

Annual Review of LACERA TIDE Towards Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity

Board of Investments Meeting
December 10, 2025

Discussion Outline



- 1. LACERA TIDE Background and Objectives of Review
- 2. Review of Progress Across Initiative
- 3. Observations

About LACERA TIDE





LACERA's mission is to produce, protect, and provide the promised benefits to our members



- The investment beliefs that frame LACERA's <u>Investment Policy Statement</u> (IPS) recognize that "people matter;" In other words, talent management is part of how LACERA generates and safeguards investment performance¹
- LACERA believes organizations comprised of a diverse mix of backgrounds and managed in an inclusive and equitable manner can mitigate risks, capture upside opportunities, and optimize outcomes¹
- LACERA considers diversity broadly, inclusive of—but not limited to—professional backgrounds, age, experience, race, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability status, military service, ethnicity, and national origin¹
- The Investment Policy Statement affirms LACERA evaluates prospective and current investment managers on their policies, practices, and track record of equal employment opportunity and cultivating an inclusive workplace¹

2025 Strategic Framework and Initiatives:

Towards Best-In-Class Investor

Board of Investments Meeting January 8, 2025 LACERA TIDE is part of LACERA's Strategic Initiatives and Work Plan, as approved by the Board,² as well as a reflection of the agency's core value of inclusivity

Compelled by Mission and Fiduciary Duties



History

- Consolidated longstanding strategies in 2020 under the name "Towards Inclusion Diversity and Equity" (LACERA TIDE)
- Ratified by the Board
- Annual Board update reports provided as part of ratification

Objective

Enhance outcomes through comprehensive efforts across LACERA's investment program that encourage constructive, inclusive, and equitable talent management at external investment managers, the industry, and internally¹

Investment
Risks and
Opportunities

LACERA TIDE driven by:

Performance
Innovation
Talent
Risk Mitigation
Compliance
Reputation
Efficiency

Inclusive teams with a diverse mix of backgrounds generate better outcomes

Diversity of thought provides informed insights to guide decisions

Broader recruitment, retention, and engagement of employees

Avoid risks of "groupthink"

Legal, regulatory risks and morale impact when discrimination and harassment occur Inclusion enhances employee, client, stakeholder perceptions

Wasted resources when firms react rather than proactively cultivate an inclusive culture

¹ See Board-ratified objective on slide 11 of the 2025 Strategic Framework and Initiatives: Towards Best-In-Class Investor. Board of Investments Meeting. January 8, 2025.

LACERA TIDE Consists of Five Pillars





1.

Due Diligence

Evaluate, monitor, and encourage best practices at external investment managers and partners



2.

Capital Formation

Facilitate capital formation among firms with a diverse mix of backgrounds, including emerging managers



3.

Industry Advocacy

Improve LACERA's opportunity set by advancing equitable and inclusive practices across the investment industry



4_

Portfolio Engagement

Encourage equitable and inclusive practices at portfolio companies



5.

Internal Practices

Foster an inclusive, equitable, and diverse workplace within LACERA's Investments Division

- Comprehensive, synergistic strategies to advance mission and implement Board-approved policies
- Iterative process of continuous improvement driven by the full investment team
- Annual review provides insights on progress against stated objectives and opportunities to enhance effectiveness



Review of Progress Across Five Pillars

1: Due Diligence Pillar



Objective

Evaluate, monitor, and encourage best practices at current and prospective external investment managers on their policies, practices, and track record of accessing and managing talent of diverse backgrounds in an equitable and inclusive manner

Status and Next Steps

100%

- All investment firms undergo due diligence both upfront and ongoing
- ✓ Assessments inform internal investment committee deliberations
- ✓ Diligence reflected in manager scorecard "organizational strength" pillar

LACERA's 5-Part Diligence and Sample Questions for Current and Prospective Mandates

