



# SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Policy  
0900

October 14, 1998

## GIFTS AND HONORARIA

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### POLICY

In accordance with the authority granted by California Education Code Section 70902, the Board hereby adopts the following policy with respect to the taking of gifts or honoraria as defined by the Political Reform Act (Government Code Sections: 89501-89504).

#### Gifts

No member of, nor candidate for membership on, the Board of Trustees, nor any employee designated by the Board in the District Conflict of Interest Code be within the mandate of this policy, shall accept any gifts from a single source in any calendar year, in excess of the amount declared by the California Fair Political Practices Commission.

The amount so declared as of the date of this policy is established is \$280. The Commission is authorized to adjust this amount biannually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.

A gift is any payment to the extent that consideration of greater or equal value is not received and includes discounts or rebates in the price of anything of value, unless made in the regular course of business to members of the general public.

This prohibition, shall not limit:

1. Wedding gifts and gifts exchanged between individuals on birthdays, holidays, or similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value; or
2. The payment, reimbursement, or advance of travel expenses and associated lodging and subsistence, related to a legislative, governmental, or public purpose if: the travel is in connection with a speech given by the Board member or employee within the United States and the payment, advance or, reimbursement of lodging or subsistence expense is limited to the day immediately preceding, the day of, and the day immediately following the speech; or,

3. Travel provided by a governmental agency or authority, by a nonprofit, tax exempt charitable or religious organization, or by a person domiciled outside the United States which substantially satisfies the requirements for tax exempt status.

#### Honorarium

No member of, nor candidate for membership on, the Board of Trustees, nor any employee designated by the Board in the District Conflict of Interest Code may accept an honorarium.

Honorarium means 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.

Honorarium does not include:

1. Earned income for personal services customarily provided in connection with the practice of a bona fide business, trade, or profession, unless the predominant activity of the business is making speeches.
2. Any honorarium not used and, within 30 days after receipt, is returned to the donor or delivered to the State Controller for donation to the General Fund, without being claimed as a deduction for tax purposes.

However, the Board of Trustees or designated employees may designate an educational or charitable institution as recipient of any Honoraria, gratuitously offered, in accordance with 2 CCR, Section 18932.5 and currently adopted criteria of the California Fair Political Practices Commission.

SUPERSEDES: 8/24/95