed or divorced.

The Board shall adopt for the district a conflict of interest code that incorporates the provisions of 2 CCR 18730 by reference, specifies the district's designated positions, and provides the disclosure categories required for each position. The conflict of interest code shall be submitted to the district's code reviewing body for approval, in accordance with Government Code 87303 and within the deadline for submission established by the code reviewing body. (Government Code 87303)

Upon direction by the code reviewing body, the Board shall review the district's conflict of interest code in even-numbered years, and submit by October 1 any changes to the code reviewing body or, if no change is required, the Board shall submit a written statement to that effect. (Government Code 87306.5)

When a change in the district's conflict of interest code is necessitated by changed circumstances, such as the creation of new designated positions, changes to the duties assigned to existing positions, amendments, or revisions the amended code shall be submitted to the code reviewing body within 90 days after the changed circumstances necessitating the amendments have become apparent. (Government Code 87306)

When reviewing and preparing conflict of interest codes, the Superintendent or designee shall provide officers, employees, consultants and members of the community adequate notice and a fair opportunity to present their views. (Government Code 87311)

Board members and designated employees shall annually file a Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 in accordance with the disclosure categories specified in the district's conflict of interest code. A Board member who leaves office or a designated employee who leaves district employment shall, within 30 days, file a revised statement covering the period of time between the closing date of the last required statement and the date of leaving office or district employment. (Government Code 87302, 87302.6)

Conflict of Interest under the Political Reform Act

A district official, including a Board member, designated employee, or other person in a designated position shall not make, participate in making, or in any way use or attempt to use an official position to influence a governmental decision in which the district official knows or has reason to know that there is a disqualifying conflict of interest. A disqualifying conflict of interest exists if the decision will have a "reasonably foreseeable material financial effect," which is distinguishable from the effect on the public generally, on the district official, the district official's immediate family, or any financial interest described in 2 CCR 18700. (Government Code 87100, 87101, 87103; 2 CCR 18700-18707)

A district official makes a governmental decision when, within the authority of the office or position, the district official authorizes or directs any action on a matter, votes or provides information or opinion on it, contacts or appears before another district official for the purpose of affecting the decision, or takes any other action specified in 2 CCR 18704.

However, a district official shall participate in the making of a contract in which the district official has a financial interest if such participation is required by the rule of necessity or legally required participation pursuant to Government Code 87101 and 2 CCR 18705.

Conflict of Interest from Campaign Contributions

To avoid improper influence over the Board's decision-making involving the issuance of a license, permit, or other entitlements for use, including a contract, district officers, which includes Board members or agency heads, shall comply with Government Code 84308, including the following: (Government Code 84308)

1. A district officer is prohibited from accepting, soliciting, or directing a contribution of more than \$250 from any party or participant to a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, including a contract, or from that person's agent, while the proceeding is pending before the Board and for 12 months following the date a final decision is rendered in the proceeding, if the Board member knows or has reason to know that the party or participant has a financial interest in the Board's decision.
2. Any district officer who received a contribution of more than \$250 from a party or participant in the preceding 12 months shall disclose that fact on the record of the proceeding prior to the Board rendering a decision in the proceeding. If the district officer willfully or knowingly received the contribution and knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest in the Board's decision, the district officer shall not make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use the official position to influence the Board's decision.
3. A district officer who receives a contribution that would otherwise require disqualification as described in Item #2 above may participate in the proceeding if the contribution is returned within 30 days from the time the district officer knows or should have known about the contribution and the proceeding.
4. A district officer who unknowingly accepts, solicits, or directs a contribution of more than \$250 during the 12 months after the date of the Board's final decision on the proceeding may cure the violation by returning the contribution, or the portion exceeding \$250, within 14 days of accepting, soliciting, or directing the contribution, provided the district officer did not knowingly or willfully accept, solicit, or direct the prohibited contribution. The district officer shall maintain records of curing the violation.

The provisions in Government Code 84308 as specified above do not apply to labor contracts, competitively bid contracts, and personal employment contracts. (Government Code 84308)

Additional Requirements for Boards that Manage Public Investments

Any Board member who manages public investments pursuant to Government Code 87200 and who has a financial interest in a decision shall, upon identifying a conflict or potential conflict of interest and immediately prior to the consideration of the matter, do all of the following: (Government Code 87105; 2 CCR 18707)

1. Publicly identify each financial interest that gives rise to the conflict or potential conflict of interest in detail sufficient to be understood by the public, except that disclosure of the exact street address of a residence is not required.
2. Not discuss or vote on the matter, or otherwise act in violation of Government Code 87100. The Board member shall not be counted toward achieving a quorum while the item is discussed.

