

MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

**FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
Section 711**

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines and procedures for accepting gifts

A. Introduction

The Board of Trustees reserves the authority to accept services, money, real property, personal property, equipment or other items of value that are donated, bequeathed or otherwise given (herein collectively referred to as "gifts") to a college or the Maine Community College System. The Board reserves the right not to accept any gift that the Board considers to be inappropriate, burdensome or contrary to the mission or purposes of a college or the System.

B. Gifts to a College of Real Property or Value over \$25,000

Only the Board may accept on behalf of a college or the System gifts of real property, and other gifts with a value over \$25,000. The System president or president of the college that has received such a gift shall present the gift to the Board for review and acceptance.

C. Gifts to the System or a College up to \$25,000

The Board delegates to the System and college presidents the authority to accept on behalf of a college or the System gifts with a value of \$25,000 or less, excluding gifts of real property. Such gifts to a college with a value in excess of \$10,000 must be approved by the System President prior to acceptance. A president may not accept a gift that is inconsistent with or does not further the mission or purposes of the college or System. The president of the college that has received such gift(s) shall present at least annually to the MCCA president a summary of such gift(s).

D. Gifts to a College Foundation over \$5,000

The president of a college whose foundation has received a gift with a value over \$5,000 shall periodically report such gifts to the MCCA chief financial officer.

E. Donor Intent

The donor's intent shall, where known, govern the use of all gifts. If the donor's intent is not evident after consideration of all pertinent facts, the Board may rely upon the recommendation of the college and System presidents.

F. Limitation

Neither MCCS nor any related foundation shall accept funds from any source that would interfere with or otherwise restrict the academic freedoms typically accorded to the faculty of public higher educational institutions in teaching, research and expression of professional opinions; provided that this limitation may not be construed to prohibit a donor from designating funds for a particular purpose or use, including, but not limited to, research, scholarships, construction or development.

REFERENCES: 20-A M.R.S.A. §12706(6) and (13); 20-A M.R.S.A. §10007

DATE ADOPTED: June 24, 2009

DATE(S) AMENDED: May 3, 2013; January 27, 2021