



Date of Board Meeting: February 17, 2026

Subject: TASB Localized Policy Manual, Update 50

Consideration and approval of the addition, revision, or deletion of (LOCAL) policies as recommended by TASB Community College Services for TASB Localized Policy Manual Update 50 for Wharton County Junior College.

Recommendation: Approve the addition, revision, or deletion of (LOCAL) policies as recommended by TASB Community College Services.

Background and Rationale:

Update 50 to the Wharton County Junior College localized policy contains new or revised **(LEGAL)** policies citing current legal requirements and new or revised **(LOCAL)** policy recommendations. The Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50 Explanatory Notes (document attached) contains a full listing of the (LEGAL) and (LOCAL) policies affected. To view the full language of the Update 50 local policies, scan the QR code on the last page of the supporting documents of this item.

(LEGAL) policies reflect the ever-changing legal context for governance and management of the community college and are not adopted by the Board. (LEGAL) policies are revised by the TASB Legal staff attorneys and posted to the Wharton County Junior College Board Policy Manual, located on the WCJC website.

(LOCAL) policies reflect the practices of the college and the intentions of the Board, and may only be changed by Board action (adopt, revise, or repeal). Update 50 contains twenty-seven (LOCAL) policies for the Board to consider:

- **BAA (LOCAL): College District Governance: Board Legal Status**
- **BBE (LOCAL): Board Members: Authority**
- **BD (LOCAL): Board Meetings**
- **BGC (LOCAL): Administrative Organization: Councils and Faculty Senates**
- **CDB (LOCAL): Accounting: Inventories**
- **CL (LOCAL): Facilities Planning**
- **CM (LOCAL): Facilities Construction**
- **CRB (LOCAL): Technology Resources: Artificial Intelligence**
- **CS (LOCAL): Information Security**
- **DC (LOCAL): Employment Practices**
- **DGBA (LOCAL): Personnel-Management Relations: Employee Grievances**
- **DGC (LOCAL): Employee Rights and Privileges: Employee Expression and Use of College Facilities**
- **DH (LOCAL): Employee Standards of Conduct**
- **DHB (LOCAL): Employee Standards of Conduct: Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting**



- DJA (LOCAL): Assignment, Work Load, and Schedules: Telework
- DM (LOCAL): Termination of Employment
- EFAA (LOCAL): Instructional Programs and Courses: Academic Courses
- EFB (LOCAL): Curriculum Design: Degrees and Certificates
- EGA (LOCAL): Academic Achievement: Grading and Credit
- FB (LOCAL): Admissions
- FC (LOCAL): Registration and Attendance
- FLA (LOCAL): Student Rights and Responsibilities: Student Expression and Use of College Facilities
- FLB (LOCAL): Student Rights and Responsibilities: Student Conduct
- FLBE (LOCAL): Student Conduct: Alcohol and Drug Use
- FLD (LOCAL): Student Rights and Responsibilities: Student Complaints
- GB (LOCAL): Public Complaints and Hearings
- GD (LOCAL): Community Expression and Use of College Facilities

These twenty-seven (LOCAL) policies have been reviewed by administration and are submitted to the Board for consideration and possible approval.

Budgetary Implications: \$8,584.80

The cost of the Community College Localized Update 50 packet/service is invoiced at \$8,424.00 plus Update 50 Printing/Shipping 1072 pages @ .15 each (\$160.80), for a total cost of \$8,584.80.

Strategic Priority Alignment:

☐ Student Success

☐ Community Impact

☐ Resource Optimization

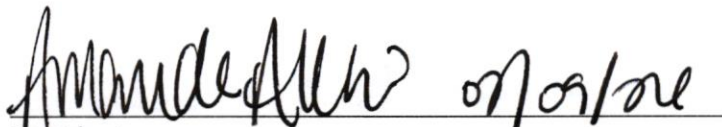
☒ Institutional Excellence

Resource Personnel:

Dr. Mike R. Wilkinson, Chief of Staff

Dr. Kay Shoppa, Legislative Assistant to the President

Approval:



President

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Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
ATTN	(NOTE)	No policy enclosed	See explanatory note
A18	(INTRO)	Replace introduction	Revised introduction
AB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
AD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
AF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
AFA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
B	(LEGAL)	Replace table of contents	Revised table of contents
BA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BA	(LOCAL)	DELETE policy	See explanatory note
BAA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BAA	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
BAAA	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
BBB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BBBA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BBD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BBE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BBE	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BD	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BDB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BFB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
BGC	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
BGC	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
BI	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAAA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAAB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAI	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAID	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAK	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CAL	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy

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Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
CDA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CDB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CDC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CFE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CFF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CFG	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CGA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CGC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CGE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CGFA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CGFC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CH	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CHC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CHF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CIB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CJ	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CK	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CKD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CL	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
CL	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
CM	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CM	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CRA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CRB	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
CRB	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
CS	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
CS	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
D	(LEGAL)	Replace table of contents	Revised table of contents
DBA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DC	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DCA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DCB	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note

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Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
DEA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DEB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DGBA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DGBA	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DGBA	(EXHIBIT)	Review exhibit	Revise as necessary
DGC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DGC	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DH	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DH	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DHB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DHB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DI	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DIAA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DJ	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DJA	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
DJA	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
DK	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DLA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
DM	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EBA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
ECC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EF	(LEGAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
EFA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFAA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFAA	(LOCAL)	ADD policy	See explanatory note
EFAB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFBA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFBB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFCC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFCE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EFCF	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EGA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy

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Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
EGA	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EGC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EI	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
EJC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
F	(LEGAL)	Replace table of contents	Revised table of contents
FB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FC	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FD	(EXHIBIT)	Replace exhibit	Revised exhibit
FEA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FEB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FFAA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FFC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FFDA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FJ	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLA	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLBD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLBE	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLBE	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLC	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLD	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
FLD	(EXHIBIT)	Review exhibit	Revise as necessary
FM	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GB	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GB	(EXHIBIT)	Review exhibit	Revise as necessary
GCA	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GCB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GD	(LOCAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy

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Code	Type	Action To Be Taken	Note
GG	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GGB	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GGD	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GH	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GK	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy
GL	(LEGAL)	Replace policy	Revised policy

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ATTN(NOTE)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS UPDATE

Revisions to legal frameworks incorporate clarification of existing materials and new materials arising from the 89th Regular Legislative Session and second special session, as well as amendments to state rules.

Unless otherwise noted, references to legislative bills throughout these explanatory notes refer to Senate Bills (SB) or House Bills (HB) from the 89th Regular Legislative Session. All referenced bills have already gone into effect unless otherwise noted.

