














## CSU Single-Use Plastic Policy Alternatives Matrix









The California State University system has implemented a policy that aims to eliminate single-use plastics including straws, bags, polystyrene food packaging, and water bottles on **all CSU campuses by 2023**. Read the Policy [here](#).

This document is intended to help our CSULB community and partners comply with the policy and adopt alternatives to single-use plastics.

<b>Item</b> <b>(Prohibited/Discouraged)</b>	<b>Best Alternative(s)</b> <b>(Preferred)</b>	<b>Alternative</b> <b>(Acceptable)</b>	<b>Additional Guidance</b>	
<p>The items in this column with a <b>red asterisk</b> are specifically prohibited under the CSU Single-Use Plastics Policy. The other items are strongly discouraged.</p>	<p>These columns list the <b>most preferred</b> alternatives in each category (in order of preference from left to right).</p> <p>Overall, reusable items are always preferred.</p>	<p>These columns list <b>acceptable</b> disposable alternatives (in order of preference from left to right) to be used in instances when reusable options are not available or practical.</p> <p>In general, look for recyclable metal, or unlined, unbleached, 100% fiber-based products.</p>	<p>Be wary of disposable bio-plastic products labeled with claims such as “Bio-degradable,” “Made with plants,” “Plant-based,” or “compostable.”</p> <p>Infrastructure and facilities for composting these products are rare so these items usually end up in the landfill where they do not readily bio-degrade.</p>	
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(*Plastic Water Bottle)</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(Reusable Bottle + Refill stations)</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(Water Dispenser + Reusable bottles and/or reusable cups)</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(Water in aluminum bottle)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>(Water Dispenser + paper cups)</p> </div>	<p>There are over 180 <a href="#">filtered water hydration stations</a> across CSULB’s campus.</p> <p>When hosting a catered event, request that the caterer provide a water dispenser and reusable or paper cups, <a href="#">(1)(2)</a>. If you host events frequently, consider investing in a <a href="#">dispenser</a> and cups for your department or student club.</p> <p>If you’re interested in buying bottled water, contact the following individuals to order Aquafina or Beach branded water in aluminum bottles.</p> <p>Contact:          Kristin Bonetati <a href="mailto:Kristin.Bonetati@csulb.edu">Kristin.Bonetati@csulb.edu</a></p>

Item (Prohibited/Discouraged)	Best Alternative(s) (Preferred)		Alternative (Acceptable)		Additional Guidance
 <p>(*Plastic Straw)</p>	<p>No Straw<sup>1</sup></p>	 <p>(Reusable Straw)</p>	 <p>(PLA-Free Plant-Based Straw)</p>	 <p>(Paper Straw)</p>	<p><sup>1</sup>Per the policy, <a href="#">California Assembly Bill 1884</a>, and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), straws are to be made available upon request only.</p> <p>When it comes to disposable options, paper is most preferred. Plant-based alternatives such as wheat or PLA-free <a href="#">sugar cane straws</a> are acceptable.</p>
 <p>(*Polystyrene food packaging)</p>	 <p>(Reusable dishes/containers)</p>		 <p>(Paper cups, plates, food containers)</p>		<p>Styrofoam is a brand that is a commonly used term for polystyrene. This material is rarely recyclable since most recycling facilities do not accept it.</p> <p><a href="#">California Senate Bill 1338</a> prohibits entities operating on state property from dispensing prepared food using a type of food service packaging that is not <a href="#">reusable</a>, <a href="#">recyclable</a><sup>2</sup>, or <a href="#">compostable</a>.</p> <p><sup>2</sup>Plastic cups are recyclable if they are #1, 2 or 5.</p> <p>When using compostable materials be sure that they are made from fiber-based materials (such as paper, bamboo, bagasse, wood, or sugar cane), are free of PLA, and free of plastic and bioplastic materials and linings. For a list of approved compostable food service items, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="258 597 419 630"><b>(*Plastic Bag)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="688 604 782 636"><b>No Bag</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="956 613 1231 646"><b>(Reusable Canvas Bag)</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="1306 613 1956 646"><b>(Paper bag made from 50% or more recycled content)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1999 370 2515 435">Starting January 2023, the CSU banned the use of single-use plastics.</p> <p data-bbox="1999 477 2532 574">Plastic straws, single-use carry out bags, and single-use polystyrene (STYROFOAM™) are prohibited.</p>
 <p data-bbox="241 1286 440 1318"><b>(Plastic Utensils)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="661 1269 801 1302"><b>No Utensils</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="978 1344 1214 1377"><b>(Reusable Utensils)</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="1435 1269 1833 1302"><b>(Compostable Wooden Utensils)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1999 961 2505 1094">Plastic utensils and other types of small plastics are not readily recyclable because they are too small for the equipment at recycling facilities to effectively sort.</p> <p data-bbox="1999 1140 2510 1279">If you are hosting an event with food, consider using reusable or compostable utensils or serving finger foods that do not require utensils.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="263 613 424 646"><b>(Plastic cups)</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="787 605 1042 638"><b>(Reusable glass/mug)</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="1593 621 1674 654"><b>(Paper)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1997 386 2534 557">If you don't have the ability to wash reusable cups after use, opt for compostable cups that do not have a plastic lining and are free of PLA. To view approved compostable food service items, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
 <p data-bbox="276 1084 411 1117"><b>(Drink Lids)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="881 906 962 938"><b>No Lid</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="1486 1044 1768 1076"><b>(Cardboard/Paper Lids)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1997 784 2481 914">Small plastics are not readily recyclable because they are too small for the equipment at recycling facilities to effectively sort.</p> <p data-bbox="1997 963 2507 1060">If you will be serving hot liquids, consider <a href="#">purchasing lids</a> made of compostable material or avoid them all together.</p>
 <p data-bbox="236 1458 451 1490"><b>(Condiment Cup)</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="787 1466 1042 1498"><b>(Reusable Ramekin)</b></p>	 <p data-bbox="1486 1458 1782 1490"><b>(Paper Condiment Cup)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1997 1255 2534 1433">If you don't have the ability to wash reusable condiment cups after use, opt for compostable cups with no plastic lining and are free of PLA. To view approved compostable food service items, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

