



The Official

Constitution

of the
Student Government Association
of
Southern University at New Orleans

Amended January 25, 2023
Amended February 19, 2026

Preamble

Recognizing that the students must contribute to the building of a great university, we, the members of the student body of Southern University at New Orleans, do establish this Constitution to create an effective student government organization:

- To promote cooperation among Southern University at New Orleans students, staff, faculty, and administration,
- To protect the rights of Southern University at New Orleans students,
- To provide official channels through which the opinions and desires of Southern University at New Orleans students may be expressed,
- To promote academic freedom, responsibility, excellence, and diversity of Southern University at New Orleans students,
- To improve the physical, social, and academic welfare of Southern University at New Orleans students,
- To foster awareness of Southern University at New Orleans students' position in campus, metro area, state, national and international communities.

Article I: Organization and Membership

- Section 1: The name of this organization shall be Student Government Association of Southern University at New Orleans.
- Section 2: The Student Government Association (SGA) of Southern University at New Orleans shall be an Undergraduate Organization with one (1) Graduate President and one (1) Graduate Senator to represent the Graduate colleges.
- Section 3: Only regularly enrolled students, as defined by the regulations of this University, Southern University at New Orleans shall be eligible to vote in any election sponsored by the Student Government Association. ***Excluding Dual Enrollment Students**
- Section 4: The governmental structure of the SGA shall consist of three branches: the Executive, Legislative and the Judicial.
- Section 5: Officers of the SGA are the Student Government Association President, Vice-President, Chief Justice, Class Presidents, Business Manager, Executive Secretary, Activities Coordinator, Public Relations Coordinator, All Senators, Elections Commissioner, Miss SUNO, Class Queens and any created positions.

- Section 6: Elected Student Government Association Officials shall consist of the following:
- a. SGA President
 - b. SGA Vice-President
 - c. SGA Chief Justice
 - d. Miss Southern University at New Orleans
 - e. SGA Class Presidents
 - f. Class Queens
 - g. Class Senators
- Section 7: Officers of the SGA must meet all requirements for their office at the time of qualifying for election or appointment throughout their tenure in their respective office.
- Section 8: No student shall hold more than one position as an officer concurrently.
Example. No Class Queen can hold an official position in the Student Government Association.

Article II: Executive Branch

- Section 1: The executive power shall be vested in the President of the Student Government Association: The President shall be assisted in the execution of his/her/their powers and duties by the Vice-President and the Executive Cabinet.
- Section 2: If the Office of the President should become vacant before the Fall semester, it shall be filled in a Special Election held simultaneously with the Freshman Election, but if such office becomes vacant at any other time, the Vice-President shall fill it.
- Section 3: If the Office of the Vice-President should become vacant before the Fall semester, it shall be filled in a Special Election held simultaneously with the Freshman Election, but if such office shall become vacant at any other time, the President Pro-Tempore of the Student Senate shall fill it.
- Section 4: **The President of the Student Government Association shall have the following duties and powers:**
- A. To execute the laws enacted by the Student Senate.
 - B. To call and preside over meetings of the Executive Committee.
 - C. To submit to the Executive Committees for approval, the proposed budget for the year.
 - D. To appoint, with the approval of two-thirds of the Student Senate members present, a Business Manager who shall serve as an officer of the Student Government Association and on the Executive Committee.
 - E. To appoint all cabinet officers and any other administrative officers he/she/they deem necessary to serve in the best interest of the SGA with the approval of two-thirds of the Student Senate members present.

- F. To appoint all members of committees with the approval of the Student Senate.
- G. To recommend that the Student Senate create or abolish any appointed position.
- H. To call special meetings of the Student Senate with 48-hour notice to all senators and the senate president.
- I. To bring before the Student Court charges against any chartered organization for violation of provisions governing such organizations.
- J. To veto or sign acts of the Student Senate. If the President does not veto or sign an act of the Student Senate within (10) ten days after passage, such act becomes law without the President's signature.
- K. The SGA President shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.
- L. He/She/They shall deliver and publish a "State of the Student Government Association" address each semester that he/she/they are in office.
- M. Distribute and control the use of office keys.
- N. Act as the official spokesperson for the student body.
- O. Present a report of past summer expenditures at the first fall meeting of the Senate.
- P. Submits the budget for the Student Government Association Senate Fee to the Senate for approval.
- Q. The President shall assume office upon formal administration of the Oath of Office by the Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Success, thus terminating the previous Executive Term of Office.
- R. Attend the Council of Student Body Presidents Meetings throughout the academic year and term.
- S. Preside over the general body meetings to be held once a month including all branches of government and appointed and elected officials.
- T. Regularly attend the Chancellor's Executive Cabinet meetings, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
- U. Regularly attend all Executive Branch meetings of the Student Government Association, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
- V. The Student Government Association President shall have the obligation to:
 - a. Support and uphold this Constitution.
 - b. Execute the legislation of the Senate.
 - c. Uphold the decisions of the Judicial Branch.
- W. The Student Government Association President shall also have the power to nominate:

