USGBC Central California Chapter
Elections Fact Sheet

GENERAL

Formal board elections are held every year. Board member terms are for two years. Occasionally single-year term positions are offered for the balance and continuity of board leadership in times of expansion and/or attrition. To maintain continuity, generally half of the Board seats are up for elections on a given year. The objective of the Chapter is to have a diverse board representing the USGBC member structure.

USGBC Central California seeks balanced representation from the 13 USGBC membership categories and an at-large category. When possible, no more than two seats should be filled by any single membership category including at-large seats.

USGBC Member Categories:
1. Contractors and Builders
2. Corporate and Retail
3. Educational Institutes
4. Federal Government
5. Insurance Companies and Financial Institutions
6. Nonprofit Organizations
7. Product Manufacturers, Building Controls, Service Contractors, Distributors
8. Professional Firms
9. Professional Societies
10. Real Estate
11. Real Estate Provider
12. State and Local Governments
13. Utilities and Energy Service Companies

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

USGBC bylaws identify the following general responsibilities: 1) to supervise, control and direct the affairs of the Chapter, its committees and activities; 2) to elect the Chapter Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and to hire staff; 3) to actively pursue the Chapter’s objectives and supervise the disbursement of its funds; 4) to adopt a policy on conflicts of interest; and, 5) to take such actions as may be necessary to conduct the organization, including but not limited to adopting rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable, establishing policies for the overall use of the Chapter, and delegating certain authority and responsibility to the Officers.

USGBC SUMMARIZED CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY:

Leaders must avoid activities and situations that actually, potentially, or apparently conflict with the National or Chapter’s interests or interfere with leader’s duty to serve the Chapter with undivided loyalty. Conflicts include:
1. a direct financial or close personal interest in a company, service, or product that could be affected (in a positive or negative manner) by a decision of a board, committee, or other National or Chapter governing body on which the leader serves;
2. revealing or misusing confidential information;
3. accepting or offering substantial gifts, excessive entertainment, favors, or payments which may reasonably be construed to constitute undue or otherwise improper influence;
4. breaching any fiduciary duty owed to National or the Chapter;
5. participating in any private incumbrant transactions, which include transactions where the Chapter’s resources are transferred to an individual solely by virtue of the individual’s relationship with the Chapter and without regard to accomplishing the Chapter’s purposes;
6. exploiting opportunities for personal or private benefit that could otherwise benefit the Chapter;
7. taking direct action on behalf of the Chapter that may result in material personal or private benefit or that may result in a material adverse impact to a personal or private competitor;
8. competing with the Chapter, and
9. transactions where an ‘insider’ receives economic benefits from the Chapter greater than the value of the consideration received by the Chapter (IRS section 4958).