

Regional Research Group Coordinators and RP Group At-Large and Regional Representative Board Members: What's the Difference?



The RP Group works with people in the institutional research, planning, and effectiveness (IRPE) community to help facilitate communication, information sharing, and collegiality. This document outlines three different roles that support the IRPE community and includes information about their primary role and responsibilities, how they work with each other, background information on their formation, and how each is selected/elected. Please note that the RRG Coordinator may or may not be an RP Group Board member.

	Regional Research Group (RRG) Coordinators	At-Large Board Members	Regional Representative Board Members
<p>Role & Responsibilities</p> <p>For details, see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RP Group Board Member Roles and Responsibilities • Regional Research Groups 	<p>RRG Coordinators are responsible for coordinating regular/recurring meetings with the IRPE offices in their region.</p> <p>RRG Coordinators are in regular communication with the Regional Representatives Board members to help ensure an RP Group presence at RRG meetings by coordinating presentations and information sharing.</p>	<p>While Regional Representatives are elected by the colleges in their region, up to two At-Large Board Members are appointed to the Board in order to bring experience, perspective, or expertise that may be lacking in the overall Board. For instance, At-Large members could be appointed in order to increase the Board's knowledge and capacity in planning, noncredit, adult education, equity, etc.</p> <p>At-Large Board members serve as a communication conduit between the Board and IRPE professionals who focus on regional and state collaborations, bringing any identified issues to the Board's attention.</p> <p>At-Large Board members are expected to work closely with the Regional Representative(s) in their home region to coordinate communications within the region.</p> <p>At-Large Board members are expected to attend RRG meetings in their home region, coordinating with the Regional Representatives to ensure at least one Board member is in attendance at RRG meetings.</p> <p>At-Large Board members are <i>highly</i> encouraged to also attend RRG meetings in areas other than their home region to support communication and relationships with colleges across the state.</p>	<p>In addition to their role and responsibilities as Board members, Regional Representatives serve as a communication conduit between the Board and the IRPE community in their region.</p> <p>Regional Representatives serve as the key ambassadors for The RP Group within the IRPE community and across the California Community Colleges (CCC). Regional Representatives are expected to share information (e.g., monthly updates, board meeting summaries) with the IRPE professionals in their region and bring issues raised in their region to the Board's attention.</p> <p>Regional Representatives are expected to attend RRG meetings in their region to provide updates for the organization and bring key issues back to the Board.</p> <p>For those RRGs where there is more than one Regional Representative, the Regional Representatives are expected to coordinate with each other and the At-Large Board members to ensure at least one Board member is in attendance at RRG meetings.</p>

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Background	<p>RRGs began with the CAMP-Research Group in 2001, an informal group created by the IRPE professionals at five colleges in the Los Angeles area: College of the Canyons, Antelope Valley College, Mt. San Antonio College, Pasadena City College, and Rio Hondo College.</p> <p>As the success of CAMP-R spread, The RP Group Board helped colleges in other parts of the state organize to form their own regional groups while letting each region create what worked best for them and not dictating any requirements to these groups. The RP Group provides ongoing support to RRGs by covering the costs for meals at their in-person meetings.</p>	<p>To help the Board achieve maximum effectiveness and ensure adequate representation, two At-Large Board member positions were included in the Regional Board Membership Model. Having these positions provides the Board with greater flexibility to develop a Board composition that will best represent the IRPE community and serve the organization’s mission, vision, goals, and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The Regional Board Membership Model was implemented in summer 2020.</p> <p>Prior to the current model, four representatives from northern California and four representatives from southern California were elected by member colleges in the northern and southern parts of the state. With this previous model, it was not clear which colleges were being represented by which Board members.</p> <p>To better demonstrate The RP Group’s commitment to actively serving, communicating, and representing the IRPE field in the California Community Colleges, the Board decided to move to a regional representative model, where each college has a specific representative. This regional representation model also aligns with how other representative bodies within the state are structured.</p>
How are they selected/elected?	Volunteers are sought within each RRG to serve as coordinators.	Appointed by the Board to address current needs in terms of representation, diversity, skills, and experiences.	Elected by member colleges/districts in each region.
How were the regions determined?	Each RRG determines for itself which colleges are included in the RRG.	n/a	After an extensive review and analysis, the Board identified 12 regions taking into account not only geography but district boundaries, relationships between colleges, and regional characteristics and dynamics. The Board also considered each Regional Representative’s workload and aimed to achieve a balance in the number of colleges in each region.
How many regions are represented?	8	n/a	12
For More Information:	https://rpgroup.org/Events/Regional-Research-Groups-IRPE	https://rpgroup.org/About-Us/Board-of-Directors	