



American River College Senate Resolution

Title: Governmental Stipends
Author(s): Sapeidah Saedi and Soraya Amin

WHEREAS, the Los Rios Community College District (LRCCD) relies on the Associated Student Bodies (ASBs) to represent student voices in shared governance, advocate for student needs, support clubs and student organizations, and strengthen campus engagement across all four colleges;

WHEREAS, ASB officers dedicate substantial time each week to core responsibilities, including attending Student Senate and the Clubs and Events Board (CAEB) meetings, participating in governance committees, holding office hours, advocating for students, and planning events. Officers also support clubs, prepare reports and agendas, draft resolutions, and coordinate with administrators, faculty, and staff. For example, an ASB President may spend over ten hours weekly in meetings and campus event planning, along with additional time communicating with college administrators. These commitments must be balanced with coursework, employment, commuting, and other personal responsibilities.

WHEREAS, because this work is unpaid, students with financial or family responsibilities face significant obstacles to participating in student leadership, thereby undermining equity and limiting access to these roles; providing stipends to ASB officers would reduce these financial barriers and promote equitable participation by ensuring that students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds can fully engage in leadership opportunities;

WHEREAS, the work performed by ASB officers is comparable in time, responsibility, and skill to other paid student leadership and campus employment positions, and should be recognized as institutional service and work experience rather than treated solely as a volunteer activity;

WHEREAS, LRCCD and its colleges already provide compensation in different forms, such as reassigned time, for other groups for governance and institutional service work, including members of the Academic Senate, however, student leaders performing comparable representation, advocacy, and governance work often remain unpaid;

WHEREAS, ASB service develops leadership, governance, policy, budgeting, communication, collaboration, advocacy, and event management skills that strengthen students' transfer, career, and civic opportunities;

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office Student Fee Handbook requires that districts collect a two-dollar (\$2) Student Representation Fee, with one dollar (\$1) supporting the local student body association, and permits the local share to be used for “stipends to participate in participatory governance meetings and activities”¹ ;

WHEREAS, the LRCCD ASBs support the lawful use of Student Representation Fee revenues to provide stipends for ASB officers engaged in participatory governance, representation, advocacy, and related institutional service work across all four colleges, recognizing that while concerns about the possible misallocation of student funds may exist, clear policies and accountability measures can ensure appropriate and equitable use of these resources;

WHEREAS, each Los Rios college ASB shall review and recommend stipend amounts for each Student Senate and Clubs and Events Board position based on the duties, time commitment, and responsibilities of that position;

WHEREAS, any stipend program should begin only after legal and fiscal review, which must comply with California law, Chancellor’s Office guidance, district policy, and all required approval processes from students, district, and Board;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the LRCCD Associated Student Bodies formally endorse the lawful use of Student Representation Fee revenues to support stipends for ASB officers engaged in participatory governance, representation, advocacy, and related institutional service work across all four Los Rios colleges, subject to all required legal, fiscal, student, district, and Board approval processes;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LRCCD Associated Student Bodies support the adoption in principle of stipend structures for Student Senate and Clubs and Events Board positions at each Los Rios college, with specific stipend amounts to be reviewed and recommended locally based on the responsibilities, time commitment, and scope of each position;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LRCCD Associated Student Bodies support the adoption in principle of the accountability framework outlined in this document, which establishes clear requirements for ASB officers, such as mandatory attendance at meetings, regularly scheduled office hours to engage with students, completion of required trainings, submission of specified deliverables throughout the semester, and provision of comprehensive end-of-semester reports. Furthermore, the appropriate ASB bodie's and advisors are directed to incorporate these accountability standards into local bylaws, procedures, and implementation plans, as appropriate;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LRCCD Administration, Business Services, Student Services, Financial Aid, campus ASB advisors, and other appropriate offices be requested to develop an implementation plan for the lawful allocation, administration, compliance, and reporting of Student Representation Fee revenues for ASB stipends;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the LRCCD Associated Student Bodies support continued exploration of additional lawful and sustainable revenue sources to strengthen student leadership funding in the future, including but not limited to student organization fees or other districtwide funding

¹ [California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office, Student Fee Handbook \(2022\), 11.](#)

mechanisms, subject to all required legal, fiscal, student, district, and Board approval processes;

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that the LRCCD ASBs affirm that compensating student leaders for governance, representation, advocacy, and institutional service is an equity measure. Such compensation is anticipated not only to broaden access but also to promote greater diversity among student leaders, ensure more equitable participation, and recognize ASB work as valuable experience. By providing fair compensation, this policy is expected to further strengthen student representation and enhance the overall effectiveness of shared governance across all campuses.

Let it be known that this resolution is hereby

on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Signed,



Stipend Eligibility and Accountability

1. Attendance

Stipend eligibility shall be tied, in part, to attendance at required meetings, committee meetings, events, and other assigned responsibilities. Stipend amounts may be reduced for unexcused absences, tardiness, or failure to fulfill required duties, in accordance with the accountability procedures adopted by each local ASB.

2. Office Hour Requirement

Each member receiving a stipend shall complete and log a minimum of one (1) office hour per week using the designated local tracking system adopted by each ASB. Failure to complete a required weekly office hour may result in a written strike or stipend reduction, as decided by local ASB procedures.

3. Mandatory Training

Required training, including but not limited to Brown Act and fiscal procedures training, must be completed before a member may officially assume the duties of the position or receive stipend compensation. If the required training is not completed within fifteen (15) days of appointment, the member may be deemed ineligible for compensation until the training is completed and, where applicable, the position may be declared vacant in accordance with local bylaws and procedures.

4. Legislative or Project Participation Requirement

Each member receiving a stipend shall author, co-author, or serve as lead researcher on at least one (1) bill, resolution, or comparable project each semester that advances to a first reading before the board or is otherwise formally presented through the member's official role. A member who does not meet this requirement may forfeit up to twenty-five percent (25%) of their stipend and must satisfy the unmet requirement during the following semester before becoming eligible for full stipend compensation.

5. End-of-Semester Report

Before final stipend disbursement, each member receiving a stipend shall submit a brief written report, approximately one page in length or equivalent, summarizing their major contributions, completed responsibilities, and goals achieved during the semester.

6. Local Implementation

Each Los Rios college ASB may adopt additional procedures necessary to implement stipend accountability standards, including methods for documenting attendance, office hours, training completion, assigned responsibilities, and compliance with position expectations.