

# SOUTHWESTERN

## LAW SCHOOL Los Angeles, CA

### **Policy on Board-Approved Policies**

**Board of Trustees policy approved September 29, 2022.**

**Revision history: Revised December 2025.**

**Related policies: Amended and Restated Bylaws; Board Committee Charters**

**Scheduled Review Date: September 2028 (Board Governance Committee)**

#### **A. Purpose**

This policy establishes criteria to guide the President and Dean (Dean) in determining when Board of Trustees (Board) approval of specific institutional policies is warranted, ensuring appropriate governance oversight consistent with the Board's fiduciary responsibilities and bylaws.

#### **B. Policies Requiring Board Approval**

The Board must approve the following:

1. Revisions to policies previously approved by the Board. However, minor revisions made solely for clarity, consistency, or compliance do not require Board approval and may be approved by the Dean under delegated authority.
2. Revisions to the Faculty Bylaws.
3. Any new or revised policy regarding the appointment, promotion, retention, tenure, or dismissal of full-time faculty.
4. Any new or revised policy required by law or an accreditation standards to have Board approval.
5. Any new or revised policy that relates to a subject addressed in the Board's bylaws and reserved by those bylaws to the Board or addressed in a Board committee's charter as a Board-level responsibility.

#### **C. Criteria for Evaluating Other Policies**

In deciding whether another Southwestern Law School policy should be approved by the Board, the Dean will consider the criteria listed below, which weigh in favor of Board

approval. When the Dean is uncertain about whether Board approval is required, the Dean will consult with the Board Chair, Executive Committee, or chair of the relevant Board committee.

- The policy implicates the Board's fiduciary duties; for example, it directly involves significant financial oversight, risk management, legal compliance, or stewardship of the institution's mission and reputation.
- The policy deals with issues of important reputational significance to Southwestern.
- It is important to demonstrate to key constituencies (e.g., regulators, accreditors, donors, or internal stakeholders) that Southwestern has approved the policy at the highest level.

**D. Policy Revisions**

Southwestern expressly reserves the right to change or modify any aspect of this policy at any time, with or without notice.