

## Default Option for Public Comments in Senate Meetings

First step: Choose TWO options from the *four* listed below.

Second step: Senate votes on two most popular options.

Third step: Senate debates on what value of X and Y in “Time Adjustment” paragraph to apply to winning option.

### Options:

- 1) Opportunity to Address the Senate at beginning of meeting with no more than 3 minutes per speaker and no more than 15 minutes *total*. Public can speak on any non-agenda item within the Senate’s jurisdiction *and* on any agenda item. Public not speak at other times in meeting. (*Option proposed at Senate 22 Sept 2021 meeting.*)
- 2) Opportunity to Address the Senate at beginning of meeting with no more than 3 minutes per speaker, no more than 15 minutes *per topic*, and speakers grouped by topic, ordered in first come-first to speak basis. Public can speak on any non-agenda item within the Senate’s jurisdiction *and* on any agenda item. Public not speak at other times in meeting.
- 3) Opportunity to Address the Senate at beginning of meeting with no more than 3 minutes per speaker and no more than 15 minutes *total*. Public can speak on any non-agenda item within the Senate’s jurisdiction during “Opportunity to Address”. Public can speak at beginning of agenda item discussion before Senators/Officers deliberate+vote. Public comment on agenda item limited to no more than 3 minutes per speaker and no more than 15 minutes total.
- 4) Opportunity to Address the Senate at beginning of meeting with no more than 3 minutes per speaker, no more than 15 minutes *per topic*, and speakers grouped by topic, ordered in first come-first to speak basis. Public can speak on any non-agenda item within the Senate’s jurisdiction during “Opportunity to Address”. Public can speak at beginning of agenda item discussion before Senators/Officers deliberate+vote. Public comment on agenda item limited to no more than 3 minutes per speaker and no more than 15 minutes total.

**Time Adjustment:** One of the scenarios above with an increase of X time per speaker and Y total minutes or Y minutes per topic. X values can range between -1 (i.e., a reduction) and plus-infinity (i.e., no limit). Y values can range between -5 (i.e., a reduction) and plus-infinity (i.e., no limit).

The chosen scenario would be the default for the Senate meetings during that academic year. However, at the discretion of a majority of the Senate at a given meeting, these times may be extended for the given meeting only. Also, at a given meeting, a majority of the Senate can vote to allow a member of the general public with relevant information or expertise to speak on a given agenda item at that meeting.

In all situations, anyone wishing to distribute documents for Senators/Officers to consider at the meeting where an action (vote) will be taken, must fill out the “Opportunity to Address Request” form found on the Senate’s website in the “Joining Academic Senate Meetings” section by three hours before the meeting (i.e., 12:30 PM). The document(s) will be posted on the Senate’s meeting page in time for the rest of the public to see what document(s) the Senators/Officers are considering.

[https://bakersfieldcollegeedu.formstack.com/forms/opportunity\\_to\\_address\\_request\\_academic\\_senate](https://bakersfieldcollegeedu.formstack.com/forms/opportunity_to_address_request_academic_senate)

All written comments/information documents received within three hours of the start of the meeting, but before the item is called will be submitted into the written record for the relevant item, and posted at the Academic Senate webpage within five working days of the adjournment of the meeting. Any written comment/information documents received after the item is called will be posted with the next scheduled Academic Senate meeting materials under Opportunity to Address.

We ask individuals wishing to verbally address the Academic Senate on specific items, during the public comment time(s) in the meeting, to complete and submit the address request form prior to the start of the meeting to aid in creating an orderly and timely progress of public comments in the meeting. Those who use the form will be recognized first, then *if time permits*, a call will be made at the meeting for any additional members of the public who wish to make public comments.