1. Policies

- Does the firm have equal employment opportunity and anti-harassment policies?
- Does the policy cover all global offices and attributes? (e.g., gender, LGBTQ, race, disability)
- 2. Oversight
- Does the firm's board oversee policies, compliance, key metrics?
- 3. Track Record
- Does the firm report investment and leadership team demographics (as available)?
- What is the history of legal and regulatory claims?
- 4. Practices
- How does the firm cultivate an inclusive workplace?
- Does the firm assess pay parity or have misconduct-triggered clawback provisions?
- 5. Portfolio
- Does the firm consider DEI in their portfolio management? (e.g., non-discrimination in real estate leasing, assisting portfolio firms to establish EEO policies in private equity)

Policy Commitments and Responsiveness



Objectives

Achieve 100% of investment managers with:

Contractual Provisions

Policies Covering
Equal Opportunity and
Anti-Harassment

Demographic Reporting

Status and Updates

100%

of investment agreements signed in 2025 have side letters to facilitate ongoing diligence, consistent with 2024

99%

of firms managing LACERA's capital have policies¹

4 firms without policies in 2024 reduced to 2 in 2025, as legacy firms unwind²

99%

of firms report demographics of investment and leadership teams, as available^{1,3} four non-responding firms in 2024 reduced to two²

¹Includes 215 firms (U.S. and non-U.S.) managing LACERA assets as of June 30, 2025. Excludes co-investments, liquidating mandates, secondaries, terminated firms.

²Union Square Ventures and Excellere did not report maintaining equal employment opportunity policies or available demographics.

³U.S. firms generally provide EEO-1 gender and race information, while non-U.S. firms provide gender. Majority of the 215 firms indicate employees may voluntarily self-report additional attributes; e.g., military status, LGBTQ, disability.

Increased Adoption of Several Key Practices



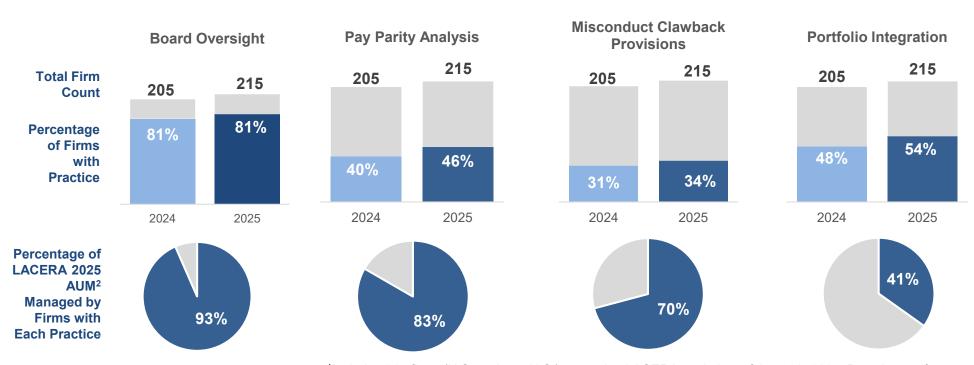
Objective

Promote and monitor key practices to encourage inclusive talent management

- ✓ Board oversight
- ✓ Pay parity analysis
- Misconduct-triggered clawback provisions
- Considering diversity and inclusion in portfolio management

Status and Updates

- Stable or upward trends in firms¹ having key practices that encourage inclusive talent management
- Emerging managers are less likely to have these practices, but also demonstrate upward adoption
- Greater share of LACERA's assets are managed at firms with these four practices



¹Includes 215 firms (U.S. and non-U.S.) managing LACERA capital as of June 30, 2025. Based on self-reported information from firms. Excludes co-investments, liquidating mandates, secondaries, terminated firms.

²AUM is "assets under management."

