

ECR 2

Chairman, Board of Trustees
June 30, 2026

Members, Board of Trustees:

PROCESS FOR THE 2025-26 BOARD OF TRUSTEES SELF-EVALUATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the process, attached timeline and preliminary list of survey questions as part of the 2025-26 Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation.

Background: Pursuant to Governing Regulation II and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Standard 4.2.g (Board self-evaluation), the Board of Trustees is obligated to perform an annual self-evaluation.

The Executive Committee shall serve as the self-evaluation review committee and shall involve the entire Board of Trustees.

Assessment of the Board's performance will be transmitted to the Board from electronic survey responses and the Executive Committee will review the survey results and provide a report to the full Board of Trustees and propose any potential recommendations to the Board.

The process is intended to gather information and guide self-reflection for the Board as a mechanism for improvement.

Action taken:



Approved



Disapproved



Other

2025-26 Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation Timeline

June 30, 2026	Executive Committee reviews a proposed list of questions and timeline.
July 2026	Questions are distributed to the Board of Trustees for review and feedback.
September 18, 2026	Executive Committee finalizes questions after considering any feedback. The self-evaluation is circulated to the Board of Trustees.
September/October 2026	Board self-evaluations are collected for review.
October 17, 2026	Executive Committee meets to review the Board of Trustees' self-evaluations and drafts any potential recommendations. Chair presents Executive Committee report, and the full Board of Trustees votes on any proposed recommendations.

Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation

Mission and Strategy

The Board...

1. Ensures the institution operates under a strategic plan that defines the institution's mission, goals and priorities.
2. Is actively involved in shaping and supporting the university's strategy and direction in accomplishing its strategic plan.
3. Understands and promotes the university's land-grant mission.
4. The governance of the University of Kentucky is vested by law in the Board of Trustees (KRS 164.131). Within the limits set by the Federal and State Constitutions and the federal and state laws, the Board of Trustees is the final authority in all matters affecting the institution and exercises jurisdiction over the institution's financial, educational and other policies and its relationship with the state and federal governments (KRS 164.200 through 270 and 164A.630). Governing Regulation II further describes the authority, membership, committees and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees. Please read the Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) **here** and Governing Regulation II **here**.
 - a. Does the Board fulfill these responsibilities as described in the statutes and Governing Regulation II?
 - b. Given the changing environment in higher education and the challenges facing the University, does the Board believe Governing Regulation II provides adequate guidance and an appropriate structure for Board decision-making?

Please provide any additional comments or suggestions related to the Board's performance of Mission and Strategy:

Leadership and Shared Governance

The Board...

5. Ensures the president works with appropriate constituent groups to gain support for institutional goals.
6. Delegates the day-to-day administration of the university to the president.
7. Appropriately engages in the governance and policymaking of the Board while recognizing the distinctions between Board responsibilities and those of the administration and faculty.

Please provide any additional comments or suggestions:

Function and Duties

The Board...

8. Is adequately informed and understands the fiscal conditions of the university.
9. Understands the fiscal audit process and subsequent recommendations.
10. Exercises fiduciary oversight of the institution.
11. Ensures that the presiding officer of the Board and other voting members are free of any contractual, employment, personal or familial financial interest in the institution.
12. Adheres to conflict-of-interest policy and addresses conflicts quickly and appropriately.
13. Understands and respects the Board's roles and responsibilities and scope of authority.
14. Implements steps for Board development (e.g. continuing education, retreats, regular Board assessments.)

Please provide any additional comments or suggestions related to the Board's performance of Function and Duties:

Institutional Effectiveness

The Board...

15. Reviews the institution's performance in the following areas:
 - a. Teaching, learning and student success
 - b. Research and scholarship
 - c. Service
 - d. Health
16. Is adaptable to changes in the political, environmental and global arenas in order to help shape UK's Mission and Strategy.
17. Emphasizes that the institution plays a positive economic and social role in the communities it serves across the Commonwealth.

Please provide any additional comments or suggestions related to the Board's performance of Institutional Effectiveness:

Board Culture

The Board...

18. Retains independence from external and internal stakeholders and acts in the best interest of the institution.

19. Establishes a culture of engagement built upon trust, respect and a commitment to inquiry and community.

20. Acts with transparency while respecting circumstances in which personal privacy, proprietary information and privileged communication are respected.

21. Remains committed to and undertakes educational activities centered around building one community from many different people.

Please provide any additional comments or suggestions related to the Board's Culture: