



Fall 2026

Dear Anteater Community:

California's General Election is Tuesday, November 3, 2026. As we approach Election Day, I want to share a reminder about voting resources and UC and UC Irvine policies regarding political activity, advocacy and engagement with elected officials.

UC Irvine supports civic participation and encourages eligible members of our community to exercise their individual right to vote. At the same time, as a public university and tax-exempt organization, we must maintain a clear distinction between activities conducted on behalf of the university and political activities undertaken by faculty and staff in their personal capacities.

## **Voting Information**

California counties will begin mailing vote-by-mail ballots by October 5. The deadline to [register to vote](#) online for the November election is October 19, and Orange County Vote Centers begin opening October 24.

For information about registering to vote, checking your registration status, voting by mail or finding a Vote Center, please visit the [California Secretary of State](#) or [Orange County Registrar of Voters](#).

## **Personal Political Activity**

Faculty and staff are free to participate in the political process on their own time and using their own resources. These activities may include supporting candidates or ballot measures, attending political events, volunteering, making contributions or expressing personal political views.

When doing so, it should be clear that you are acting as a private individual and not on behalf of UC Irvine.

University resources — including university-paid time, email, computers, phones, office space, facilities, letterhead, logos and university communications channels — may not be used for candidate campaigns, partisan political activity or campaign activity supporting or opposing ballot measures.

If you use your UC Irvine title for identification in connection with personal political activity, please ensure there is no implication of university endorsement. When appropriate, a disclaimer may be used:

*"My UC Irvine title is provided for identification purposes only. I am speaking in my personal capacity, and my views do not represent UC Irvine or the University of California."*

## **Official UC Irvine Advocacy**

Engaging policymakers on issues affecting higher education, research, healthcare and public service is an important part of UC Irvine's mission. [Community & Government Relations](#) coordinates these activities on behalf of the university in partnership with the UC Office of the President.

Faculty and staff expertise is often particularly valuable to policymakers. If you are asked to provide testimony, brief an elected official or government agency, advocate regarding legislation or funding, sign a policy or legislative letter

on behalf of UC Irvine, or otherwise engage policymakers in your university capacity, please contact **Community & Government Relations in advance**.

Likewise, if a congressional, state or local elected official or government office contacts you regarding UC Irvine business, please keep Community & Government Relations informed. We can assist with background, coordination and applicable advocacy or reporting requirements.

### **Inviting Government Officials or Candidates**

UC Irvine welcomes opportunities to engage elected officials and government leaders with our faculty, students and programs.

If you are considering inviting an elected official, senior government official or candidate for elected office to campus or to participate in a UC Irvine-sponsored event, please contact **Community & Government Relations before issuing the invitation**. This is particularly important during an election period, when additional requirements may apply to candidate appearances and university-sponsored events.

### **A Few Important Reminders**

Please do not:

- use UC Irvine resources for candidate or ballot-measure campaign activity;
- endorse or oppose a candidate on behalf of UC Irvine;
- use university letterhead, logos, email accounts or other resources in a manner that could imply university endorsement of personal political views;
- commit UC Irvine to a position on legislation or public policy without appropriate authorization; or
- give the appearance of speaking on behalf of the university unless authorized to do so.

These requirements apply to our roles as university employees. They do not prevent faculty and staff from participating in the political process as private individuals on their own time and with their own resources. For additional information, please visit the [UC Irvine Community & Government Relations Advocacy Guidelines and Policies](#), which includes guidance on university resources, correspondence with elected officials, ballot campaigns and political activities.

I encourage eligible members of the Anteater community to learn about the issues, make a plan to vote and participate in our democratic process.

For questions about advocacy, engagement with government officials or political activity involving UC Irvine, please contact Community & Government Relations at [publicaffairs@uci.edu](mailto:publicaffairs@uci.edu).

Respectfully,

P. Alberto Sandoval  
Assistant Vice Chancellor  
Community & Government Relations  
UC Irvine Strategic Communication and Public Affairs