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TITLE: ENGAGEMENT IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY	
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 20, 2015	
LAST REVISION: Initial*	Policy No. 213

PURPOSE

To preserve an appropriate standard of education independence, BRCC adopts the following ethical standards of conduct with respect to political activity.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This policy pertains to all BRCC Tenured and Non-Tenured Faculty and all Classified and Unclassified Staff.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors (Board) and Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) fully support every citizen's right to exercise freedom of expression, as outlined within the Louisiana and Federal Constitutions, inclusive of the freedom of political expression or association.

The Board and BRCC also recognize that the LCTCS and BRCC, as a public educational agency of the State of Louisiana, must maintain sufficient educational independence to work with all statewide and district-wide elected officials of the State and all agencies of the State, without consideration of political affiliation, to provide educational programs and services for all Louisiana citizens, regardless of the ethnicity, gender, or religious or political affiliations of those citizens. Thus, certain political activity by employees of BRCC may be construed as conflicting with the educational independence of BRCC and thereby impairing the efficient operation of BRCC and BRCC's employees' ability to provide efficient delivery of educational programs and services.

DEFINITION

Political Activity is defined as follows:

- Payment or promise of payment of any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political party, faction, or candidate.
- Taking active part in the management of affairs of a political party, faction, candidate, or any political campaign.
- Filming, taping, and participating in promotional announcements (i.e., print, television or radio ads) in support of any political party, faction, or candidate.
- Lobbying.
- Seeking and/or holding political office.

GENERAL PROVISIONS



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A. Classified Employees:

The permissible and prohibited level of political activity of all classified employees of BRCC shall be governed by the provisions of Article 10, Section 9 of the Louisiana Constitution, Civil Service Rules 14.1(e), (f), and (g) and Civil Service General Circular No. 1449.

B. Unclassified Employees:

No teaching or professional staff member or administrative officer of educational institutions under the management and supervision of LCTCS, including BRCC, shall be prohibited from exercising their freedom of political expression or association; provided that, no such employee or officer shall act or express him/herself in any manner which suggests that the LCTCS, the Board or BRCC has taken a position in support of any candidate or political party placed before the electors of the State. Further, no employee of BRCC shall identify him/herself as an employee of BRCC when expressing his/her opinion with respect to any candidate or political party placed before the electors of the State.

C. On-Premises Activity:

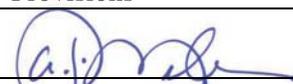
The placement of leaflets, cards, placards, etc., in support of a candidate or political party, on BRCC’s campus or on the campus of any educational institution under the management and supervision of the LCTCS, by an employee is prohibited.

D. Seeking and/or Holding Public Office:

Should a BRCC employee, who is otherwise eligible, seek and/or hold public office, the following conditions shall apply:

1. All conditions of the BRCC Policy on Outside Employment of BRCC Employees must be met.
2. An employee is required to notify the Chancellor of the said employee’s intention to seek and hold public office prior to the date of qualification.
3. The employee is required to continue his/her normal workload, including his/her teaching duties, and to maintain all other duties and office hours required by BRCC during the period of campaigning for and while holding public office.

If the employee is unable to meet condition (3) above, annual leave or leave without pay may be requested for the appropriate period of time, in accordance with the leave rules and policies of BRCC. Additionally, said employee shall not, in any way, suggest or indicate that he/she is a spokesperson for or on behalf of BRCC or LCTCS.

Source of Policy: LCTCS Policy #6.019
BRCC Policy #210 Ethics
 Related Policy: Provisions
 Approved by: 
 Chancellor Andrea Lewis Miller

Responsible Administrator: Human Resources
 LCTCS Policy Reference: #6.019
 LCTCS Guideline Reference: Article II Sect 2
 Date: 1/20/2015