



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY**

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Board Operations

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO  
THE BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Adopted:** July 13, 1973

**Amended:** July 9, 1976; December 8, 1989; May 8, 1992; February 12, 1999; March 12, 2004; February 10, 2006; March 13, 2009; September 9, 2011; March 28, 2014

**Technical Change:** August 21, 2013; May 26, 2016

**Supersedes:** (see end of policy)

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS**

**SECTION I. ROLE AND DUTIES.**

The role of student representatives to the Board of Regents (Board) is to present the student voice to the Board as it fulfills its governance responsibilities. Student representatives do this through semester reports and as non-voting members of the Board's standing committees.

Student representatives have the following duties:

- Attend all meetings of the student representatives;
- Prepare for and participate in all regular meetings of assigned Board committees;
- Observe Board committee meetings when not participating on an assigned committee;
- Observe meetings of the full Board whenever possible; and
- Contribute ideas, time, and expertise toward the team effort to successfully develop and deliver semester reports to the Board.

The student representatives are an important part of the University's shared governance process.

**SECTION II. REPRESENTATION AND SELECTION.**

**Subd. 1. Representation.** There will be eight student representatives. Four students will be selected from the Twin Cities campus and one student each from the Crookston, Duluth, Morris, and Rochester campuses.

Of the Twin Cities representatives, at least one student must be a member of either the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) or the Professional Student Government (PSG) and at least two students must be members of the Minnesota Student Association (MSA).

**Subd. 2. Selection Process.** The four student representatives from the Twin Cities campus will be selected by COGS, PSG, and MSA. The four student representatives from the Crookston, Duluth, Morris, and Rochester campuses will be selected by the Crookston Student Association, University of Minnesota Duluth Student Association, Morris Campus Student Association, and Rochester Student Association.

Policies for student representative selection shall be created by the relevant student group but will include the criteria for selection outlined in this policy.

**Subd. 3. Selection Criteria.** At time of selection, student representatives must be full-time, degree-seeking students (as defined by the University) and have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA.



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Ideal student representatives will possess the following attributes:

- Ability to set aside parochial interests and articulate the student voice on the widest array of student concerns;
- Willingness to collaborate with other students to produce timely and impactful student representative reports;
- Ability to think strategically about issues before the Board and articulate questions or comments in a formal meeting setting;
- Reliability and follow-through; and
- Understanding of or willingness to learn about University governance.

**Subd. 4. Term of Office.** Student representatives must be selected during the spring semester of each year. They assume office September 1 of that year and serve through June 30 of the next year, or until replaced.

Student representatives may serve no more than two terms.

**Subd. 5. Orientation.** The Board Office will provide an orientation for incoming student representatives prior to their participation in a Board meeting. Orientation is required for every student representative.

### **SECTION III. LEADERSHIP.**

**Subd. 1. Leadership Elections.** During orientation, the student representatives must elect a chair and a vice chair. Officer terms are September 1 of the election year through June 30 of the following year.

Each campus is limited to one leadership position in a given term. Leadership positions are elected by secret ballot and require a simple majority. The Board Office will coordinate leadership elections.

**Subd. 2. Responsibilities of the Chair.** The chair serves as the representatives' main point of contact with the Board Office; determines all committee assignments; leads each meeting of the student representatives; determines and records excused and unexcused absences; assigns replacement representatives in cases of absence; coordinates development of semester reports to the Board; determines who delivers each report; and responds to all media inquiries on behalf of the student representatives.

The vice chair serves as chair in the chair's absence.

### **SECTION IV. ABSENCES, VACANCIES AND REMOVAL.**

The effectiveness of the student representatives group is hindered by absences and mid-year vacancies. Student representatives are expected to commit the time necessary to attend all regular meetings of the Board's committees during their term of office.

**Subd. 1. Absences.** Advance notice to the chair of the student representatives is required for any absence. Each cohort of student representatives will determine the amount of notice required for an absence to be excused.



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Any unexcused absence or two or more excused absences shall be considered grounds for removal from the student representatives program.

In the event of an absence that leaves a committee with only one student representative, the chair of the student representatives will assign another representative to fulfill the responsibilities of the absent representative for that committee meeting.

**Subd. 2. Vacancies.** In the event of a vacancy lasting no more than two consecutive committee meetings, the chair of the student representatives will assign a current student representative to fulfill the vacated committee assignments. If at least three committee meetings remain in the unexpired term, a replacement must be selected by the selecting body to serve the remainder of the term.

**Subd. 3. Removals.** A student representative may be removed for absences or nonperformance of duties by a two-thirds majority vote of the student representatives and concurrence from the selecting body, or in accordance with actions by or procedures of the student group that selected the student representative.

**SECTION V. BOARD MEETINGS.**

**Subd. 1. Committee Assignments.** Two representatives will be assigned by the chair of the student representatives to each of the following committees of the Board: Audit, Academic and Student Affairs, Facilities and Operations, Faculty and Staff Affairs, and Finance.

Student representatives will be assigned to standing committees of the Board only.

**Subd. 2. Docket Materials.** Student representatives are responsible for obtaining and reading relevant docket materials before each meeting.

**Subd. 3. Voting.** Student representatives are non-voting committee members.

**Subd. 4. Reports.** Student representatives may present a report to the Board each semester. The Board Office must approve all report topics and the methods for collecting data or requesting information. The Board Office will review each semester report before it is included in the docket, and has the authority to edit any portion of the report.

**Subd. 5. Expense Reimbursement.** Expenses of student representatives related to Board meetings will be reimbursed by the Board Office in accordance with existing University expense policies and Board Office guidelines.

**Supersedes:** The Role of Alternates dated February 11, 1977; Student Representatives to the Board of Regents dated December 8, 1989; Student Representative to the Committee of the Whole dated December 9, 1977; and Twin Cities Representatives dated December 10, 1976.