A18(INTRO)

INTRODUCTION

The introduction has been revised to use the term legal framework throughout to refer to legal materials in the college's policy manual. It has also been revised to clarify that the term *section* in the manual is used to reference the topic addressed at a left-aligned margin note, and the terms *provision* and *paragraph* refer to the subtopics addressed at the indented margin notes under each main margin note.

AB(LEGAL)

COLLEGE DISTRICT NAME AND DEFINITIONS

Revisions incorporate the repeal of Coordinating Board rules addressing the procedure for Filing and Change of Name for a community college.

AD(LEGAL)

EDUCATIONAL ROLE, MISSION, PURPOSE, AND RESPONSIBILITY

Revisions at Purpose incorporate the repeal of Coordinating Board rules addressing the development of a community college's purpose, role, and mission statement.

At Institutional Responsibility, a citation has been updated to incorporate revisions to the Education Code by SB 37, which addresses the governance and oversight of institutions of higher education.

AF(LEGAL)

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

SB 37 establishes the Coordinating Board Office of the Ombudsman to investigate complaints submitted by students, faculty, and staff that a community college or other institution of higher education has failed to comply with certain Education Code requirements.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

AFA(LEGAL)

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS: PERFORMANCE AND INSTITUTION REPORTS

The link to the Coordinating Board Management Reporting and Procedures Manual for Texas Community, Technical, and State Colleges for the purposes of Academic Reporting has been updated to the most recent version.

B(LEGAL)

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

The table of contents has been updated to accommodate the reorganization of policies related to local governance. Legal framework BA now addresses College District Governance. Content on Board Legal Status in legal framework BA has been moved to legal framework BAA, and content on the board's Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities from legal framework BAA has been moved to new policy code BAAA.

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BA(LEGAL) COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

This legal framework now addresses College District Governance. SB 37 requires a community college to be governed by the principle of Shared Governance.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

Language related to Board Legal Status has been moved to legal framework BAA.

BA(LOCAL) COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNANCE

Language from this policy has been moved to policy BAA to accommodate the reorganization of policies related to college district governance.

BAA(LEGAL) COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNANCE: BOARD LEGAL STATUS

Language from BA on Board Legal Status has been moved to this legal framework to accommodate the reorganization of policies related to college district governance.

BAA(LOCAL) COLLEGE DISTRICT GOVERNANCE: BOARD LEGAL STATUS

Language from policy BA has been moved to this policy to accommodate the reorganization of policies related to college district governance.

If your college had content at this policy code, that content has been moved to policy BAAA.

BAAA(LEGAL) BOARD LEGAL STATUS: POWERS, DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES

Language from BAA on the board of trustees' Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities has been moved to this legal framework to accommodate the reorganization of policies related to college district governance.

HB 1620 redesignated several statutes, resulting in citation changes at Regulation of Energy Sources and Regulation of Engines.

SB 1362 prohibits community colleges from engaging in the Regulation of Extreme Risk Protective Orders by restricting a person's access to a firearm under certain conditions.

At the Note, a cross reference to policy GH has been added to address HB 2674, which prohibits educational institutions from adopting a policy that allows regulation of home schools.

SB 37 requires the board to conduct a Curriculum Review every five years to ensure courses meet certain standards. It requires the board to approve or deny the hiring of a Provost and permits the board to overturn a hiring decision for the position of Vice President or Dean. The board must submit a Report on its actions to the legislature. The bill also establishes the office of the ombudsman at the Coordinating Board to ensure institutions of higher education are in Compliance with new requirements and may penalize the college by Withholding Funds. These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

BBB(LEGAL) BOARD MEMBERS: ELECTIONS

At General Election Dates, SB 1494 allows certain political subdivisions that hold a general election on a date other than the November uniform election date to change the date of the general election to the November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.

Education Code 130.082 requires community colleges to hold elections in even-numbered years; this requirement has been included for clarity at Methods of Election.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

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BBBA(LEGAL)

ELECTIONS: CONDUCTING AN ELECTION

At Election Order, Election Notice, and Temporary Branch, SB 2753 modifies election procedures, including by consolidating the early voting period and election day to establish a single voting period.

SB 506 requires the language of Propositions to be clear and neutral to ensure voters are not misled.

HB 521 modifies procedures for curbside voting to accommodate voters with a disability, including by prohibiting Electioneering within 20 feet of a parking space designated for curbside voting.

HB 3909 reduces the radius of the prohibition on wireless communication devices to prohibit devices only in a room in which voting is taking place.

Citations have also been updated throughout the framework.

BBD(LEGAL)

BOARD MEMBERS: ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

SB 37 requires the Training Content for new board members to include an overview of the legislature, the General Appropriations Act, and the state budget and an emphasis on the commitment board members are making to the college, the state, and taxpayers.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

HB 1500 amends the Cybersecurity Training requirement to clarify that the requirement applies to each elected or appointed official who has access to the college's information resources or information resources technologies.

HB 150 redesignates sections related to Cybersecurity Training.

Additional Exceptions have been added to clarify the officials who are not subject to the cybersecurity training requirements.

BBE(LEGAL)

BOARD MEMBERS: AUTHORITY

HB 4310 codifies board members' right to Access to Information when acting in the board members' official capacity. It establishes procedures for granting access to Confidential Information.

Additional changes were made for clarity.

BBE(LOCAL)

BOARD MEMBERS: AUTHORITY

Recommended revisions to this policy address HB 4310, which establishes a procedure for board members to access records maintained by the college while preserving the Confidentiality of those records.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

BD(LEGAL)

BOARD MEETINGS

At Time of Notice and Accessibility, HB 1522 updates the requirements for the notice required by the Open Meetings Act before holding a board meeting. The notice must be posted for at least three business days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The bill requires that, at a Meeting at Which Board Will Discuss or Adopt Budget, the meeting will include a discussion or adoption of the budget, the notice must include a physical copy of the proposed budget, unless the proposed budget is clearly accessible on the college's website. The notice must also include a taxpayer impact statement.

At Meeting to Cancel Bond Election Due to Disaster, HB 2253 addresses procedures for a board meeting convened solely to deliberate whether to cancel a bond election due to the issuance of a disaster declaration.

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BD(LOCAL) BOARD MEETINGS

Recommended revisions to this policy incorporate HB 1522, which updates the meeting notice requirements under the Open Meetings Act to require that notice of a meeting be posted three business days before the scheduled date of a meeting, at Notice to Members.

BDA(LEGAL) BOARD MEETINGS: CLOSED MEETINGS

HB 3112 allows a board of trustees to deliberate in a closed meeting a measure, policy, or contract intended to address Cybersecurity to Protect a Critical Infrastructure Facility.

