



Board of Trustees Candidate Advisory Council

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Updated: December 22, 2009

The Trustee Candidate Advisory Council (TCAC) of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) has prepared this fact sheet relating to the council and to the selection of the Board of Trustees members. The facts contained herein are based on Minn. Stat. 136F or otherwise are in accordance with the work plan adopted by the council.

I. COUNCIL

A. What is the legal standing of the council?

The TCAC was created by the Legislature in 1991 and is composed of 24 public members appointed to six-year terms, one-half by the Speaker of the House, and one-half by the Senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

B. What are the statutory duties of the council?

- (1) To develop a statement of the selection criteria to be applied and a description of the responsibilities and duties of a member of the Board of Trustees. The council shall distribute this to potential candidates.
- (2) To identify and recruit qualified candidates for the board, based on the background and experience of the candidates and their potential for discharging the responsibilities of a board member.
- (3) Except for seats filled under sections [136F.04](#) and [136F.045](#), the advisory council shall recommend at least two and not more than four candidates for each seat. By April 15 of each even-numbered year, the advisory council shall submit its recommendations to the governor. The governor is not bound by these recommendations. In the event of a vacancy, the governor may ask the council to make a recommendation by a date certain.

C. What is the council's process?

The council will review all applications to determine which applicants will be interviewed. Interviews will be scheduled and the advisory council will, for each seat to be filled, recommend two to four persons to the governor for his/her consideration. The advisory council is required to make its recommendations to the governor by April 15 of even-numbered years for the current vacancies.

D. Must an application be filed?

Yes. An application form must be completed and returned to the council by a specified date indicated on the application.

E. Are applications public?

Certain information is made public only if the applicant is selected as a finalist by the Trustee Candidate Advisory Council. "Finalist" is defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 13.43, Subdivision 3, as a person that has been selected for an interview. Public information includes the finalist's name, address, employment record, governing board experience, and education, as listed on the application.

F. When does the position start?

Members are appointed for a term of six years, except that the term of each of the student members is two years. Terms end on June 30 of even-numbered years, except that members may serve until their successors are appointed. New members appointed to the board begin their terms on July 1st.

II. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A. How many Board of Trustee members are there and what are their terms?

The board consists of 15 members appointed by the governor, including three members who are students who have attended an institution for at least one year and are currently enrolled at least half time in a degree, diploma, or certificate program in an institution governed by the board. The student members shall include one member from a community college, one member from a state university, and one member from a technical college. One member representing labor must be appointed after considering the recommendations made under section [136F.045](#). The governor is not bound by the recommendations. Appointments to the board are with the advice and consent of the senate. At least one member of the board must be a resident of each congressional district. All other members must be appointed to represent the state at large. In selecting appointees, the governor must consider the needs of the board of trustees and the balance of the board membership with respect to labor and business representation and racial, gender, geographic, and ethnic composition. A commissioner of a state agency may not serve as a member of the board.

Members are appointed for a term of six years, except that the term of each of the student members is two years.

B. Are members of the Board of Trustees paid for their service on the Board?

Members of the Board of Trustees are compensated at the prevailing per diem rate for board activities and are reimbursed for necessary travel expenses.