



Change the future >

California Association of Student Councils

51 E. Campbell Ave., Suite 102 Campbell, CA 95008

Tel: (510) 834-2272 Fax: (510) 834-2275

E-mail: cascmail@casc.net www.casc.net

Getting to Sacramento: Student Advisory Board on Education (SABE) and Student Advisory Board on Legislation in Education (SABLE) Sponsorship Guide

Step 1: Contact the conference director to let her know you are looking for sponsorships. SABE/SABLE Director Fia Nicolaescu, fia.nicolaescu@casc.net, can connect you to a CASC staff member in your area who can walk you through every step.

Step 2: Narrow down how much money you will need. Include:

- Registration Costs
- Travel Costs (including transportation from the airport to the site)
- How much you can personally contribute

Step 3: Make a list of individuals and community organizations you have connections to, or may be interested in funding student advocacy/state policy development. Either talk to them in person (preferred), or use the email template at the bottom of this doc. Here are some sponsor ideas:

- ASB/ Student Council: As a member of your student body, your ASB is determined to serve you, and many have the funds to participate in leadership development activities. Talk to your ASB/student council advisor.
- Principal/ School Site Council/ Superintendents/ County Offices of Education: Educators are willing to support student advocacy and civic engagement. If they cannot afford to sponsor you as a SABE delegate, ask for help pointing you to the people who can.

Finding school/district contact information: Search for your school under the “school” tab for principal contact information, or district under the “district” tab for superintendent contacts. Scroll down the email of your principal/superintendent.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/SchoolDirectory/districtschool?allsearch=%20&simplesearch=Y&page=0&tab=1>



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When emailing superintendents, CC other district staff. Look up [your district name] + “directory” and CC members of your district staff who deal with finance or student projects.

Finding county office contact information: Select “County” under the “view by” tab near the top of the page and select your county.

<https://cacountysupts.org/members/>

*Disclaimer: DO NOT RELY on administrators for funding! They may or may not see your request, so we recommend you start with your principal, and have them direct you to district officials that can help. Also, do not hesitate to be persistent. Send follow-up emails after two weeks and try calling their office, as well. Their role is to serve you.

• Community Organizations: Some examples include:

- Rotary
- Lion’s Club
- Kiwanis Club
- Chambers of Commerce (search [city name] + “chamber of commerce”)
- City Youth Councils/Advisory Councils
- Community Foundations
 - For a full listing of community organizations, contact your city’s Chamber of Commerce or visit their website.
- Young Republican/Democrats Clubs
- Police stations
- Firehouses
- Local cultural groups
- Your place of worship (churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, etc.)
- PTA
- Optimist/Soroptimist Club
- CTE Programs
- Parent/Guardian’s place of work

* Personal connections are ALWAYS best. If you are a member of Key Club or are in a CTE program, talk to your advisor.



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NOTE: Cater your ask to the organization's goals. And contact AS MANY ORGANIZATIONS AS POSSIBLE. You'll get multiple no's before you get a yes.

Step 4: Contact funders using the template at the end of this doc. Different organizations and individuals will have different policies for giving. Some may require you to write a letter to their members, others will want to hear more information in person. Determine what follow-up is needed.

NOTE: Be transparent and ask them to contribute as much as they can to help you reach your goal.

Step 5: Follow up on their decision

If an organization or individual has sponsored you, ask if they would be interested in having you present to them about what policy you worked on in Sacramento. Provide them with the registration form and payment information if necessary. They may want to speak directly with CASC; in that case, they may contact the SABLE and SABLE director, Fia Nicolaescu, at fia.nicolaescu@casc.net.

Making Your Case: Why should they invest in **you**? Here are some ideas that you will want to include in your sales pitch:

- SABLE and SABLE are not just leadership conferences; they are real opportunities to make change in education policy and gain hands-on experience.
- The programs allow you to speak up for your community at the state level
- Delegates learn how to lobby and advocate in their local communities
- Delegates take on the responsibility of representing millions of students to the most influential figures in California
- SABLE and SABLE have affected the way our schools look and work
 - CASC passed bills to require free menstrual products in school bathrooms (2021), required a student present at expulsion hearing (2024), and added a student board member to the State Board of Education (1969)
- Delegates from across the state meet and form a powerful network of student leaders



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Each person you approach will have a different motivation for contributing. Schools and districts will want to be represented in education policy at the state level. CTE programs are interested in leadership/job skills development. Rotaries and other community service organizations will be interested in how you will represent your local community at the conference. Research the mission of every organization you contact.

Some scholarships are available directly through CASC. To apply for these scholarships, use this [link](#). However, CASC has a limited number of scholarships we can give out. We **strongly** recommend that delegates look to their local communities for funding first.

For any help or support obtaining funding through CASC or outside organizations, please contact the Education Policy Director, Fia Nicolaescu, at fia.nicolaescu@casc.net.



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EMAIL TEMPLATE: Send to principals, organizations, superintendents, etc. Contact AS MANY AS POSSIBLE!

Subject: Request for Support: Empowering Student Leadership & Civic Engagement

To the members of [organization name]/ Dear [Name]

My name is [FirstName_ LastName]. I am a [grade] student at [school]. [Any other relevant personal information like... "I have recently been elected to student government"... "I have an interest in student leadership"... "I have a passion for student advocacy"... "I have recently moved to the area." "I currently serve as (Youth Council Member, Student Board Member, Club Officer, etc.), in which I (...)].

I am writing to ask for your financial support to attend [Program_Name], a leadership program conducted by the California Association of Student Councils (CASC). CASC is a student-led nonprofit organization founded by the California Department of Education in 1947.

For more than 40 years, student representatives from across California have met annually to find ways to improve our schools.

[Select paragraph for the program you're attending, delete the other]

Through the **Student Advisory Board on Education (SABE)**, students create and present their recommendations to the California State Board of Education. Throughout this 4-day conference, students from across California will discuss specific problems in the state's education system and develop solution proposals. At the end of the conference, students will present their recommendations to the California State Board of Education in the only formal student presentation to a State Board of Education in the nation. I have often felt a necessity to speak up about the issues that affect my education, and this is my opportunity to do so on behalf of over six million other students.

The **Student Advisory Board on Legislation in Education** is a 3-day event, where students work in small groups to develop proposals to present to the Senate and/or Assembly committee on education. In 2024, topic areas range from immigration to mental health reform. Students presented their findings in front of the Assembly joint



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committee on education, and were formally recognized at the capitol during the assembly general session. I have often felt a necessity to speak up about the issues that affect my education, and this is my opportunity to do so on behalf of over six million other students.

CASC conferences have made tangible policy accomplishments. These include AB 367 (Garcia), AB 1867 (Lee), AB 748 (Carrillo), and SB 1445 (Cortese). These bills mandated schools to provide free menstrual health products in bathrooms, update old plumbing infrastructure, install mental health signage, and reform restorative justice programs.

In order to pay for my registration and travel, I will need to raise \$**[insert dollar amount]**. I hope your organization can contribute to my goal. I would greatly appreciate any contribution you could make to furthering my passion for advocacy and leadership, as I aim to represent our community. Please let me know if you would like to meet to discuss this, or have any further questions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Firstname **Lastname**