Additional changes were made for clarity.

BDB(LEGAL) BOARD MEETINGS: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

HB 5238 expands the offense of disrupting a lawful meeting or procession to include the Disruption of a virtual meeting or virtual component of an in-person meeting and to clarify that the disturbance may be electronic.

BF(LEGAL) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SB 37 requires Executive Search Committees for community college presidents and chancellors to include at least two members of the board of trustees with at least one member serving as chair.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

BFB(LEGAL) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: CONTRACT

A Note has been added to reference DEA, which incorporates requirements related to the content and publication of severance agreements established in HB 762 and SB 2237.

BGC(LEGAL) ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION: COUNCILS AND FACULTY SENATES

SB 37 establishes requirements for a Faculty Council or Senate, including requirements related to eligibility, Authority, Compensation or Reimbursement, Term Limits, Officers, Meetings, and Removal of council or senate members, as well as a prohibition on the restriction of a faculty member's right to Freedom of Association.

These provisions are effective September 1, 2025.

BGC(LOCAL) ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION: COUNCILS AND FACULTY SENATES

This new local policy addresses SB 37, which establishes the requirements for a Faculty Senate, including requirements related to Membership, Officers, Compensation, Governing Documents, Faculty Senate Meetings, Communications, as well as the requirement that policies and procedures remain in Harmony with Law.

At Removal, recommended language incorporates the requirement from the bill that a member may be removed on recommendation of the provost. The title for the employee who serves in the role as provost reflects the information submitted by the college.

A fill-in specifying the number of representatives of each academic unit that will serve on the faculty senate has been added. The policy issued to the college recommends that each academic unit be repre-

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mented by three members. To update the number of faculty members who will represent each academic unit of the college, please contact your college's policy consultant.

BI(LEGAL)

REPORTS

SB 37 requires a board to annually submit a report to named officials regarding the hiring decisions for the position of vice president or dean. A community college is required to annually submit a report to the board regarding changes to the college's general education curriculum. The college president is required to conduct annual evaluations of certain individuals and report any decision to remove an individual to the board. These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

HB 3526 requires a college to submit reports to the Bond Review Board regarding certain bond election information and the amount of voter-approved but unissued bonds.

HB 1500 requires a college to report the results of the data governance assessment to the Department of Information Resources and certain elected officials upon request.

A college is required to report the academic duties and services performed by each member of the faculty to the board under existing law.

SB 3909 requires the report to the Coordinating Board and the legislature related to students who transferred to a general academic teaching institution to include students who completed a field of study curriculum.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

CAAA(LEGAL)

STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES: STATE

At Appropriations, revisions have been made to incorporate recently adopted Coordinating Board rules that clarify the limits on corrections to data used in calculating community college formula funding.

CAAB(LEGAL)

STATE AND FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES: FEDERAL

Revisions have been made to incorporate amendments to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services rules that give regulatory affect to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance.

CAD(LEGAL)

APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE SOURCES: BOND ISSUES

SB 506 requires the language of Propositions to be clear and neutral to ensure voters are not misled.

At Cancellation of Election Due to a Disaster, HB 2253 permits a college to cancel a bond election by the 74th day before election day if the governor issues a disaster declaration within 90 days before the election and describes the required procedure.

HB 4395, effective January 1, 2026, addresses the documentation that must be submitted electronically for Attorney General Review and Approval.

HB 3526 requires a college to provide a Bond Election Report and an Unissued Securities Report to the Bond Review Board and describe the Bond Database maintained by the Bond Review Board.

HB 103 requires a college to provide certain current and historical data to the comptroller for the purposes of the development of a Bond, Tax, and Project Database.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

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CAI(LEGAL) APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE SOURCES: AD VALOREM TAXES

HB 3093 addresses the Addendum Requirement for Certain College Districts that meet specific criteria and exclude certain information from the Tax Rate Calculation for the community college as well as information included in the Property Tax Database.

SB 1025 requires a Proposition in an election on a tax rate increase to include a statement declaring that the proposition is a tax increase.

HB 103 requires a college to provide certain current and historical data to the comptroller for the purposes of the development of a Bond, Tax, and Project Database.

CAID(LEGAL) AD VALOREM TAXES: APPRAISAL DISTRICT

At Ownership or Lease of Real Property, SB 2073 permits an appraisal district board of directors to finance a purchase or construction related to improvements necessary to operate the appraisal office without the approval of relevant taxing units and provides that, if a governing body fails to timely act on certain proposals, the proposal will be treated as approved.

CAK(LEGAL) APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE SOURCES: INVESTMENTS

At Investments in Scrutinized Companies, HB 34 prohibits a college from acquiring a security issued by a country of concern or an entity controlled by or under the jurisdiction of a country of concern and requires notice of divestment to scrutinized companies.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

CAL(LEGAL) APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE SOURCES: SALE, TRADE, OR LEASE OF COLLEGE-OWNED PROPERTY

Revisions include language related to the Right to Repurchase property by a person from whom a real property interest is acquired through eminent domain. HB 2011 expands the situations in which a person may repurchase property.

HB 5435 clarifies that the requirement that Lease Terms must require a timely notice of commencement does not apply to a lease between a college and another person regarding public property.

CC(LEGAL) ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

Revisions incorporate a reference to the report required upon the Adoption of an itemized budget by a college from SB 1, the General Appropriations Act, and a link to the budget reporting document.

CDA(LEGAL) ACCOUNTING: FINANCIAL REPORTS AND STATEMENTS

Revisions incorporate amendments from Coordinating Board rules related to the Annual Financial Report to include additional guidance documents.

The reference to the handbook for reporting tuition and fee financial data through the Integrated Fiscal Reporting System has been updated to reference the current version of the document.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

CDB(LOCAL) ACCOUNTING: INVENTORIES

Recommended revisions address the [Budget Requirements and Annual Financial Reporting Requirements for Texas Public Community Colleges, Fiscal Year 2025](#), which was recently released by the Coordinating Board. The document updates the definition of *capital assets* to recommend, rather than require as in prior years, a minimum capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The revisions permit a community college

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to choose the threshold at which assets are capitalized. If your college would like to update the threshold for classifying capital assets, please contact the college's policy consultant.

CDC(LEGAL)

ACCOUNTING: AUDITS

The link to the manual related to reporting requirements for a community college's Annual Audit Report has been updated to reference the most recent version.

CF(LEGAL)

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION

SB 1173 increases the threshold for purchases for which a college is required to utilize a competitive purchasing method to apply to Purchases Valued at or Above \$100,000.