Themes from LACERA's Due Diligence and Monitoring



LACERA Takeaways

Investment Manager Trends

High Responsiveness

LACERA's comprehensive, consistent, and diligent monitoring drive cooperation from investment managers

Comprehensive Approach

Upfront diligence helps set expectations, aided by LACERA's size and commitment amount, side letters, and negotiated rights; e.g., LPAC¹ seat

Effective Advocacy

LACERA's voice is effective, sharing best practices and elevating discussion, despite diligence practices varying across asset owners

Influence

LACERA input can help influence adoption of policies covering equal opportunity and anti-harassment

Nuanced Strategies

Firms focus on productive recruitment, retention, advancement Fewer numeric targets and demographically targeted programs Some language changes (emphases on inclusion, culture)

Engagement Surveys

More firms measure employee sentiment to guide action

Broad Approach

Firms define diversity broadly and most enable employee selfreporting of a wide range of attributes beyond EEO-1 information (e.g., disability, LGBTQ, veteran, national origin)

Long View

Some firms widen inclusion as part of their succession planning; e.g. larger executive committees and new equity partners when senior executives retire

¹LPAC is "Limited Partner Advisory Committee."

LACERA

Due Diligence and Monitoring

2. Capital Formation: Partner Demographics



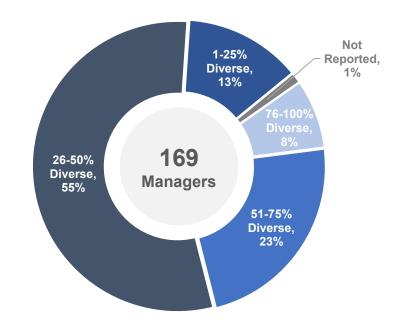
Objective

Facilitate capital formation, including monitoring the reach of LACERA's capital commitments by demographics of investment partners' investment and leadership teams, from which talent may form new firms¹

Status and Updates

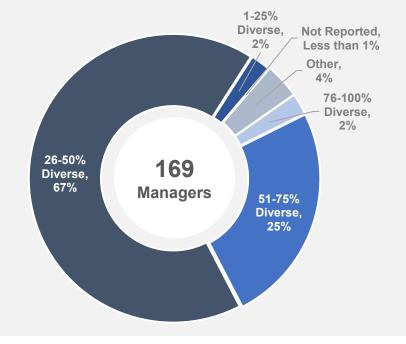
3 out of 10 (or 31%) of investment partners had investment and leadership teams with **over 50%** representation of women and/or people of color, up from 24% in 2024

Breakdown of <u>LACERA Investment Partners</u> by Percentage of Investment and Leadership Teams Comprised of Women and/or People of Color



About a quarter (or 27%) of LACERA's assets are managed by US-based firms **(\$20 billion)** with **over 50%** women and/or people of color on investment and leadership teams, slightly up from 25% in 2024

Breakdown of <u>LACERA Assets</u> Managed by Percentage of Investment and Leadership Teams Comprised of Women and/or People of Color



¹Includes 169 firms (U.S. only) managing LACERA capital as of June 30, 2025. U.S. firms report both gender and race/ethnicity data unlike non-U.S. firms that typically report only gender. Excludes co-investments, liquidating mandates, secondaries, terminated firms (labeled as "Other").

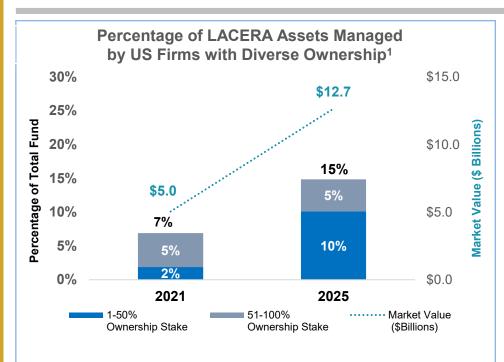
2. Capital Formation: Reach of Assets and Fees



Objective

Track demographics and fee distribution of investment partners' ownership across mandates to monitor inclusion of LACERA's capital commitments

Status and Updates



- Growth in Diverse Ownership: Assets managed by U.S. firms with partial ownership by women and/or people of color have increased, attributed in part to more firms reporting owner demographics.²
- Significant Growth: Assets managed by firms with 1–50% diverse ownership have increased fivefold since 2021.

