

3.2.4 The governing board is free from undue influence from political, religious, or other external bodies, and protects the institution from such influence. **(External influence)**

Compliance Partial Compliance Non-Compliance

Narrative:

The governing board of Chattahoochee Valley Community College (CVCC) is the [Alabama State Board of Education](#). Each member is accountable to the voters in districts for which they are responsible. As per State Board Policy [101.03](#) board members must be elected every four years. As shown in minutes from meetings on [November 10, 2011](#) and [June 23, 2011](#), board meetings and work sessions are open to the public.

State Board Policy [215.01](#) prohibits any institution under its authority, direction, and control from paying with State funds for the services of a lobbyist on a contract or consulting basis. Any institutional employee engaging in such activities must act in a manner consistent with the expressed intent of the State Board of Education and in accordance with the Board's stated legislative purpose(s). The Chancellor shall coordinate all lobbying activities for the Alabama Community College System. This policy does not prohibit the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education from employing individuals, as employees of the Department, to act in the capacity of liaison with state, federal, and other governmental entities on behalf of the Alabama Community College System and the State Board of Education. System employees whose responsibilities include lobbying and who are acting as representatives of the Alabama Community College System shall restrict their activities to attempting to influence legislation in a manner consistent with State Board of Education policies, expressed intent and stated legislative purpose(s) of the State Board of Education, directives of the Chancellor, and mission statements of the Alabama Community College System as a whole and/or an institution in particular. System employees who lobby as institutional or System representatives are prohibited from engaging in their official capacities in fund-raising activities for candidates for public office, including the solicitation and donation of funds or services for campaign contributions or the payment of campaign debts.

State Board Policy [216.01](#) states, "No institution under the authority, direction, and control of the State Board of Education shall organize, administrate, operate, or participate in any political action committee or like organization. Employees of institutions under the authority, direction, and control of the State Board of Education shall not use the name of any such institution for any political action committee or like organization of institutional employees. Presidents and other administrators of institutions under the authority, direction, and control of the State Board of Education shall not intimidate, coerce, threaten, or in any manner attempt to persuade any employee to join and/or make contributions to any political action committee or like organization of institutional employees."

Chattahoochee Valley Community College maintains no ties to any religious body.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION
Alabama State Board of Education Board Members
State Board Policy 101.03: Composition, Election, Term of Office

[Board Minutes November 10, 2011](#)

[Board Minutes June 23, 2011](#)

[State Board Policy 215.01: Alabama Community College System Lobbying Activities](#)

[State Board Policy 216.01: Political Action Committees](#)