



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

ETSU Board of Trustees
Self-Evaluation Policy

Policy Name: ETSU Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation

Policy Purpose

This policy specifies the process by which the Board of Trustees shall regularly evaluate its responsibilities and expectations, allowing a critical evaluation of the Board from multiple perspectives.

Responsible Official, Office, and Interpretation

The Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees is responsible for the review and revision of this policy. For questions about this policy, please contact the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees, in consultation with the Office of University Counsel, has the final authority to interpret this policy.

Defined Terms

A defined term has a specific meaning within the context of this policy.

N/A

Policy

The General Assembly of the State of Tennessee constituted the Board of Trustees as the entity responsible for the governance of East Tennessee State University (ETSU or University). Trustees bring diverse backgrounds and expertise valuable to the governance of ETSU and in carrying out their duties keep the welfare of the University paramount. Trustees undertake their responsibilities with due diligence, promoting a culture of constructive debate about major initiatives and transactions.

The Board of Trustees defines and regularly evaluates its responsibilities and expectations to reflect best practices and promote the continued growth and development of the University. The Board defines goals and objectives for its responsibilities, evaluating the extent to which outcomes are attained and improvements are made.

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Procedures

1. Defining Goals and Objectives.

The Board of Trustees periodically defines its own goals and objectives related to the execution of its responsibilities as defined in the Tennessee Code Annotated and the Bylaws. The process used to determine goals and objectives is structured to reflect on best practices and promote the execution of the University's strategic plan.

2. Self-Evaluation.

Periodically, Trustees individually complete an anonymous survey instrument that provides the opportunity to reflect on board operations, responsibilities, and expectations and to identify areas for growth and development.

Completed surveys are collected by the Secretary of the Board who sends them to the Chair of the Board of Trustees for review. The Secretary of the Board aggregates results into a format that accurately summarizes the responses of the Trustees while maintaining their anonymity.

The Board of Trustees discusses its self-evaluation during either a regularly scheduled meeting or a special called meeting of the Board as directed by the Chair of the Board. The survey results are used by the board to evaluate its responsibilities and expectations.

3. Continued Regular Evaluation.

The Board of Trustees regularly reviews successive survey results to ensure continued development and improvement. Periodically, the Board of Trustees may elect to conduct an in-depth review of the board's performance that could involve external consultants, feedback from the campus and community, peer comparisons, and other external data sources.

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Authority and Revisions

Authority: T.C.A. § 49-8-203, et seq.; T.C.A. 49-8-101 et. seq.; SACSCOC Standard 4.2(g) Board Self-Evaluation

Previous Policy: N/A

The ETSU Board of Trustees is charged with policy making pursuant to TCA § 49-8-203, et seq. This policy may only be revised by the Board of Trustees. Before a substantive change to the policy section may take effect, the requested changes must be: (1) presented to the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees for review and approval; and (2) if approved by the Audit Committee, presented for a vote of the Board of Trustees and approved by a majority of the Board of Trustees. The Secretary of the Board will provide a notification to the Board of Trustees if a technical revision to this policy is implemented or a revision to the procedure section is implemented.