



BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY: ***Employees Campaigning for or Holding Public Office***

SECTION I. SCOPE.

This policy governs the activities of University of Minnesota (University) employees who campaign for and/or hold public office.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS.

Subd. 1. Public Office.

Public Office shall mean an elected or appointed position within a public/governmental organization. Such positions include, but are not limited to, elected officials at a municipal, county, state, or national level and appointments to public office, governing boards, or commissions.

SECTION III. GUIDING PRINCIPLES.

Subd. 1. Right to Hold Office.

University employees have the right to campaign for and hold public office.

Subd. 2. Public Service.

The University encourages its employees to engage in public service, including holding public office.

Subd. 3. Employee Obligation to the University.

Campaigning for or holding public office must be balanced with an employee's primary job responsibilities.

SECTION IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYEES.

Subd. 1. Consultation with Collegiate and Administrative Units.

A University employee shall consult with the appropriate college or administrative unit prior to initiating a candidacy for or appointment to public office. These consultations shall occur well in advance of any anticipated service and shall focus on whether the temporary suspension of some portion of an employee's responsibilities can be accomplished in a manner that does not interfere with the employee's primary job responsibilities.