- Higher share of fees are paid to U.S. firms with diverse ownership
- While firms with diverse ownership represent 15% of the total Fund assets, they receive 26% of the fees, driven by more firms with diverse ownership present in higher fee asset classes

Percentage of LACERA's Total Manager Fees Paid to US Firms with Diverse Ownership¹



¹Data represents 65 U.S. privately held firms (including emerging managers) managing LACERA capital as of June 30, 2025, that voluntarily provided demographic information regarding the firm's equity owners.

²Diverse ownership indicates firms that report a portion of equity ownership by women and/or people of color based on EEO-1 classifications.

2. Capital Formation: Emerging Manager Programs

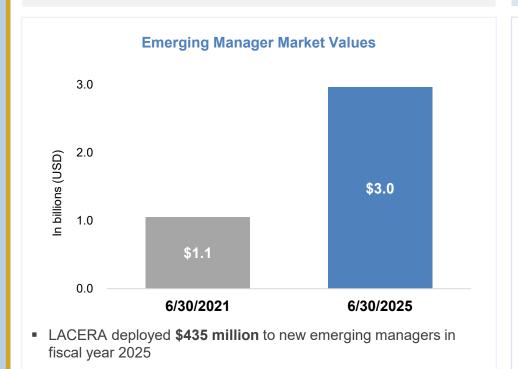


Objective

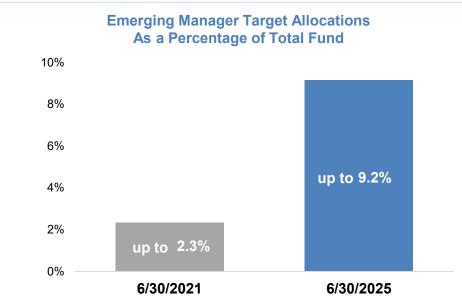
Evaluate newer firms
that may generate
attractive returns, based
on smaller asset bases
and nimble investment
approaches

Status and Updates

Assets managed by **Emerging Managers**¹ nearly **tripled** since 2021



Opportunities for Emerging Managers¹ have **quadrupled** since 2021



- LACERA's target allocation to emerging managers has grown substantially, rising fourfold from 2.3% in 2021 to 9.2% in 2025.
- Emerging manager programs cover every asset class, with a steady rate of increase over the past 4-year period.

¹LACERA's Emerging Manager Policy defines emerging managers as independent firms that have less substantial assets under management and may be composed of diverse-owned and non-diverse-owned firms.

3: Industry Advocacy



Strategies to improve LACERA's opportunity set by advancing best practices across the financial services industry

- Collaborate with peers to identify and disseminate effective practices and increase reporting reliability
- Lead, coordinate, and convene events on diversity, equity, and inclusion with increasing reach
- Expand industry influence through active engagement initiatives
- Become a recognized leader in advocating for inclusive talent practices in the investment management industry



- Hosted in-person roundtables in partnership with CFA Society of Los Angeles to share cross learnings on effective DEI strategies in evolving landscape
- Provided input to CFA Institute to support its development of market-specific tools in more markets, such as India, Saudi Arabia, and Continental Europe
- LACERA representation on CFA Institute's Inclusion Committee



- Continued to strengthen partnership with Girls Who Invest
- LACERA representation on Advisory Board to provide strategic guidance in furthering GWI's mission of increasing gender diversity in investment management



- Member of ILPA's 12-person
 Signatory Advisory Committee for
 Driving Inclusion in Alternatives (DIA),
 advancing DEI in private equity
- Collaborate on ILPA due diligence templates, metrics, and key performance indicators to improve industry practices

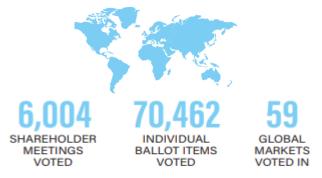
4: Portfolio Company Engagement



Encourage inclusive workforce policies and practices at portfolio companies by voting proxies and governance engagements

