

Excerpts from Title V of the California Code of Regulations regarding Academic Senates:

Section 53200 – Definitions

For the purpose of this Subchapter:

(a) "Faculty" means those employees of a community college district who are employed in positions that are not designated as supervisory or management for the purposes of Article 5 (commencing with Section 3540) of Chapter 10.7 of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code, and for which minimum qualifications for hire are specified by the Board of Governors.

(b) "Academic senate," "faculty council," and "faculty senate" means an organization formed in accordance with the provisions of this Subchapter whose primary function, as the representative of the faculty, is to make recommendations to the administration of a college and to the governing board of a district with respect to academic and professional matters. For purposes of this Subchapter, reference to the term "academic senate" also constitutes reference to "faculty council" or "faculty senate."

(c) "Academic and professional matters" means the following policy development and implementation matters:

- (1) curriculum, including establishing prerequisites and placing courses within disciplines;
- (2) degree and certificate requirements;
- (3) grading policies;
- (4) educational program development;
- (5) standards or policies regarding student preparation and success;
- (6) district and college governance structures, as related to faculty roles;
- (7) faculty roles and involvement in accreditation processes, including self-study and annual reports;
- (8) policies for faculty professional development activities;
- (9) processes for program review;
- (10) processes for institutional planning and budget development; and
- (11) other academic and professional matters as are mutually agreed upon between the governing board and the academic senate.

(d) "Consult collegially" means that the district governing board shall develop policies on academic and professional matters through either or both of the following methods, according to its own discretion:

- (1) relying primarily upon the advice and judgment of the academic senate; or
- (2) agreeing that the district governing board, or such representatives as it may designate, and the representatives of the academic senate shall have the obligation to reach mutual agreement by written resolution, regulation, or policy of the governing board effectuating such recommendations.

Section 53201 - Academic Senate or Faculty Council

In order that the faculty may have a formal and effective procedure for participating in the formation and implementation of district policies on academic and professional matters, an academic senate may be established at the college and/or district level.

Section 53202 - Formation; Procedures; Membership

The following procedure shall be used to establish an academic senate:

- (a) The full-time faculty of a community college shall vote by secret ballot to form an academic senate.
- (b) In multi-college districts, the full-time faculty of the district colleges may vote on whether or not to form a district academic senate. Such vote shall be by secret ballot.
- (c) The governing board of a district shall recognize the academic senate and authorize the faculty to:
 - (1) Fix and amend by vote of the full-time faculty the composition, structure, and procedures of the academic senate.
 - (2) Provide for the selection, in accordance with accepted democratic election procedures, the members of the academic senate.
- (d) The full-time faculty may provide for the membership and participation of part-time faculty members in the academic senate.
- (e) In the absence of any full-time faculty members in a community college, the part-time faculty of such community college may form an academic senate.

Section 53206 - Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

- (a) An Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges has been established through ratification by local academic senates or faculty councils so that the community college faculty of California may have a formal and effective procedure for participating in the formation of state policies on academic and professional matters.
- (b) The Board of Governors recognizes the Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges as the representative of community college academic senates or faculty councils before the Board of Governors and Chancellor's Office.