However, the Board member may speak on the issue during the time that the general public speaks on it and may leave the dais to speak from the same area as members of the public. The Board member may listen to the public discussion and deliberations of the matter with members of the public.

3. Leave the room until after the discussion, vote, and any other disposition of the matter is concluded, unless the matter has been placed on the portion of the agenda reserved for uncontested matters.

If the item is on the consent calendar, the Board member shall either make a motion to remove the item from the consent calendar or the Board member shall abstain from voting on the consent calendar. In any event, the Board member shall refrain from discussing or voting on the item. However, the Board member is not required to leave the room during consideration of the consent calendar.

4. If the Board's decision is made during closed session, disclose the interest orally during the open session

preceding the closed session. This disclosure shall be limited to a declaration that the recusal is because of a conflict of interest pursuant to Government Code 87100. The Board member shall not be present when the item is considered in closed session and shall not knowingly obtain or review a recording or any other nonpublic information regarding the Board's decision.

Conflict of Interest under Government Code 1090 - Financial Interest in a Contract

Board members, employees, or district consultants shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the Board on behalf of the district, including in the development, preliminary discussions, negotiations, compromises, planning, reasoning, and specifications and solicitations for bids. If a Board member has such a financial interest in a contract made by the Board, the contract is void. (Government Code 1090)

A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract in which there is only a "remote interest," as specified in Government Code 1091, if the interest is disclosed during a Board meeting and noted in the official Board minutes. The affected Board member shall not vote or debate on the matter or attempt to influence any other Board member or district official to enter into the contract. (Government Code 1091)

In addition, a Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract in which the interest is a "noninterest" as defined in Government Code 1091.5. Noninterest includes a Board member's interest in being reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties, in the employment of a spouse/registered domestic partner who has been a district employee for at least one year prior to the Board member's election or appointment, or in any other applicable circumstance specified in Government Code 1091.5.

Common Law Doctrine Against Conflict of Interest

A Board member shall abstain from any official action in which the Board member's private or personal interest may conflict with official duties.

Incompatible Offices and Activities

Board members shall not engage in any employment or activity or hold any office which is inconsistent with, incompatible with, in conflict with, or inimical to the Board member's duties as an officer of the district. (Government Code 1099, 1126)

Gifts

Board members and designated employees may accept gifts only under the conditions and limitations specified in Government Code 89503 and 2 CCR 18730.

The limitations on gifts do not apply to wedding gifts and gifts exchanged between individuals on birthdays, holidays and other similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value. (Government Code 89503)

In addition, the limitation on gifts does not apply to informational materials such as books, reports, pamphlets, calendars, and periodicals. (Government Code 82028)

Gifts of travel and related lodging and subsistence shall be subject to the current gift limitation, except when: (Government Code 89506)

1. The travel is in connection with a speech given by a Board member or designated employee, provided the lodging and subsistence expenses are limited to the day immediately preceding, the day of, and the day immediately following the speech and the travel is within the United States.
2. The travel is provided by a person or agency specified in Government Code 89506, including a government, governmental agency or authority, bona fide public or private educational institution, as defined in Revenue and Taxation Code 203, or nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Gifts of travel exempted from the gift limitation, as described in Items #1 and 2 above, shall nevertheless be reportable on the recipient's Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 as required by law.

A gift of travel does not include travel provided by the district for Board members and designated employees. (Government Code 89506)

Honoraria

Board members and designated employees shall not accept any honorarium, which is defined as any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private conference, convention, meeting, social event, meal, or like gathering, in accordance with law. (Government Code 89501, 89502)

The term honorarium does not include: (Government Code 89501)

1. Earned income for personal services customarily provided in connection with a bona fide business, trade or profession unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade or profession is making speeches
2. Any honorarium which is not used and, within 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to the district for donation into the general fund without being claimed as a deduction from income for tax purposes

