UCR 2020

“The campus mobilizes teaching, research and public service efforts to improve the economic prosperity of the region and state.”

What are boards and commissions?

Boards and commissions are advisory or regulatory groups that work with state agencies or professional groups. Regulatory boards and commissions set licensing standards and professional requirements for members. Advisory boards and commissions provide guidance and advice to the program or agency with which they are affiliated. Members of boards and commission do not earn a salary for their work, although some earn per diems.

Why serve on a board or commission?

While advancing the strategic goals of UCR 2020, serving on a board or commission is a great way for UCR faculty to maximize the impact and contributions of their research expertise for the public good.

As a member of a board or commission, you can influence public policy, improve your expertise in a given area, gain recognition for your contributions, and advance your career. Many people use their seat on a board or commission as a stepping stone to another appointed position, elected office or a federal advisory committee.

By being on a board or commission, you can:

- Influence public policy
- Bring attention to the issues that you care about and help others understand why they are important
- Gain access to policymakers
- Learn about the political process
- Serve as a role model for others

Questions? Call us at (951) 827-5184 or www.gcr.ucr.edu

Tips to getting appointed:

1) Research boards and commissions

Visit the California Governor’s website for a full list of boards and commissions at: https://www.gov.ca.gov/m_appointments.php

Arrange to attend a scheduled meeting of the full board or commission and talk to people who serve or have served on your selected commission. Ask to meet in person or request a telephone meeting.

2) Select a board or commission that fits you

Getting appointed is often a competitive process. Since you’ll need to “sell” yourself and convince others that you are the most qualified candidate, it’s important to have a clear sense of your own qualifications.

3) Build your qualifications

If you find that you don’t have the right qualifications or would like to build upon your qualifications, here are some tips:

- Serve on a city or county board or commission
- Serve on a board of directors of a non-profit organization
- Establish a track record in local affairs

4) Build support for your appointment

Request letters of support from people who may have influence with the appointing authority or from experts affiliated with your selected board or commission.

5) Prepare your application

Online application available at: https://govnews.ca.gov/gov39app/index.php

6) Submit your application

If you get appointed, thank all of those who helped you. Help others who are interested in seeking an appointment. If you don’t get appointed, be aware that the most qualified person is not always appointed as political issues and other factors such as geographical requirements can influence the decision. Become more involved in civic activities and, next time, you may be a successful applicant.