- a. Chief of Staff
- b. Activities Coordinator
- c. Public Relations Coordinator
- d. Business Manager
- e. Elections Commissioner

The above offices will serve on the Executive Committee and must be nominated by the SGA President and approved by the Senate, by the last day of class for the Spring Semester in which the President is elected, if he/she/they so choose to fill the positions. The Student Senate may allow the Student Government Association President to fill such positions in the Fall Semester by majority vote.

- X. If the Student Government Association President fails to execute the responsibilities of the office, he, she, they will be immediately recommended for impeachment.

Section 5: The **Vice-President of the Student Government Association** shall have the following duties:

- A. To execute the duties and powers of the President of the Student Government Association during the absence of the President.
- B. Serve as President of the Senate
- C. To preside over the first meeting until the Senate Pro Tempore is elected and to cast a vote in the Student Senate only in the case of a tie.
- D. To perform duties as the President of the Student Government Association assigns.
- E. To serve as ex officio member of all committees of the Student Senate.
- F. To establish and maintain communication with all student committees.
- G. The SGA Vice-President shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.
- H. In the president's absence, attend the Council of Student Body Presidents Meetings throughout the academic year and term.
- I. Regularly convene and attend Senate meetings of the Student Government Association as an executive representative, missing no more than two meetings per semester and no more than one Executive Branch meeting.
- J. To have voting power in the Senate only in the case of a tie.
- K. Regularly attend all Executive Branch meetings of the Student Government Association, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
- L. If the Vice-President fails to execute the responsibilities of the office, he/she/they will be immediately recommended for impeachment.

- Section 6: The **Business Manager** of the Student Government Association shall have the following duties: with the assistance of the Director of Student Activities and Organizations: (A, B, & C).
- A. Handle all financial paperwork that affects the SGA budget.
 - B. Complete and process interdepartmental invoices, store requisitions, purchase requisitions, and other miscellaneous paperwork.
 - C. Prepare a monthly payroll.
 - D. Produce an ongoing report documenting the balances and transactions of all Student Government Association funds and accounts.
 - E. Keep accurate and up-to-date balances of all Student Government Association funds and accounts.
 - F. Perform other duties as required or assigned by the SGA President.
 - G. Handle the day-to-day operations of the SGA Office.
 - H. Schedule and monitor hours worked by staff and others.
 - I. Maintain a log of all SGA vendors.
 - J. Maintain records of internal and external vendors.
 - K. Regularly attend all Executive Branch meetings of the Student Government Association, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
 - L. The Business Manager shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.
 - M. The Business Manager serves at the pleasure and will of the SGA President. Any time the president deems it appropriate, the President can terminate the Business Manager if the individual is not a fit for the position.

- Section 7: The Chief of Staff of the Student Government Association shall have the following duties:
- A. Coordinate the clerical duties of SGA personnel;
 - B. Arrange all general council meetings;
 - C. Perform all necessary duties of the Executive Cabinet.
 - D. Provide assistance to persons with routing questions regarding the SGA.
 - E. Set up and maintain office files.
 - F. To compose and/or draft correspondence.
 - G. Keep an official record of all bills, proposals, and resolutions passed by the Senate
 - H. Keep official records of all actions by the Student Court;
 - I. Keep an accurate roll of all active officials of SGA;
 - J. Keep and report the minutes of all Executive Cabinet meetings.
 - K. To type confidential correspondence and documents on behalf of the SGA and the SGA President.
 - L. Attend staff meetings.
 - M. To maintain a calendar for the Student Government Association President.
 - N. To attend all Student Government Association President's meetings.

- O. To perform other duties as required or assigned by the SGA President
- P. Regularly attend all Executive Branch meetings of the Student Government Association, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
- Q. The Executive Secretary shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.
- R. The Executive Secretary serves at the pleasure and will of the SGA President. Any time the president deems it appropriate, the President can terminate the Executive Secretary if the individual is not a fit for the position.

