



Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force

Advocates for Orange County's Community College Students

Guiding Principles

Mission Statement

The mission of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force (OCLTF) is to identify common advocacy areas and educate and inform elected representatives and all other community stakeholders regarding community college issues and how they affect the four districts in Orange County: Coast Community College District, North Orange County Community College District; Rancho Santiago Community College District, and South Orange County Community College District. The Task Force will concentrate its efforts on local representatives; and, when necessary, the Governor, Secretary of Education, and the California Community College Board of Governors.

Objectives

The objectives of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force are:

- Share information on legislation affecting community colleges at the state and federal levels
- Familiarize task force members with state and federal legislative agendas
- Agree on legislative direction

Membership

The task force shall consist of the following representatives:

- 4 Trustees (one from each district)
- 4 Chancellors (one from each district)
- 4 Public/Government Affairs Directors (one from each district)
- 4 Community Representatives (one from each district)
 - Student, Classified Staff, Faculty, Community/Business Member

Each district shall select its representatives. Faculty, classified, and student representatives from each district will be invited to participate on the task force as needs arise. These invitations will be based on the criterion of specific expertise or experience that benefits the task force policy agenda.

Each district should appoint or designate an alternate for each trustee representative. Alternates should attend meetings when the appointed trustee must be absent.

Role of the Trustee Representative

The trustee representative is charged with keeping the other trustees on his or her board informed of task force issues and activities. Each trustee communicates with the other board members at his/her district to encourage participation in task force activities such as legislative visits, letter writing, fax, and phone campaigns. Each district appoints a trustee representative and an alternate to the task force each academic year.

Role of the Chancellor

The chancellor representative to the task force keeps management, faculty, and other staff members informed of task force issues and activities. This is usually done through existing intra-district communication channels and shared-governance processes to encourage information sharing and

participation in letter writing, fax, and phone campaigns. The chancellors also take turns hosting the task force, with this responsibility rotating annually. The chancellor from each district serves on the task force each year.

Role of the Public/Government Affairs Director

The public/government affairs director representative to the task force assists the chancellor of each district in keeping management, faculty, and other staff members informed of task force issues and activities. This is usually done through existing intra-district communication channels and shared-governance processes to encourage information sharing and participation in letter writing, fax, and phone campaigns. The public/government affairs directors also assist their respective chancellors the years they are responsible for hosting the task force. The public/government affairs director from each district serves on the task force each year.

Role of the Community Representative

This representative serves as a liaison between the task force and representative constituents. These may include, but are not limited to, community groups, business leaders, student groups, faculty groups and classified staff. Each district appoints one representative to the task force each academic year. The founding task force cited an ideal membership composed of: one student, one faculty member, one classified member and one community/business member.

Logistics

Meetings

The Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force will meet monthly at the host institution. Agendas and minutes from all meetings shall be maintained by the district serving as chair.

Meetings are usually held the second Thursday of the month. The first meeting is typically held in August, at which the task force shall determine the goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Goals should be limited to three to five issues. The following meetings shall be to implement the goals and objectives.

Meetings shall continue until the spring semester ends. The meeting schedule should coordinate with the legislative calendar and will vary according to planned activities and the need for task force consultation and legislative visits.

Chair

The Chair of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force will rotate each year per the following schedule:

2022-2023	North Orange County CCD
2023-2024	Rancho Santiago CCD
2024-2025	South Orange County CCD
2025-2026	Coast CCD

Reports from Legislative Advocate

The district that is chairing the Legislative Task Force for the year usually directs their legislative advocate to serve as the point of contact for state and federal updates to the group. The advocate will analyze and present all bills and resolutions that might impact California community colleges, and coordinate with the OCLTF to formulate any legislative position statements or letters. Following the direction set by the Task Force, the legislative advocate will represent the interests of the members to the Legislature, governor, Congress, the White House, and other regulatory agencies.

Legislative Outreach

Outreach efforts of the Orange County Community Colleges Legislative Task Force include:

- Individual legislative meetings in district legislative offices
- Individual or group legislative meetings in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.
- Utilize advocacy days through the CCLC and AACC
- Coordinated position letters/statements on legislation
- Coordinated press strategy on events (press releases, newsletters, etc.)
- Develop and distribute socioeconomic impact study to market the value of a community college education