

The Board of Trustees

In this activity, you are a trustee of a public university charged with setting, among other things, the admissions policy for the university. You and your fellow trustees will decide on the goal of the admissions policy and address the question of affirmative action at the school.

1. With your fellow Trustees, you should do the following:
 - a. Discuss and answer this question: *What should be the goal of the admissions policy at your university?*
 - b. Look at each of the proposed policies on affirmative action and discuss the pros and cons of each.
 - c. Decide which policy your university should adopt. If none of the listed policies are attractive, combine policies or create your own.
 - d. Be prepared to report on your decisions and the reasons for them.
2. Each group should report its decisions and the class should discuss them.

Proposed Policies on Affirmative Action

- 1. Top Ten Percent.** Adopt a policy similar to Texas' Top Ten Percent Law (see background article for details).
- 2. Race or Ethnicity as a Plus Factor.** Adopt an affirmative action program that makes race a plus factor, but not the only factor, in determining admission.
- 3. Class-Based Affirmative Action.** Give applicants a plus factor if they are from low-income families.
- 4. Grades and Test Scores Only.** Base university admission on high school grades and SAT scores only.