Section 8: The **Activities Coordinator** of the Student Government Association shall have the following duties:

- A. To plan, organize, and implement programs and activities on and off campus.
- B. To assist other on-campus organizations with activities.
- C. To work with the Business Manager and Public Relations Coordinator to ensure that proper work and publicity is done.
- D. Post a monthly calendar of events, activities, and initiatives.
- E. Serve as a student member on the Student Affairs Special Events Committee.
- F. Submit activities, events, and initiatives to the Student Government Association President for review on a bi-weekly basis.
- G. To perform other duties as required or assigned by the President.
- H. Submit event forms no later than 14 days prior to the day of the event.
- I. Serve as a point of contact for vendor management.
- J. Regularly attend all Executive Branch meetings of the Student Government Association, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
- K. The Activities Coordinator shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.
- L. The Activities Coordinator serves at the pleasure and will of the SGA President. Any time the president deems it appropriate, the President can terminate the Activities Coordinator if the individual is not a fit for the position.

Section 9: The **Public Relations Coordinator** of the Student Government Association shall have the following duties:

- A. Ensure the student government administration protects and promotes its image in a proper, coordinated, and consistent manner.
- B. To work closely with the Activities Coordinator in publicizing all events, activities, and initiatives.
- C. To assist other on-campus organizations with publicizing their events.

- D. Submit publications for events, activities, and initiatives no later than (6) six days prior to the day of the event.
- E. To perform other duties as required or assigned by the President.
- F. Regularly attend all Executive Branch meetings of the Student Government Association, being absent from no more than two meetings per semester.
- G. The Public Relations Coordinator serves at the pleasure and will of the SGA President. Any time the president deems it appropriate, the President can terminate the Public Relations Coordinator if the individual is not a fit for the position.
- H. The Public Relations Coordinator shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.

Section 10: The **Student Government Association Class Presidents** shall have the following duties:

- A. Serve as an official member of the Student Technology fee committee.
- B. A minimum of three (3) programs or activities is required from each Class President per semester, or a combination of 2 programs or activities by two or more collaborating class Presidents is acceptable.
- C. Act as the official spokesperson for the respective class.
- D. Promote the general welfare of the class.
- E. Attend all student body meetings and Town Halls as the official representative of the class.
- F. Call at least 1 meetings of the class per semester.
- G. Supervise and coordinate all activities of the class cabinet.
- H. Endorse all official class documents.
- I. Submit a plan of action to the SGA President by August 1st of the ensuing school year via email or hard copy.
- J. Must serve on the SGA President executive committee
- K. Class presidents must hold class meetings at a minimum of 1 per semester with their respective classes.
- L. Class cabinets shall consist of:
 - a. Chief of Staff
 - b. Activities Coordinator
 - c. Public Relations Coordinator
 - d. Class Queen

The Class Presidents shall have the responsibility for selecting the cabinet positions following the cabinet position filing. The class queen is not included in said appointments.

- M. If a Class President fails to execute the responsibilities of the office, he/she/they will be immediately recommended for impeachment.

Article III: Legislative Branch

- Section 1: All legislative power shall be vested in the Student Senate, whose membership shall consist of five (5) Senators, with each undergraduate class electing one (1) senator to serve as class delegate and one (1) Graduate Class Senator to serve as class delegate.
- Section 2: The Senate shall consist of at least three senators to constitute a quorum.
- Section 3: The Student Senators shall be elected by a majority vote in the General Election. The Student Senate shall meet at least once a week. Also, it shall be at the discretion of the Senate Chair (Vice President) or President Pro-Tempore Senate to have at least one open meeting. All enactments of the Student Senate shall be passed by a two-thirds vote.
- Section 4: The SGA Senate shall receive a monthly stipend to be determined based on the approved proposal submitted by the SGA President and approved by the SGA Senate.
- Section 5: The Student Senate shall have the following duties and powers:
- A. To select from within the representatives in the Student Senate a President Pro-Tempore at the meeting. The President Pro-Tempore shall serve as presiding officer over the Student Senate in the absence of the Vice-President of the Student Government Association. All other positions necessary shall be elected at the first Student Senate meeting, such as the Senate Secretary (keep minutes and type the agenda for each meeting) and Parliamentarian.
 - B. To set up permanent or temporary committees from within the Student Senate as it sees fit.
 - C. To approve by a two-thirds vote all appointments made by the President of the Student Government Association to fill vacant positions in the Student Government Association no later than 14 Business days after the completion of the Fall elections.
 - D. To override the veto of the President of the Student Government Association by **unanimous vote**.
 - E. To vote by two-thirds affirmation of the Student Senate, articles of impeachment against any officer of the Student Government Association.
 - F. To enact or revise the by-laws of the SGA. The by-laws shall govern only the policies of this organization and shall be adopted or amended by a simple majority vote of the Student Senate.
 - G. To approve, by a two-thirds vote, all appointments made by the President of the Student Government Association to fill vacant positions within the Student Government Association after a two-week vacancy period.

