

**BP 2.15
Political Activities of Employees: Candidates for Public Office and Elected Officials**

Legal Authority 1C SBCCC 200.94; 1C SBCCC 200.99; NCGS 115D-5; NCGS 115D-20

**Approvals
Revision** 11/22/99

Policy

Each employee of MTCC retains all rights and obligations of citizenship provided in the Constitution and laws of North Carolina and the Constitution and laws of the United States. The MTCC Board of Trustees encourages employees to exercise their rights and obligations of citizenship. (1C SBCCC 200.99)

I. Political activities of personnel other than the President.

- A. Employees who decide to run for public offices shall notify the Board of Trustees through the President of their intentions to run and certify that they will not campaign or otherwise engage in political activities during their regular work hours or involve the college in their political activities.
- B. Any employee, who is elected to a part-time public office, shall certify through the President to the Board of Trustees that the office will not interfere with his/her carrying out the duties of position with the college, or will request leave.
- C. Any employee, who is elected or appointed to a full-time public office of the General Assembly, shall be required to take a leave of absence as determined by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the President.
- D. Any employee who becomes a candidate for public office shall be prohibited from soliciting support during regular working hours. The employee in question is prohibited from soliciting support on college property on college property unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Trustees.

II. Political activities of the college President.

- A. Any President of MTCC who has decided to run for public office shall notify the Board of Trustees of the intention to run and certify that no campaigning or political activities will be engaged in during regular work hours and that the college will not be involved in the President's political activities.
- B. Any President of MTCC who is elected to a part-time public office shall certify to the Board of Trustees that the office will not interfere with carrying out the duties of the college Presidency, or will request leave.
- C. Any President of MTCC who is elected or appointed to a full-time public office or to the North Carolina General Assembly shall be required to take a leave of absence without pay upon assuming that office. The length of the leave of absence shall be determined by the Board of Trustees.

- D. Any President of MTCC who is a candidate for public office is prohibited from soliciting support during regular work hours. The President in question is prohibited from soliciting support on college property unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Trustees. The authorization must be on a case-by-case basis.
- E. The Board of Trustees shall notify the State Board of Community Colleges if the college President should become a candidate for public office or if the college President is elected or appointed to a public office.

III. Definitions as used in this policy.

- A. Public office means any national, state or local governmental position of public trust and responsibility, whether elective or appointed, which is created or prescribed or recognized by constitution, statute, or ordinance.
- B. Membership in the North Carolina General Assembly is a full-time public office under this policy.