HB 150 redesignates statutes related to certain cybersecurity requirements, including requirements for vendors who provide Cloud Computing Services, and transfers responsibilities related to cybersecurity to the Texas Cyber Command.

HB 1500 adds a definition of *technology services* that is referenced as Commodity Items.

CFE(LEGAL)

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION: VENDOR RELATIONS

A Note has been added to reference DEA, which incorporates requirements related to the content and publication of severance agreements established in HB 762.

CFF(LEGAL)

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION: PAYMENT PROCEDURES

HB 3005 clarifies that a bona fide dispute for the purposes of the Exceptions to Government Code Chapter 2251 does not include an audit of the public work project that continues for more than 60 days after the substantial completion of the project.

CFG(LEGAL)

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION: REAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS

HB 2011 expands the list of situations in which a person whose property is taken by eminent domain may repurchase the property.

CGA(LEGAL)

SAFETY PROGRAM: SAFETY AND SECURITY AUDITS

HB 33 requires the Safety and Security Audit of a college's facilities to include a security review to determine whether the facility meets certain requirements.

HB 121 provides that the community college must maintain a copy of the report of the results of the safety and security audit signed by the college president or chancellor.

CGC(LEGAL)

SAFETY PROGRAM: EMERGENCY PLANS AND ALERTS

HB 33 clarifies that when a community college's Emergency Operations Plan addresses recovery after an incident, it must provide for the prompt recovery of services provided by the college and addresses requirements for communication during an emergency.

HB 121 requires the Emergency Operations Plan to address reunification along with other requirements established by the TxSSC and clarifies that requirements related to substitute teachers do not apply to community colleges.

At Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures, HB 4361 requires the Coordinating Board to adopt rules regarding standardized procedures for timely issuing of emergency notifications in accordance with the federal Clery Act.

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CGE(LEGAL)

SAFETY PROGRAM: MEDICAL TREATMENT

SB 1619 updates statutory references from epinephrine auto-injectors to epinephrine delivery systems to allow community colleges to administer epinephrine nasal sprays.

HB 1620 redesignated several statutes, resulting in citation changes at Coronavirus Preventative Measures.

CGFA(LEGAL)

SECURITY PERSONNEL: COMMISSIONED PEACE OFFICERS

HB 33 requires each Law Enforcement Agency to have access to certain protective equipment and allows the law enforcement agency to enter into a mutual aid agreement with certain other agencies to share equipment. The bill also revises provisions addressing patrol vehicles and policies related to active shooters.

At Apprehension of Certain Individuals, SB 1164 expands the situations in which a peace officer, including a community college police officer, may take a person exhibiting mental illness into custody and transfer the person to certain health-care providers.

SB 1619 updates statutory references from epinephrine auto-injectors to Epinephrine Delivery Systems to allow law enforcement agencies to administer epinephrine nasal sprays.

CGFC(LEGAL)

SECURITY PERSONNEL: SCHOOL MARSHALS

At Regulations and Possession and Use of a Handgun, SB 870 addresses the carry and possession of handguns by school marshals.

CH(LEGAL)

SITE MANAGEMENT

HB 4224 requires a covered entity, including a community college, that collects or stores protected health information, to prominently post detailed Information Regarding Consumer Access to Health Records and Complaints on the entity's website.

CHC(LEGAL)

SITE MANAGEMENT: TRAFFIC AND PARKING CONTROLS

At Parking Privileges of Disabled Veterans, SB 2001 permits a peace officer who received specialty license plates because the officer is disabled due to an injury incurred during the course and scope of the officer's work to park in disabled parking spaces.

HB 4215 incorporates requirements for delivery network companies and delivery persons into provisions addressing Transportation Network Companies.

SB 2807 updates provisions regulating the operation of Automated Vehicles and Driving Systems.

CHF(LEGAL)

SITE MANAGEMENT: WEAPONS

SB 1596 removes short-barrel firearms from the list of Prohibited Weapons.

CIB(LEGAL)

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES MANAGEMENT: DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY

SB 60 allows the Donation of Library Materials by a community college to any person or organization if the materials meet certain requirements.

Explanatory Notes

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CJ(LEGAL) TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT

At Student Travel, the citation has been updated to reference SB 1, the General Appropriations Act, which maintains the requirement that a community college adopt a policy regulating certain travel by one or more students.

CK(LEGAL) INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT

SB 1173 increases the threshold for the aggregate value of insurance contracts for which a community college is prohibited from using a Designated Broker of Record from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

CKD(LEGAL) INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT: HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

SB 1409 permits a community college to offer optional Health Benefits for Students and Their Families.

CL(LEGAL) FACILITIES PLANNING

SB 8 from the Second Special Session becomes effective December 4, 2025. In addition to providing definitions, it requires community colleges to designate each multiple-occupancy private space for use only by individuals of one sex and to take every reasonable step to ensure an individual does not enter the wrong private space. SB 8 also provides for investigations by the attorney general, private causes of action, and civil penalties.

CL(LOCAL) FACILITIES PLANNING

This new policy addresses SB 8 from the second special session, which requires a community college to designate certain private spaces by sex consistent with the bill's provisions.

CM(LEGAL) FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

SB 1173 increases the threshold for contracts for which a college is required to utilize a competitive procurement method to apply to Contracts Valued at or Above \$100,000.

HB 1620 redesignated several statutes, resulting in citation changes at Experience Modifiers.

At Professional Services, SB 687 adds land surveyors to the indemnification limitations found in Local Government Code Chapter 271.

CM(LOCAL) FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

Recommended revisions address SB 1173, which increases the contract value threshold at which a community college is required to utilize a statutory competitive procurement method for Construction Contracts from \$50,000 or above to \$100,000 or above.

CRA(LEGAL) TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES: WEBSITE POSTINGS

SB 1619 updates statutory references from epinephrine auto-injectors to epinephrine delivery systems.

HB 4224 requires a college that collects or stores protected health information to post detailed information for consumers on the college's website.

HB 762 and SB 2237 require a college that enters into a contract or an employment agreement with an employee or independent contractor to post each severance agreement on the college's website.

SB 3039 requires a college to post the five majors or degree and certificate programs and select courses for which transfer credit is most frequently denied or not applied on the admissions page of the college's website.

Explanatory Notes

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SB 365 requires a college to post on its website a policy regarding the admissions made by the college under the Academic Fresh Start program.

SB 2614 and newly adopted Coordinating Board rules require a college to post prominently on the college's admissions website a link to MyTexasFuture.Org with a notice to students that they can use the common application form and information about free college application week and the fee waiver.

