

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY

Hodgson Russ advises colleges and universities ranging from large public and private universities to four-year and community colleges and all types of related entities on the full range of their legal matters.



Our college and university team is multidisciplinary in nature, involving attorneys who regularly counsel higher-education providers on matters involving capital projects; tax and corporate matters; immigration; intellectual property; labor and employment; and litigation, including employment litigation, among numerous other areas. Our higher-education team has a broad and deep understanding of the special and complex nature of issues faced by colleges and universities. Experience in this area includes recent and on-going representation of:

- 28 colleges & universities
- 12 college/university affiliated foundations
- 9 college auxiliary service corporations
- Statewide association of college auxiliary service corporations
- 2 university medical centers
- 4 alumni associations
- 4 national collegiate housing developers

In addition, 8 of our attorneys are currently serving or have recently completed service as trustees for a college, university or affiliated foundation, including, in two instances, service as chair of the college board of trustees.

The matters we handle for our college and university clients are diverse and include engagement in the following substantive areas:

CAPITAL PROJECTS

In response to increased enrollment and heightened expectations of today's college students, recent years have seen unprecedented capital development by and for colleges and universities, including tremendous development through public private partnerships. These projects are present many challenging legal issues. In addition to the concerns normally associated with any large real estate development project, because colleges and universities and their affiliated entities are

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Our attorneys manage legal disputes involving college and university clients as both legal and operational problems, and always aim to resolve every matter in a way that best benefits the institution.



generally organized as federally tax exempt, nonprofit, or educational corporations, these types of projects often require very specialized legal disciplines. In recognition of these unique challenges, Hodgson Russ attorneys regularly counsel higher-education clients and their affiliated for-profit and nonprofit corporations and limited liability companies on capital and P3 development.

CORPORATE AND TAX ISSUES

The corporate and tax laws affecting colleges and universities are evolving dramatically. For example, Congress and the IRS recently increased their interest in the activities of higher-education institutions, focusing on such issues as endowment fund management and compensation. Hodgson Russ has extensive experience working with colleges and universities, their foundations, and related organizations on these types of issues and is well situated to assist them with both the challenges and opportunities presented by the legal framework within which they operate.

IMMIGRATION

The immigration attorneys at Hodgson Russ have extensive experience assisting

colleges, universities, and related entities with their immigration needs. Our attorneys are skilled in handling a broad range of immigration issues for higher-education institutions, and this experience is enhanced by our regular interactions with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' four regional service centers, with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and with U.S. Consular offices around the world, giving us great familiarity with each agency's practices and procedures.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The intellectual property attorneys who are part of Hodgson Russ's colleges and universities team devote their practice to the protection and enforcement of all forms of intellectual property rights under patent, trademark, copyright, unfair competition, and trade secret laws. Many Hodgson Russ intellectual property attorneys have advanced degrees in engineering and the physical and biological sciences in addition to law degrees. Additionally, some of our attorneys have worked in a university technology transfer office, which gives our attorneys an unusual degree of understanding of academic institutions' requirements and objectives.

Our attorneys have extensive experience serving on the boards of directors of universities and colleges and their foundations, which provides them with a deep understanding of the unique and complicated nature of issues faced by colleges and universities.

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

Hodgson Russ's labor and employment attorneys have extensive experience counseling public and private colleges and universities and their related entities, including union and non-union institutions, in matters involving a wide range of labor and employment laws. We focus on preventive steps first since avoidance of litigation and human resource problems is the most efficient method of minimizing the risk of costly employment disputes. However, should a dispute occur, Hodgson Russ attorneys are well prepared to assist clients in resolving disputes with current and former employees and the unions that represent them.

LITIGATION

When Hodgson Russ's college and university clients become involved in legal disputes, the number one priority of our litigation team is to protect their legal rights and interests. Our attorneys manage each case as both a legal and operational problem and always aim to resolve every matter in a way that best benefits the institution. The depth of our litigation and trial experience and the breadth of our practice capabilities are extensive. These assets, teamed with the innovative solutions that are a hallmark of Hodgson Russ, provide our higher-education clients with a competitive edge in resolving disputes.

Other services we provide to colleges and universities include:

- Acquisitions and financings of student housing
- Acquisitions of property
- Administrative matters
- Arbitrations and general labor matters
- Bond financings
- Charitable trusts
- Contract negotiations
- Corporate restructurings
- Domain name disputes
- Dormitory projects
- Employee benefits matters
- Employee relations matters
- Endowment fund matters
- Environmental matters
- Federal employment tax audits
- Financings
- Fraternity and sorority matters
- General corporate matters
- Gifts of property
- Gifts of real estate
- Health law matters
- Incorporations
- Joint ventures
- LLC formations
- Naming rights
- Patent matters
- Pension matters
- Public private partnerships
- Real property matters
- Retirement plans
- Tax matters
- TSA programs
- Unemployment insurance audits
- Vendor contracts

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Practice restricted to U.S. law



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