Board Policy: Business & Noninstructional Operations # 302







JOINT VENTURE POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this Joint Venture Policy is to protect the non-profit status of ensure that University Preparation School at CSU Channel Islands' ("UPS/UCMSUPCS") participation in joint venture arrangements are carefully evaluated . This policy requires that the Charter School evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under Federal tax law to ensure legal compliance with applicable laws and to take steps to safeguard protect the Charter School UPCS's tax exempt status with respect to such arrangements. It—This policy applies to any joint ownership or contractual arrangement through which there is an agreement to jointly undertake a specific business enterprise, investment, or exempt-purpose activity as further defined in this policy.

Joint Ventures with Taxable Other Entities

For purposes of this policy, a joint venture or similar arrangement (or a "venture or arrangementJoint Venture") means any joint ownership or contractual arrangement through which there is an agreement to jointly undertake a specific business enterprise, investment, or exempt-purpose activity without regard to:

- (1) Whether the Charter School UPCS controls the venture or arrangement Joint Venture;
- (2) The legal structure of the venture or arrangement Joint Venture; or

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- (3) Whether the venture or arrangementJoint Venture is taxed as a partnership or as an association or corporation for federal income tax purposes. A venture or arrangementJoint Venture is disregarded if it meets both of the following conditions:
 - (a) 95% or more of the venture's or arrangement's income for its tax year ending within the <u>Charter SchoolUPCS</u>'s tax year is excluded from unrelated business income taxation [including but not limited to: (i) dividends, interest, and annuities; (ii) royalties; (iii) rent from real property and incidental related personal property except to the extent of debt-financing; and (iv) gains or losses from the sale of property]; and
 - (b) The primary purpose of the <u>Charter School UPCS</u>'s contribution to, or investment or participation in, the <u>venture or arrangement Joint Venture</u> is the production of income or appreciation of property.

Safeguards to Ensure Exempt Status Protection

The Charter School UPCS will:

- (1) Negotiate in its transactions and arrangements with other members of the venture or arrangementJoint Venture such terms and safeguards adequate to ensure that the Charter School UPCS's tax exempt status is protected and to ensure compliance with all applicable laws; and
- (a) (2) Take steps to safeguard the Charter School's exempt status with respect to the venture or arrangement. Some examples of Such safeguards shall include the following minimum requirements: include:
 - (b)(a) UPCS's cControl over the venture or arrangementJoint Venture must be sufficient to ensure that it furthers the tax-exempt purpose of the organizationUPCS;
 - (e)(b) A rRequirements that the venture or arrangementJoint Venture gives priority to <u>UPCS</u> charitable purposes over maximizing profits for the other participants;
 - (d)(c) That the venture or arrangement Joint Venture not engage in activities that would jeopardize the Charter School UPCS's tax exemption; and
 - (d) That all contracts entered into pertaining to a Joint Venture with the organization be on terms that made at are arm's length;
 - (e) That the Board of Director determine that the Joint Venture isor more favorable to in the best interest of the Charter School UPCS;

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- (f) A prohibition on activities that would jeopardize UPCS' charter(s);
- (g) A prohibition against entering into a Joint Venture that may result in a prohibited conflict of interest; and
- (h) A prohibition on activities that may constitute an unlawful gift of public funds by UPCS.

Where there is any question as to whether a particular Joint Venture may result in a violation of law or may impact UPCS' tax-exempt status, a decision to enter into such Joint Venture will be made only after consultation with legal and/or tax counsel.

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