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

2 CCR 18110-18997

2 CCR 18438.1-18438.8

2 CCR 18700-18760

2 CCR 18722-18740

2 CCR 18753-18756

Ed. Code 1006

Ed. Code 35107

Ed. Code 35230-35240

Ed. Code 35233

Ed. Code 41000-41003

Ed. Code 41015

Fam. Code 297.5

Gov. Code 1090-1099

Gov. Code 1125-1129

Gov. Code 53234-53235.2

Gov. Code 81000-91014

Gov. Code 82011

Gov. Code 82019

Gov. Code 82028

Gov. Code 82030

Gov. Code 82033

Gov. Code 82034

Gov. Code 84308

Gov. Code 87100-87103.6

Gov. Code 87200-87210

Gov. Code 87300-87313

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 63 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 868 (1980)
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 68 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 171 (1985)
 69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 255 (1986)
 80 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 320 (1997)
 81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 327 (1998)
 82 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 83 (1999)
 85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 60 (2002)
 86 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 138(2003)
 89 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 217 (2006)
 92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 19 (2009)
 92 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 26 (2009)
 Davis v. Fresno Unified School District (2015) 237 Cal.App.4th 261
 Klistoff v. Superior Court (2007) 157 Cal.App.4th 469
 Kunec v. Brea Redevelopment Agency (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 511
 McGee v. Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC, et al. (2016) 247 Cal. App. 4th 235
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 Conflict of Interest: Overview of Key Issues for Governing Board Members, Fact Sheet, July 2010
 Can I Vote? A Basic Overview of Public Officials' Obligations Under the Conflict-of-Interest Rules, 2005
 Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Personal Financial Gain Laws, 2009
 Understanding the Basics of Public Service Ethics: Transparency Laws, 2009
[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)
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Exhibit 9270-E(1): Conflict Of Interest

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 09/24/2024 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/24/2024

**Conflict of Interest Code of the
Ventura Unified School District**

The provisions of 2 CCR 18730 and any amendments to it adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, together with the Appendix specifying designated positions and disclosure categories, are incorporated by reference and shall constitute the district's conflict of interest code.

Governing Board members and designated employees shall file a Statement of Economic Interest/Form 700 in accordance with the disclosure categories listed in the Appendix. The Statement of Economic Interest shall be filed with the district's filing officer and/or, if so required, with the district's code reviewing body. The district's filing officer shall make the statements available for public review and inspection.

APPENDIX

Disclosure Categories

1. Category 1 - Full Disclosure: A person designated Category 1 shall disclose:

Full Disclosure: Because it has been determined that the district's Board members and/or Superintendent "manage public investments," they and other persons designated for "full disclosure" shall disclose, in accordance with Government Code 87200:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries, or of any land owned or used by the district.
- b. Investments, business positions, and sources of income, including gifts, loans, and travel payments.

2. Category 2: A person designated Category 2 shall disclose:

- a. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which are contractors or subcontractors engaged in work or services of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs.
- b. Investments or business positions in or income from sources which manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery, or equipment of the type used by the department which the designated person manages or directs. For the purposes of this category, a principal's department is his/her entire school.

Designated Positions

# of Positions	Designated Positions	Disclosure Category	Filing Officer*
5	Governing Board Member	1	COB
1	Superintendent of Schools	1	COB
3	Associate/Assistant Superintendent	1	VUSD
3	Personnel Commission	1	VUSD
1	General Counsel	1	VUSD
19	All Directors (Certificated and Classified)	2	VUSD
27	Principal	2	VUSD
21	Assistant Principal	2	VUSD
2	Project Coordinator	2	VUSD
0	Project Specialist	2	VUSD
15	Supervisor Manager	2	
0	Consultant	1 or 2**	VUSD

* COB = County Clerk of the Board; VUSD = Ventura Unified School District

Disclosures for Consultants**

Consultants are designated employees who must disclose financial interests as determined on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee's written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements based upon that description. All such determinations are public records and shall be retained for public inspection along with this conflict of interest code.

A consultant is an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, makes a governmental decision whether to: (2 CCR 18701)

1. Approve a rate, rule, or regulation
2. Adopt or enforce a law
3. Issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any permit, license, application, certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization or entitlement
4. Authorize the district to enter into, modify, or renew a contract that requires district approval
5. Grant district approval to a contract or contract specifications which require district approval and in which the district is a party
6. Grant district approval to a plan, design, report, study, or similar item
7. Adopt or grant district approval of district policies, standards, or guidelines

A consultant is also an individual who, pursuant to a contract with the district, serves in a staff capacity with the district and in that capacity participates in making a governmental decision as defined in 2 CCR 18702.2 or performs the same or substantially all the same duties for the district that would otherwise be performed by an individual holding a position specified in the district's Conflict of Interest Code. (2 CCR 18701)

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2 CCR 18110-18997
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