

## Criteria for Determining "First-Year Board Member" Status

We sometimes have superintendents ask us if a newly elected board member who was on the board previously is considered a "first-year board member" for training purposes. In other words, if a newly elected or appointed board member has served before, does he or she still have to go through the orientation to the education code? Does he or she still have to get 10 hours of tier three continuing education in the first new year of service, as opposed to the five that veteran board members are required to receive? Here's how you can determine which training requirements apply to board members returning to service after some time off the board.

If a board member has been off the board for **longer than one year**, he or she is considered a first-year board member and must fulfill the training requirements for first year board members.

Thus, if a board member went off the board last May and was re-elected to the board this May, he or she must fulfill the requirements of an experienced board member. But if he or she went off the board in May 2001 and was re-elected this May, he or she must fulfill the requirements of a first-year board member.

If you have additional questions about this or other training requirements, refer to the Continuing Education Credit Reporting Service section of the TASB Web site.