CRB(LEGAL) TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

HB 149 establishes a requirement for the Disclosure of Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for a community college that uses AI systems and prohibits the use of AI for the purposes of Manipulation of Human Behavior, infringement on an individual's Constitutional Protection, or Unlawful Discrimination.

CRB(LOCAL) TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

This new recommended local policy includes information related to AI Use by Employees and Students, including the parameters for use; compliance with privacy and data security law, policies, and regulations; and prohibitions on use of AI tools to harm, bully, or harass others.

CS(LEGAL) INFORMATION SECURITY

HB 150 establishes the Texas Cyber Command and transfers duties related to cybersecurity to the command from the Department of Information Resources (DIR). A community college is required to have a designated Information Security Officer who possesses the training and experience required to ensure the college complies with requirements from the command.

Additional revisions incorporate the redesignation of statutes related to cybersecurity from HB 150.

CS(LOCAL) INFORMATION SECURITY

Recommended revisions to this policy incorporate HB 150, which requires a college to notify affected persons of cybersecurity incidents, formerly referred to as security incidents.

D(LEGAL) PERSONNEL

The table of contents has been revised to accommodate a code created to address legal requirements related to telework.

DBA(LEGAL) EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS: CREDENTIALS AND RECORDS

HB 229 requires a community college that collects Vital Statistics that identify an individual's sex for certain purposes to identify the individual as male or female as defined by the Government Code.

DC(LEGAL) EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

SB 37 addresses requirements for a board of trustees related to Administrator Hiring. A board of trustees is required to approve or deny individuals for select positions and is permitted to overturn certain hiring decisions. The board must submit a report to the legislature reporting decisions related to hiring, and faculty members are prohibited from having final decision-making authority on the hiring of certain administrative positions.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

HB 1620 redesignated several statutes, resulting in a citation change at Hiring of Legal Permanent Resident for TCOLE Licensed Positions.

Explanatory Notes

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Wharton County Junior College

DC(LOCAL) EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

Recommended revisions address SB 37, which requires the board to approve hiring decisions for certain positions and allows the board to overturn hiring decisions for certain positions. The titles for the employees who serve in the specified positions reflect the information submitted by the college.

Language related to dismissal of noncontractual employees has been moved to policy DM to consolidate language related to at-will termination.

DCA(LEGAL) EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES: TERM CONTRACTS

A Note has been added to reference DEA, which incorporates requirements related to the content and publication of severance agreements established in HB 762 and SB 2237.

DCB(LEGAL) EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES: TENURE

This new legal framework incorporates HB 762, which addresses requirements for a community college that enters into a contract or employment agreement with an employee or independent contractor that contain a Severance Pay Provision, including certain restrictions on severance pay and the requirement that a college post the agreement on the college's website.

DEA(LEGAL) COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS: COMPENSATION PLAN

HB 762 and SB 2237 address requirements for a community college that enters into a contract or employment agreement with an employee or independent contractor that contain a Severance Pay Provision, including certain restrictions on severance pay and the requirement that a college post the agreement on the college's website.

HB 2 repeals a provision prohibiting a reporting employer from passing the cost of TRS retirement contributions for an employed retiree to the retiree.

DEB(LEGAL) COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS: FRINGE BENEFITS

HB 4144 requires a community college with a law enforcement agency that employs at least 50 peace officers to provide an officer who retires with Benefits for Cancer, Acute Myocardial Infarction, or Stroke if the officer receives a diagnosis for one of the specified conditions within three years of the officer's retirement.

DGBA(LEGAL) PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS: EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES

SB 37 clarifies that only the college president or designee may be involved in decision making regarding review of Faculty Grievances.

This provision is effective January 1, 2026.

DGBA(LOCAL) PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS: EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES

Language has been reorganized to clarify the structure of grievance processes.

Recommended revisions require the college to provide Notice to Employees on the college's website.

At Formal Process, language has been added to clarify that certain complaints must begin at the board level.

Provisions have been added to provide clarity about what the Record includes, to allow a college to Re-mand a complaint for an incomplete record, and to allow an employee to make an Audio Recording of a hearing under this policy.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

A cross reference has been updated to incorporate the reorganization of policies related to security personnel.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

DGBA(EXHIBIT) PERSONNEL-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS: EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES

Our records indicate that you have an exhibit at this code that you may need to review and revise in light of the changes in this update. Please advise us:

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DGC(LEGAL) EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES: EMPLOYEE EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

SB 2972 updates provisions addressing the regulation of expressive activities on community college campuses, including:

- At Protected Expression on Campus Under State Law, *expressive activities* are defined.
- The Policy Required for colleges detailing rights and responsibilities regarding expressive activities must address certain restrictions and requirements.
- The right to engage in expressive activities in Common Outdoor Areas is limited to students and employees.
- A college is authorized to adopt a policy that imposes reasonable Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions on expressive activities of college students and employees.
- At Designated Public Forums, a college is required to establish public forums.
- At Harmony with Law, restrictions may not be construed to infringe on a person's rights under the U.S. or Texas Constitution.

DGC(LOCAL) EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES: EMPLOYEE EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

Recommended revisions throughout this policy incorporate SB 2972, which addresses the regulation of expressive activities on college campuses. A definition of Expressive Activities has been added. At Prohibited Speech and Conduct, existing content from Limitations on Content, Approval, and Common Outdoor Areas has been consolidated and updated to reflect language from the bill prohibiting certain expressive activities on campus.

Also, from SB 2972, language has been added at Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions prohibiting the distribution of materials in a manner that is materially and substantially disruptive to college operations. Language has been added to clarify when Identification must be provided. Employees and employee organizations distributing materials or using college facilities must provide identification to a college representative.

Recommended revisions provide that the Distribution of Literature by faculty and other instructional personnel as part of instruction or other classroom activities is not governed by that section.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

DH(LEGAL) EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

HB 46 prohibits a community college from restricting the storage of Low-THC Cannabis.

SB 37 specifies that only a president or provost or their designees may be involved in decision making regarding the Faculty Discipline process.

This provision is effective January 1, 2026.

DH(LOCAL) EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Recommended revisions address HB 46, which prohibits a college from restricting the storage of low-THC cannabis authorized by state law.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

DHB(LEGAL) EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

SB 571 revises provisions addressing Reporting Abuse or Neglect to require a professional who has reasonable cause to believe a child has been or may be abused or neglected or a victim of certain offenses to make a report within 24 hours instead of 48 and defines *law enforcement agency* for the purposes of the reporting requirement.

DHB(LOCAL) EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT: CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

Recommended revisions incorporate SB 571, which requires the Reporting of instances of child abuse or neglect to a law enforcement agency within 24 hours and amends the definition of *law enforcement agency*.

