

3.2.3 The board has a policy addressing conflict of interest for its members.
(Governing Board conflict of interest)

Judgment of Compliance

Compliance

Narrative

The Board of Regents (BOR), the governing body over Albany State University, has adopted policy that explicitly addresses the issue of conflict of interest for its members. As a state agency, the Board of Regents of the University System is subject to the laws of the state, particularly Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) O.C.G.A. 45-10-20 through O.C.G.A. 45-10-70 [1]. Section 45-10-23 specifically mandates that board members manage the affairs of system institutions with unquestionable professional integrity and in a way that is unencumbered by conflicting obligations or interests. Specifically, section 45-10-23 prohibits any full-time employee from conducting any business with an agency in which the employee or any member of his or her family has a substantial interest. Section 45-10-24 of the O.C.G.A forbids any *part-time official with statewide powers* from doing likewise [2]. Under section 802.14 of the BOR Policy Manual, University System employees are prohibited from receiving, soliciting, or accepting any gift where the purpose of the gift is to influence the employee in the performance of his or her official functions [3].

The BOR Policy Manual also stipulates the activities, professional services and occupations from which employees should refrain in order to avoid conflict of interest or the appearance thereof [4]. In particular, political consulting, holding political office and political campaigning are activities prohibited under BOR policy. For example, section 802.1603, stipulates that employees are prohibited from holding elective political office at the state or federal level, managing or partaking actively in a political campaign or any such activities that interfere with the performance of the employee's duties or services [5]. Pursuing elective political office at the state or federal level is also prohibited. University System employees are encouraged to make every reasonable effort to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Supporting Documentation

- [1] [Prohibition of Employee from Conducting Business, Official Code of Georgia Annotated O.C.G.A 45-10-20 through O.C.G.A 45-10-70](#)
- [2] Prohibitions from Receiving, Soliciting, or Accepting gifts, Official Code of Georgia Annotated [O.C.G.A 45-10-23](#) through [O.C.G.A 45-10-24](#)
- [3] [Prohibitions from Receiving, Soliciting, or Accepting gifts University System of Georgia BOR Policy Manual, SECTION 802.14](#)
- [4] [Policy on Activities, Professional Services and Occupations, University System of Georgia BOR Policy Manual, Section 802.16](#)
- [5] [University System of Georgia BOR Policy Manual, Section 802.1603](#)