- Vote proxies to advance effective and inclusive talent management at portfolio companies
- Advance a focused engagement initiative on corporate board quality at portfolio companies to encourage firms to identify need skillsets and cast a wide net, inclusive of diverse backgrounds
- Increase attentiveness to inclusive talent management practices at portfolio companies in private asset classes

FY2025 Global Proxy Voting¹



LACERA proxy voting supports practices, such as

- EEO-1 workforce disclosures
- Inclusive board recruitment strategies
- Proactive pay parity analysis
- Misconduct-triggered clawbacks

Corporate Board Engagement Initiative¹ Multi-year effort encourages boards to identify additive skills to inform director recruitments and cast a wide net for qualified talent 478 since 2018 41 in 2025 38 in 2025

Expanding Data Disclosures for Analysis¹

LACERA supports initiatives³ that encourage portfolio companies to measure and disclose workforce data:

- Equal employment opportunity policies
- Board and workforce demographics
- Turnover rates



¹More information provided in October 2025 Board of Investments Corporate Governance Committee materials and 2025 Corporate Governance and Stewardship Update on www.lacera.gov.

²Directors of diverse racial or gender backgrounds, as disclosed in company reports.

³Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (https://sasb.ifrs.org), Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (www.gresb.com), ESG Data Convergence Initiative (www.esgdc.org).

Directors with Diverse

Backgrounds Appointed²

Firms Engaged

5: Internal Practices



Objectives

Advance inclusive recruitment and retention practices, consistent with recognized frameworks to which LACERA is a signatory

Expand regularity and reach of Investments
Division **internships** to enhance familiarity of investments and public service careers

Status and Updates





Hands-on experience across asset classes

- Attend internal investment committees
- Attend investment manager meetings
- Underwrite investments

Raise awareness in public service careers and LACERA's investment principles

Educate on LACERA's Mission & Principles

https://ilpa.org/industry-guidance/diversity-equity-inclusion/diversity-in-action-initiative/dia-framework/ and https://rpc.cfainstitute.org/en/codes-and-standards/diversity-equity-inclusion-codes.
 2Girls Who Invest (GWI) and Sponsors for Educational Opportunity-Pension Real Estate Association (SEO-PREA) in 2025.

5: Internal Practices



Objective

Enable a dynamic and inclusive workplace culture that supports LACERA's evolution to a Best-in-Class Investor and strengthens staff development and leadership skills

Status and Updates

L//,CERA

Culture

A Culture of Collaboration

Partner Across Teams

LACERA Strategic Initiatives are advanced by collaborative working groups



80%

of Board reports are a product of cross-functional teams

Promote Knowledge Sharing



Subject-matter expertise is shared across the Investment Office and with Trustees through offsites

Board meetings and annual

Share Decision-Making



Internal Investment Committees incorporate diverse input

- Everyone has a voice at investment committees
- Rotating members join from other asset classes
- Widely held voting rights

Foster Communication



Encourage open dialogue and collaboration through informal and structured touchpoints that build trust and transparency

- Coffee Chats with the CIO to share portfolio insights and organizational updates
- Town Halls provide interactive forums for Q&A and cross-team engagement

Recognize Contributions



Staff contributions are celebrated as benchmarks of excellence. driving shared success and reinforcing a culture of achievement

Portfolio-Wide Decision and Monitoring



Regular performance and risk management discussions support cross-pollination of skills

Staff Quarterly Performance Reviews focused on portfolio strategy alignment and risk assessment



Observations

Insights and Observations





LACERA multi-year progress towards stated objectives guided by deliberate, pragmatic approach



Comprehensive

LACERA's approach is integrated across our investment team and due diligence process, which enhances the initiative



Consistent

Consistent framework and investment partner communication yields stable responsiveness



Constructive

Pragmatically encourage firms to define policies and pursue practical strategies that support inclusive workplace culture



Collaborative

Earnest, candid dialogue with firms facilitates exchange of best practices and cooperative reporting