

**Cal Poly Humboldt  
University Senate**

**Resolution on Gift Cards to Students Policy**

24-22/23-UPC — April 11, 2023 — Second Reading

**RESOLVED:** That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends to the President that the Gift Cards to Students Policy be approved.

**RATIONALE:** A gift card, gift certificate, store-value card, or a prepaid credit card, collectively referred to as a gift card, is considered a cash or cash equivalent that is subject to taxes regardless of the face value (Internal Revenue Service, IRS, code section 132). However, de minimis benefits (an amount so small as to make accounting for it unreasonable or administratively impracticable) are excluded under IRS Code section 132(a)(4). Cal Poly Humboldt has established a de minimis value of \$25 or less. Hence, a gift card equal to any amount of \$26 or more is reportable and is required to be pre-approved by the Financial Aid Office, as it may affect the student's other financial aid.