

5236.00 | CSU Single-Use Plastics

Effective Date: December 17, 2018 | **Revised Date:**

POLICY OBJECTIVE

This policy articulates the CSU's requirements related to single-use plastics to ensure procurement and contracting activities are in compliance with CSU's sustainability goals and applicable regulations.

POLICY STATEMENT

Campuses shall establish purchasing practices that assure, to the maximum extent economically feasible, the purchase of single-use plastics including plastic straws, plastic water bottles, and plastic bags are eliminated. Purchase preference shall be given to reusable products, followed by locally compostable and/or recyclable products. Procurement, auxiliaries, and all relevant stakeholders will work with campus sustainability staff to assess and select the most sustainable alternatives.

CSU sustainability policies, including but not limited to 5236.00 and 5235.00, apply to Auxiliary Organizations incorporated to support the California State University.

Campus responsibilities:

- Eliminate single-use plastic water bottles by January 1, 2023 or upon contract renewal if existing contract terms prohibit. A 25% reduction in single-use plastic water bottles purchased and supplied will be achieved annually.
- Eliminate plastic straws no later than January 1, 2019.¹
- Eliminate single-use plastic carryout bags no later than January 1, 2019.²
- Eliminate single-use polystyrene (e.g. STYROFOAM™) food service items no later than January 1, 2021.³
- Replace single-use plastic items with materials that are reusable, locally compostable and/or recyclable.

Exceptions to the above are only to be made for complying with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements⁴ or when it is demonstrated that compliance with the above will result in undue hardship on students or campus organizations.

¹ [AB-1884 Food facilities: single-use plastic straws](#)

² [SB 270, Padilla. Solid waste: single-use carryout bags](#)

³ [SB 1335, Allen. Solid waste: food service packaging: state agencies, facilities, and property](#)

⁴ [Americans with Disabilities Act - Laws/Regulations](#)