Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to maximize transparency and avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest when LACERS considers investment proposals in order to ensure that system investment decisions are made solely on the merits of the investment opportunity by individuals that owe a fiduciary duty to the system. This policy requires firms submitting proposals for consideration by LACERS to disclose the identity of all Placement Agents and/or individuals by whom the firm was referred to LACERS, and further indicate those so identified that stand to receive fees or other considerations in the event that a contract between the firm and LACERS is secured. This policy is intended to apply broadly to all investment partners with whom LACERS does business, including, but not limited to, private equity funds, real estate funds, and infrastructure funds, as well as investment managers retained pursuant to a contract. The Board has determined, in good faith, that the adoption of this policy is consistent with its fiduciary responsibilities as described in Section 17 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

I. Disclosure of Payments Made to Placement Agents

Each External Manager shall provide to LACERS the required information listed below within 45 days of the time investment discussions are initiated by the External Manager or LACERS but in any event prior to the completion of due diligence. Any changes to the information provided to LACERS must be disclosed within 14 calendar days of the occurrence of the change in information. In the case of amendments to an existing agreement, this information is required prior to execution of the amendment.

A. A statement whether the External Manager, or any of its principals, employees, agents or affiliates has compensated or agreed to compensate, directly or indirectly, any person or entity to act as a Placement Agent in connection with any investment by LACERS.

B. A resume for each Placement Agent detailing the person’s education, professional designations, regulatory licenses, and investment and work experience. If any such person is a former LACERS Board member, employee or Consultant or the member of an immediate family of any such person, this fact shall be specifically noted. When an entity is retained as a Placement Agent, any officer, director or employee actively providing placement agent services with regard to LACERS or receiving more than 15% of the placement agent fees should provide information required by this subsection.

C. A description of any and all compensation of any kind provided, or agreed to be provided, to the Placement Agent, including the nature, timing and value thereof.

D. A description of the services to be performed by the Placement Agent and a statement as to whether the Placement Agent is utilized by the External Manager with all prospective clients or only a subset of prospective clients.

E. A statement whether the Placement Agent, or any of its affiliates, are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or any similar regulatory agency in a country other than the United States, and the details of that registration or an explanation as to why no registration is required.

F. A statement whether the Placement Agent, or any of its affiliates, is registered as a lobbyist with the City of Los Angeles, State of California or national government.
II. Disclosure of Campaign Contributions by Placement Agent to the Board

A. Any Placement Agent, prior to acting as a Placement Agent in connection with any potential LACERS investment, shall disclose to the Board all campaign contributions made by the Placement Agent to any elected member of the Board during the prior 24-month period. Additionally, any subsequent campaign contribution made by the Placement Agent to an elected member of the Board during the time the Placement Agent is receiving compensation in connection with a system investment shall also be disclosed.

B. Any Placement Agent, prior to acting as Placement Agent in connection with any potential LACERS investment, shall disclose to the Board all gifts, as defined in Government Code Section 82028, given by the Placement Agent to any member of the Board, staff, or consultant during the prior 24-month period. Additionally, any subsequent gift given by the Placement Agent to any member of the Board, staff, or consultant during the time the Placement Agent is receiving compensation in connection with a system investment shall also be disclosed.

III. Definitions

A. Consultant refers to individuals or firms, and includes key personnel of consultant firms who are contractually retained or have been appointed to a pool by the system to provide investment advice to the system but who do not exercise investment decisions.

B. External Manager means either of the following:
   1. A person who is seeking to be, or is retained by LACERS to manage a portfolio of securities or other assets for compensation.
   2. A person who is engaged, or proposes to be engaged, in the business of investing, reinvesting, owning, holding, or trading securities or other assets and who offers or sells, or has offered or sold, securities to LACERS.

C. Person means an individual, corporation, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, or association, either domestic or foreign.

D. Placement Agent
   1. A person hired, engaged, or retained by, or serving for the benefit of or on behalf of, an External Manager, or on behalf of another Placement Agent, who acts or has acted for compensation as a finder, solicitor, marketer, consultant, broker, or other intermediary in connection with the offer or sale of the securities, assets, or services of an External Manager to LACERS or an Investment Vehicle, either directly or indirectly.
   2. Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an individual who is an employee, officer, director, equity holder, partner, member, or trustee of an External Manager and who spends one-third or more of his or her time, during a calendar year, managing the securities or assets owned, controlled, invested, or held by the External Manager is not a Placement Agent.
   3. For the purpose of this section, an “Investment Vehicle” means a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, or other entity, either, either domestic or foreign, constituting or managed by an External Manager in which LACERS is the majority investor that is organized in order to invest with, or retain the investment management services of, other External Managers.
 ARTICLE II. BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

IV. Requirement of Placement Agent to File Reports and Comply with Requirements Imposed on Lobbyist

A. A person acting as a Placement Agent in connection with any potential system investment made by LACERS, shall file applicable reports and comply with any applicable requirements imposed on lobbyist under the Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq.

This section does not apply to an individual who is an employee, officer, director, equity holder, partner, member or trustee of an External Manager who spends one-third or more of his or her time, during a calendar year, managing the securities or assets owned, controlled, invested or held by the External Manager.