

Board Policies

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

138.00 POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Running for Office

College employees may accept any public or political party appointed or elected position that does not create any conflict of interest with and does not require substantial time away from assigned duties or in other respects infringe upon those duties. The filing of a declaration of intent to become a candidate shall not affect the status or appointment of an unclassified employee. However, the employee shall continue to properly and fully perform all assigned duties or take appropriate leave. Should the employee, while a candidate for office and not on approved leave, fail to perform all assigned duties, such employee shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Elected Official Leave

Leave without salary or other benefits shall be granted to those elected or appointed to public office requiring full time or lengthy sustained periods away from assigned duties, such as Congress, the Kansas Legislature, and state and county offices or appointments to office falling within this category. For persons elected or appointed to Congress or the Kansas Legislature, this provision shall be effective from the date such person takes the Oath of Office or the first day of the Legislative session and continuing until the adjournment of Congress or to a date no sooner than the last adjournment in April or sine die adjournment, whichever occurs first, of each regular and special session of the Kansas Legislature; as to other state and county offices requiring full time or lengthy sustained periods away from assigned duties, this provision shall be effective during the entire time a person serves as such officer. Leave without salary or other benefits shall not be required for any person serving in the Kansas Legislature or for service on any committee during a period when the Legislature is not in regular or special session, provided that such person shall decline to accept all legislative compensation for such service, but such person shall be entitled to mileage and other expense allowances as provided by statute and paid by the Legislature.

Political Engagement

In the interest of the fullest participation in public affairs, individuals are free to express opinions speaking or writing as an individual in a personal capacity and not as a representative of the institution in signed advertisements, pamphlets and related material in support of or opposition to parties and causes. There shall be the commensurate responsibility of making plain that each person so doing personally and not on behalf of Cowley College. This precludes the use of College letterhead and stationery and other official College designations. As a professional courtesy, employees testifying before the Legislature will notify, in advance, the College's Director of Institutional Communication and Public Relations.

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