DI(LEGAL) EMPLOYEE WELFARE

HB 1620 updated a reference at Peace Officer Wellness Program from vehicle accident to vehicle collision.

DIAA(LEGAL) FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION: SEX AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

SB 800 requires the Orientation on Policy for new students to include a video with resources for students who have experienced sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking and applicable reporting procedures.

DJ(LEGAL) ASSIGNMENT, WORK LOAD, AND SCHEDULES

Revisions incorporate existing requirements related to faculty workload reports for clarity.

DJA(LEGAL) ASSIGNMENT, WORK LOAD, AND SCHEDULES: TELEWORK

This new legal framework incorporates SB 2615, which places restrictions on telework by faculty and other staff.

DJA(LOCAL) ASSIGNMENT, WORK LOAD, AND SCHEDULES: TELEWORK

This new recommended local policy addresses SB 2615. It permits employees to telework only under certain specified circumstances.

Explanatory Notes

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Wharton County Junior College

DK(LEGAL) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

HB 150 requires each employee and each elected official to annually complete Cybersecurity Training and transfers responsibilities related to cybersecurity from DIR to the Texas Cyber Command.

DLA(LEGAL) EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE: EVALUATION

SB 37 requires the college president or chancellor to conduct annual Administrator Evaluations and report to the board any decision to remove one of those individuals.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

DM(LOCAL) TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Language related to dismissal of noncontractual employees has been moved to this policy to consolidate language related to termination of At-Will Employees.

EBA(LEGAL) ALTERNATE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: DISTANCE EDUCATION

Revisions at Applicability of Subchapter J incorporate amendments to Coordinating Board rules to clarify the submission deadline for an Institutional Plan for Distance Education.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

ECC(LEGAL) INSTRUCTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: COURSE LOAD AND SCHEDULES

Language related to deadlines for Adding/Dropping Courses has been updated in response to the repeal of Coordinating Board rules.

EF(LEGAL) CURRICULUM DESIGN

This new legal framework incorporates SB 37, which clarifies the board's oversight over curriculum and degree programs.

EFA(LEGAL) CURRICULUM DESIGN: INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES

SB 37 allows a governing board to exclude courses that were not taught as an organized class or provided through individual instruction for the two preceding years from its Annual List of Courses.

This provision is effective January 1, 2026.

SB 3039 requires a community college to include courses taken by students who completed a field of study curriculum and other information required by the Coordinating Board in the required Course Report.

EFAA(LEGAL) INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES: ACADEMIC COURSES

SB 37 addresses the process for the governing board to review the college's General Education Curriculum and any changes to the curriculum.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

EFAA(LOCAL) INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES: ACADEMIC COURSES

This new recommended local policy clarifies the process for the development and adoption of a Core Curriculum by the college.

It also addresses the SB 37 requirement that the board conduct a comprehensive review of the college's general education curriculum, providing that the review must occur every five years, with more frequent reviews at the board's discretion.

Explanatory Notes

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It also establishes a process for the submission of an annual update on general education curriculum changes to the board and reflects the board's choice to reserve the right to overturn decisions regarding changes to the curriculum.

EFAB(LEGAL)

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES: CAREER TECHNICAL/WORKFORCE COURSES

SB 530 replaces a reference to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) with a general reference to an institution of higher education's recognized accrediting agency at Career and Technical Education Program of Study Curricula.

EFB(LEGAL)

CURRICULUM DESIGN: DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

SB 3039 requires the Coordinating Board to adopt rules regarding Transparency in Certificate and Degree Program Requirements applicable to community colleges.

SB 37 requires a college president or chancellor to adopt and implement a process for reviewing Low-Enrollment Minor Degree and Certificate Programs every five years to identify programs that may require consolidation or elimination.

These provisions are effective January 1, 2026.

EFB(LOCAL)

CURRICULUM DESIGN: DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Recommended revisions incorporate SB 37, requiring the college's chief executive officer to develop procedures addressing a Low-Enrollment Certificate Program Review.

EFBA(LEGAL)

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES: ASSOCIATE DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Revisions incorporate amendments to Coordinating Board rules related to Criteria for approval of a New Career and Technical Education Certificate.

HB 2786 authorizes a state agency to enter into an agreement with a community college to offer a program leading to a State Information Technology Apprenticeship Credential.

SB 530 replaces a reference to SACSCOC with a general reference to an institution of higher education's recognized accrediting agency at Limitation on SCH Requirements.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

EFBB(LEGAL)

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES: BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

SB 530 replaces a reference to SACSCOC with a general reference to an institution of higher education's recognized accrediting agency at Application.

At Study Abroad, SB 2431 requires a community college that offers as part of a bachelor's degree program a study abroad component or program in a location where a language other than English is primarily spoken to provide an option for enrolled students to earn foreign language credit.

EFCC(LEGAL)

SPECIAL PROGRAMS: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS

SB 2 establishes the Educational Savings Account program and requires that the comptroller establish a process to approve a community college as a provider or vendor for participation in the program.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

EFCE(LEGAL) SPECIAL PROGRAMS: COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Language prohibiting the use of state funds for avocational courses has been replaced in response to the repeal of Coordinating Board rules.

EFCF(LEGAL) SPECIAL PROGRAMS: DRIVER EDUCATION

Language addressing Driver Education Courses has been revised, and language addressing Commercial Driver's License Training Programs has been added in response to the repeal and adoption of Coordinating Board rules.

EGA(LEGAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: GRADING AND CREDIT

At Denial of Transfer Credit, SB 3039 requires a community college to publish a list on the college's website of the five majors or degree or certificate programs with the highest number of courses for which academic credit is denied or not applied and certain related courses.

EGA(LOCAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: GRADING AND CREDIT

A cross reference has been added to policy code FB to incorporate provisions related to the Academic Fresh Start program.

EGC(LEGAL) ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: GRADUATION

At Diploma Designation in Event of Merger, Acquisition, or Name Change, HB 5180 requires a community college that changes its name or merges with another institution to provide certain students two diplomas at no additional charge.

EI(LEGAL) TESTING PROGRAMS

SB 2786 adds certain emergency medical technicians, fire protection personnel, and peace officers to the list of students who qualify for Exceptions to the Texas Success Initiative assessment requirements.

EJC(LEGAL) MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES: ACADEMIC BOYCOTTS

A citation has been updated to reference SB 1, the General Appropriations Act, which maintains the requirement that a community college adopt a policy prohibiting certain academic boycotts.

F(LEGAL) STUDENTS

The table of contents has been revised to reflect that content at policy code FC now addresses Registration and Attendance.

