Change the future >

Student Advisory Board on Education (SABE):
Sponsorship Guide

The Student Advisory Board on Education (SABE) is a summit of student representatives from every area of California who are interested in speaking up about their education. The vitality of the program is dependent on an even representation of every area and demographic of the state. **If you're interested in attending SABE, but do not have the means to finance your own participation, CASC is committed to finding ways for you to become a delegate.** CASC staff can help you in every step of the sponsorship process. We believe that each school and community is responsible for financing the participation of its own delegates. CASC also provides partial and full need-based scholarships. Please refer to the end of this guide for more information.

The process for securing sponsorships can be a very simple one with the proper planning. The following process can be applied to covering your costs to attend SABE:

Step One: Make a Decision

Action Step: Talk to your parents/guardians about attending
SABE represents a great commitment, but an even greater opportunity. If you decide you would like to be involved, let the people in your household know where you'll be during this election week. Having the support of your parents/guardians will be a huge help as you will be missing three days of school and for when you talk to other adults.

Action Step: Contact the conference director and/or outreach director to let him know you are looking for sponsorships
CASC can provide all the tools you need to help you in your endeavor. Sue Oh, SABE Director, is your main link to the organization and conference (sue.oh@casc.net). Shreya Shetty, State Outreach Director, is also a great resource (shreya.shetty@casc.net). CASC scholarships are available as well. Please refer to the end of this guide for more information.

Step Two: Define an Objective

Action Step: Research how much money you will need in order to attend

The first step is to narrow down how much money you will need. When determining this sum, make sure to include:
- Registration Costs
- Travel Costs (including transportation from the airport to the site and back)
  - Flights, trains, drives, etc
- Personal contributions

Action Step: Develop an objective
An objective statement is specific, measurable, attainable, and time-oriented. An example is, "I will raise a total of $500 to cover my SABE registration fees and mileage to Sacramento by October 4th, 2023".

Step Three: Approach Your Potential Funders

Action Step: Make a list of individuals and community organizations who may be interested in funding their representation in a state-wide forum.
Who in your community has the resources to contribute? Brainstorm a list of potential funders. Here are some ideas:
- School Associated Student Body (ASB)/Student Council: As a member of your student body, your ASB is determined to serve you. Many ASBs have the funds to participate in leadership activities. Talk to your leadership advisor(s) and your student council officers.
- Principal/School Site Council/School District Staff (Superintendents and Boards of Trustees): Educators are more than willing to support student engagement in civic activities. They are also aware of possible sources of funding. If they cannot afford to sponsor you as a SABE delegate, your principal, members of your school site council, school board, and district staff can point you to the people who can.
- Community Organizations: Every community has organizations solely dedicated to identifying their areas' needs and fulfilling them. Some examples include:
  - Rotary
  - Lion's/Lioness' Club
  - Kiwanis Club
  - Optimist/Soroptimist Club
  - Chamber of Commerce (and ethnic Chambers)
  - City Youth Councils
  - Community Foundations
  - Young Republican/Democrats Clubs
  - For a full listing of community organizations, contact your city's Chamber of Commerce or visit their website.

Action Step: Make a case for yourself
Each person you approach will have a different motivation for contributing. For example, your school and district will want to be represented alongside other schools and districts at

the state level. Rotaries and other professional community organizations will be interested in how the skills you acquire at SABE will help your community. Other community organizations will be interested in your contributions to improving education at a state and local level. Be sure to research the mission of every organization you contact.

Action Step: Contact funders and find out what their sponsorship policies are.
Different organizations and individuals will have different policies for giving. While 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.

Action Step: Follow up on their decision
Whether they chose to sponsor you or not, make sure to send a thank-you note to the people you contact. If an organization or individual has sponsored you, ask if they would be interested in having you present to them or their members about what you did in Sacramento. Provide them with registration form and payment information if necessary.

Making Your Case: Why should they invest in you?

SABE and SABLE, more so than any other youth programs, presents a great case for funding. Here are some ideas that you will want to include in your sales pitch:
- SABE and SABLE are not leadership conferences, they are a real-life, active interest groups
- Delegates present their proposals to the State Board of Education (SABE) or the Senate and Assembly Joint Committee on Education (SABLE)
- Delegates have the opportunity to write a bill into law
  - Here is a list of SABE and SABLE generated bills that have passed into law; these are directly written by students such as you at the conference
- SABE delegates all have a vote for the next State Student Board Member on the State Board of Education, their vote representing millions of students
  - There is one student who sits on the State Board of Education will equal and complete voting rights and majority of the selection process takes place at SABE
- Delegates connect to many prominent leaders in the education field from organizations such as the California School Boards Association, California State PTA, Association of California School Administrators, the Instructional Quality Commission, the California Department of Education, and many more
- Delegates lobby to their elected officials, visiting the capitol building to speak directly to their legislators and staff
- The programs give you an opportunity to speak up with your area at the state level
- Delegates learn organizing skills that can help them activate their communities
- Delegates are taking on the responsibility of representing millions of students to the most influential figures in California

- SABE and SABLE have affected the way our schools look and work
- Delegates have the power to affect the lives of the millions of students they represent
- Both programs are sponsored and organized by CASC, the state's premier youth leadership organization
- SABE and SABLE can provide unparalleled real-world experiences
- Delegates from across the state will form an action network

Scholarships

Some scholarships are available directly through CASC. To apply for these scholarships, please apply through this link.

For questions about finding sponsorships and to obtain marketing materials, press releases, sample donation letters and for conference-related information, please contact CASC's Education Policy/SABE & SABLE Director, Sue Oh at sue.oh@casc.net and State Outreach Director, Shreya Shetty, at shreya.shetty@casc.net.