FB(LEGAL) ADMISSIONS

SB 37 requires a governing board to set campus Admissions Standards in collaboration with college administrators.

At Right to an Academic Fresh Start, SB 365 allows a community college to disregard academic credits earned by an applicant for admission between five to 10 years before the first day of the start of the semester.

Additional revisions incorporate recently adopted Coordinating Board rules related to Free College Application Week.

HB 3041 provides a procedure for a college that uses class rank in the undergraduate admission review process to assign a class rank to Students with Nontraditional Secondary Education.

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Wharton County Junior College

FB(LOCAL)

ADMISSIONS

Recommended revisions address SB 37, clarifying that the board must develop admission procedures in collaboration with the college's chief executive officer.

The recommended revisions address SB 365, permitting the college to disregard course credits and grades earned by an applicant for admission 5-10 years prior to the start of the semester if chosen by the applicant, at Academic Fresh Start. Existing law requires a college to disregard credits earned 10 years prior to the start of the semester for an applicant under the Academic Fresh Start program. The number of years prior to admission at which credits will be disregarded reflects information submitted by the college.

A cross reference has been added to policy code EGA to incorporate provisions related to transfer of credit.

FC(LEGAL)

REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

HB 102 requires a community college that permits any student to register early for courses to allow Early Registration for Students in Military-Related Programs.

Language from FAA on Registration for Parenting Students has been added to this legal framework to accommodate the reorganization of policies related to registration.

At Religious Holy Days, a citation has been updated in response to the repeal of Coordinating Board rules.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

FC(LOCAL)

REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE

Recommended revisions to this policy address administrative procedures related to registration.

FD(LEGAL)

TUITION AND FEES

HB 5646 requires a community college to charge the rate of Resident Tuition for Students in Military-Related Programs, such as an ROTC program or corps of cadets.

Additional revisions incorporate the repeal, consolidation, and amendment of Coordinating Board rules related to tuition and fees.

FD(EXHIBIT)

TUITION AND FEES

HB 1105 creates a tuition and fee exemption for students employed as paramedics by a Texas political subdivision who are enrolled in certain courses.

FEA(LEGAL)

FINANCING EDUCATION: FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Revisions to citations have been made throughout in response to the repeal and relocation of Coordinating Board rules related to scholarships for relatives of board members.

SB 2995 requires a community college to include a link to Financial Aid Displacement Information developed by the Coordinating Board in the college's admission application form.

Additional revisions incorporate Coordinating Board amendments related to Records Retention to remove redundant information.

FEB(LEGAL)

FINANCING EDUCATION: WORK STUDY

Revisions at Texas College Work-Study Program incorporate amendments to Coordinating Board rules intended to eliminate unnecessary definitions and align eligibility criteria more closely with defined terms.

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Additional revisions incorporate amendments to Coordinating Board rules related to the authority to Transfer funds between certain state grant and work-study programs.

FFAA(LEGAL)

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES: IMMUNIZATIONS

Revisions incorporate amendments to Department of State Health Services rules addressing Exceptions from vaccination requirements applicable to applicants for admission.

FFC(LEGAL)

STUDENT WELFARE: STUDENT-SUPPORT SERVICES

SB 3039 requires a community college to designate a Transfer Liaison for current or incoming students who will transfer into or out of the college to serve as the point of contact regarding transfer issues.

FFDA(LEGAL)

FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION: SEX AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

SB 800 requires the Orientation on Policy for new students to include a video with resources for students who have experienced sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking and applicable reporting procedures.

FJ(LEGAL)

STUDENT RECORDS

HB 229 requires a community college that collects Vital Statistics that identify an individual's sex for certain purposes to identify the individual as male or female as defined by the Government Code.

SB 800 requires a Student Identification Card issued by a college to contain contact information for the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

FLA(LEGAL)

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

SB 2972 updates provisions addressing the regulation of expressive activities on community college campuses, including:

- At Protected Expression on Campus Under State Law, *expressive activities* are defined.
- The Policy Required for colleges detailing rights and responsibilities regarding expressive activities must address certain restrictions and requirements.
- The right to engage in expressive activities in Common Outdoor Areas is limited to students and employees.
- A college is authorized to adopt a policy that imposes reasonable Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions on expressive activities of college students and employees.
- At Harmony with Law, restrictions may not be construed to infringe on a person's rights under the U.S. or Texas Constitution.

FLA(LOCAL)

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

Recommended revisions throughout this policy incorporate SB 2972, which addresses the regulation of expressive activities on college campuses. A definition of Expressive Activities has been added. At Prohibited Speech and Conduct, existing content from Limitations on Content, Approval, and Common Outdoor Areas has been consolidated and updated to reflect language from the bill prohibiting certain expressive activities on campus.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

Also, from SB 2972, language has been added at Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions prohibiting the distribution of materials in a manner that is materially and substantially disruptive to college operations. Language has been added to clarify when Identification must be provided. Students and student organizations distributing materials or using college facilities must provide identification to a college representative.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

FLB(LOCAL) STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT CONDUCT

At Behavior Targeting Others, a cross reference has been added to policy code FM to incorporate the definition of *antisemitism* required to be used in discipline for Student Code of Conduct violations, as provided by SB 326.

FLBD(LEGAL) STUDENT CONDUCT: TOBACCO USE

SB 2024 expands the definition of *E-cigarette Product* to include any consumable material aerosolized or vaporized during the use of an electronic cigarette, regardless of whether the material contains nicotine, and excepts certain prescribed substances.

FLBE(LEGAL) STUDENT CONDUCT: ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

HB 46 prohibits a college from restricting the storage of Low-THC Cannabis as authorized by the Health and Safety Code.

FLBE(LOCAL) STUDENT CONDUCT: ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

Recommended revisions address HB 46, which prohibits a college from restricting the storage of low-THC cannabis authorized by state law.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

FLC(LEGAL) STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES

SB 1497 clarifies that a peace officer does not need a warrant to conduct Searches of Telecommunications/Electronic Devices manufactured for the purpose of illicitly obtaining payment card information or identifying information.

FLD(LOCAL) STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT COMPLAINTS

Language has been reorganized to clarify the structure of grievance processes.

Recommended revisions require the college to provide Notice to Students on the college's website to ensure appropriate due process.

At Formal Process, language has been added to clarify that certain complaints must begin at the board level.

Provisions have been added to provide clarity about what the Record includes, to allow a college to Remand a complaint for an incomplete record, and to allow a student to make an Audio Recording of a hearing under this policy.

A cross reference has been updated to incorporate the reorganization of policies related to security personnel.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

FLD(EXHIBIT) STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: STUDENT COMPLAINTS

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FM(LEGAL) DISCIPLINE AND PENALTIES

SB 326 requires a college to use the definition of *antisemitism* provided by Government Code 448.001 in determining whether a student's behavior was motivated by antisemitism for the purpose of taking Anti-semitism Disciplinary Action.

GB(LEGAL) PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND HEARINGS

HB 5238 expands the offense of disrupting a lawful meeting or procession to include the Disruption of a virtual meeting or virtual component of an in-person meeting and to clarify that the disturbance may be electronic.

GB(LOCAL) PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND HEARINGS

Language has been reorganized to clarify the structure of grievance processes.

At Formal Process, language has been added to clarify that certain complaints must begin at the board level.

Provisions have been added to provide clarity about what the Record includes, to allow a college to Remand a complaint for an incomplete record, and to allow an individual to make an Audio Recording of a hearing under this policy.

A cross reference has been updated to incorporate the reorganization of policies related to security personnel.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

GB(EXHIBIT) PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND HEARINGS

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GCA(LEGAL) PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM: ACCESS TO INFORMATION

SB 1569 adds community college board members and presidents to the list at Elected Public Officers, Peace Officers, and Certain Officials identifying individuals for whom certain personal information is confidential under the PIA upon written request and to the list of officials whose Contact Information is excepted from mandatory disclosure under the PIA.

SB 1540 adds current or former election officials to the list at Elected Public Officers, Peace Officers, and Certain Officials identifying individuals for whom certain personal information is confidential under the PIA upon written request.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

SB 2601 expands the compensation program for Employees Who Are Victims of Certain Crimes to include property owners impacted by border-related crime and provides that certain application information is confidential.

HB 150 redesignates provisions related to cybersecurity, including provisions related to the Biennial Information Security Plan.

HB 1500 renames the information security assessment required by DIR to the Data Governance Assessment.

HB 132 expands the type of information related to Security System Specifications, Operations, and Locations that is protected from disclosure under the PIA to include information related to hostile acts by foreign adversaries.

SB 765 provides that information related to Fraud Detection and Deterrence Measures is confidential under the PIA.

HB 1620 redesignated several statutes, resulting in citation changes at Certain Crime Information.

At Motor Vehicle Record Information, HB 1893 provides that License Plate Numbers captured in a video recording maintained by a law enforcement agency are not confidential under the PIA.

HB 3112 provides that information related to certain Cybersecurity Measures is excepted from disclosure under the PIA.

GCB(LEGAL)

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM: REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

At Designated Address, HB 4214 requires a community college to provide the current mailing address and email address designated for PIA requests to the office of the attorney general no later than October 1.

HB 4219 establishes a procedure for responding to a PIA request when a college has No Information Responsive to a Request or when the request relates to Information Subject to a Previous Determination and a procedure for requestors to file a complaint regarding a Failure to Respond to a Requestor.

Also, At Time for Request, a college seeking an attorney general determination to withhold information under the PIA must state the specific exceptions that apply.

GD(LEGAL)

COMMUNITY EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

SB 2972 updates provisions addressing the regulation of expressive activities on community college campuses, including:

- At Protected Expression on Campus Under State Law, *expressive activities* are defined.
- The Policy Required for colleges detailing rights and responsibilities regarding expressive activities must address certain restrictions and requirements.
- The right to engage in expressive activities in Common Outdoor Areas is limited to students and employees.
- A college is authorized to adopt a policy that imposes reasonable Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions on expressive activities of college students and employees.
- At Harmony with Law, restrictions may not be construed to infringe on a person's rights under the U.S. or Texas Constitution.

At Use by Religious Organizations, SB 2986 permits a college to allow religious organizations to use the college's facilities to host worship, services, sermons, or assemblies if certain criteria are met.

Explanatory Notes

Community College Localized Policy Manual Update 50

Wharton County Junior College

GD(LOCAL)

COMMUNITY EXPRESSION AND USE OF COLLEGE FACILITIES

Recommended revisions throughout this policy incorporate SB 2972, which addresses the regulation of expressive activities on college campuses. A definition of Expressive Activities has been added. At Prohibited Speech and Conduct, existing content from Approval, Designated Public Forums, and Limitations on Content has been consolidated and updated to reflect language from the bill prohibiting certain expressive activities on campus.

Also, from SB 2972, language has been added at Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions prohibiting the distribution of materials in a manner that is materially and substantially disruptive to college operations. Language has been added to clarify when Identification must be provided. Community members and organizations distributing materials or using college facilities must provide identification to a college representative.

Language related to Designated Public Forums has been added to require the board to designate common outdoor areas where community members may engage in permissible expressive activities and publish those areas on the college's website and in other publications.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

GG(LEGAL)

RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES

HB 150 redesignates certain statutes related to cybersecurity, resulting in citation changes at Cybersecurity Training for Contractors.

GGB(LEGAL)

RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES: INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACTS

SB 480 allows a college to enter into an interlocal contract with certain governmental entities to participate in Water Research or Planning.

GGD(LEGAL)

RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES: FEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES

At Intergovernmental Support Agreements with U.S. Armed Forces, a citation was updated to incorporate amendments to federal statutes related to appropriations for armed forces.

GH(LEGAL)

RELATIONS WITH SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS

SB 1786 broadens the Student Eligibility requirements to allow certain students to enroll in a course under the FAST Program upon a showing that the students were economically disadvantaged and to apply provisions to students in grades 9-12.

HB 120 and HB 2 allow certain students enrolled in a P-TECH school or R-PEP program to enroll in a course under the FAST Program and allow a school district participating in the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership to continue participation regardless of the district's average daily student attendance.

HB 2674 prohibits a college district from adopting a rule or policy that regulates an educational program of a home school.

SB 571 redesignates certain statutes, resulting in revisions at Background Check Procedure.

Revisions incorporate amendments to Coordinating Board rules addressing legislative changes, as well as the repeal, consolidation, and amendment of Coordinating Board rules related to partnerships between colleges and school districts.

Additional changes have been made for clarity.

Explanatory Notes
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GK(LEGAL)

RELATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL ACCREDITATION AGENCIES

SB 530 replaces a reference to SACSCOC with a general reference to a community college's recognized accrediting agency.

GL(LEGAL)

RELATIONS WITH BUSINESSES AND THE COMMUNITY

HB 33 expands the Prohibited Transactions between a community college and Abortion Providers and Affiliates to include a transaction with an abortion assistance entity or to provide Logistical Support for abortion assistance. Definitions have been amended for the purposes of the prohibited transactions.

SB 856 adds the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station to the list of organizations eligible to use funds from the Texas Skills Development Fund for job training purposes.