- H. To approve, by a two-thirds vote, all appointments made by the President of the Student Government Association to fill vacant positions within the Student Government Association after a two-week vacancy period. The Senate shall also have the authority to approve the President's nominee for any vacant office.

- Section 6:
- A. Special committees shall not be considered a part of the Student Senate and shall meet only when requested to do so.
 - B. All elections shall be a secret ballot.

Article IV: Judicial Branch

Section 1: **Election of the Chief Justice**

The Chief Justice of the Student Government Association shall be elected by the student body during the annual SGA general election. The Chief Justice must meet all GPA, credit-hour, and eligibility requirements established in this Constitution.

Section 2: The Chief Justice shall:

- A. Preside over the Judicial Branch.
- B. Oversee judicial proceedings, hearings, and impeachment investigations.
- C. Interpret and enforce the SGA Constitution and By-Laws.
- D. Appoint Students to serve as the Student Judiciary Committee.
- E. Lead the Judicial Board and assign duties to associate justices.
- F. Present reports and recommendations to the Student Senate when required.

Section 3: The Judicial Branch shall have the following duties and powers:

- A. To have supreme jurisdiction in all cases involving the interpretation of the Constitution and By-laws of the Student Government Association.
- B. Serve as the arbitrator and mediator to resolve disputes between several branches of government and to issue binding judgments in such situations.
- C. Have the authority to interpret and to give meaning to any Constitutional provision, Bylaw, Election Code, or legislative instrument.
- D. To have jurisdiction in all cases involving offenses against the Provisions of the Constitution and By-laws of the Student Government Association.
- E. To render within one week, upon request of the President of the Student Government Association, a written interpretation of any portion of the Constitution or By-laws.
- F. To serve as a member of the Judicial Affairs Committee.
- G. Hear and adjudge decisions in all cases of removal in the event that the Impeachment process was initiated by the Student Senate.

- H. To have appellate jurisdiction in cases involving infractions of the election.
- I. To rule on constitutional controversies involving any organization's actions deemed contrary to this Constitution or where a recognized organization acts in a manner contrary to its recognized constitution.
- J. To rule on misallocation of funds within any campus organization recognized by Student Affairs and to recommend action on such misallocation to the appropriate body.
- K. To serve on the adjudication committee.

Article V: Meeting Procedures

Section 1: All meetings will follow Robert's Rule of Order.

The following shall be the order of business at regular meetings:

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Reading and disposition of minutes of the last meeting
- 4. Reports of committees
- 5. Unfinished business
- 6. New business
- 7. Informal discussion
- 8. Adjournment

Article VI: Order of Succession

In the event that the Student Government Association President is removed, incapacitated, suspended from serving in office, or censured, the Student Government Association Vice-President shall serve as President, and the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate shall serve as Student Government Association Vice-President, with the Senators electing a new President Pro-Tempore. Depending on the class which the new vacancy falls, the respective class president shall have the authority to appoint another Senator who will be subject to Senate confirmation.

In order to serve in these capacities, the persons who are elevated to a new office must meet the Constitutional requirements for holding such office. In the event that the Student Government Association President and/or Vice-President are removed, incapacitated, suspended from serving in office, or censured, and then if the next eligible officer in line refuses the opportunity or does not qualify to serve in a higher office, then succession shall ensue from that point to fill such office(s).

Section 1: If the Student Government Association President is undergoing impeachment proceedings, removed, incapacitated, or suspended from office, or censured, the order of successions shall be as follows:

- a. SGA Vice-President

- b. Senate President Pro-Tempore
- c. Senior Class President
- d. Junior Class President

Section 2: If the Student Government Association Class President is undergoing impeachment proceedings, removed, incapacitated, or suspended from office, or censured, the order of successions shall be as follows:

- a. Chief of Staff
- b. Special Election must take place

Section 3: If the Miss Southern University at New Orleans is undergoing impeachment proceedings, removed, incapacitated, or suspended from office, or censured, the order of successions shall be as follows:

- a. 1ST Runner Up
- b. Miss Senior
- c. Miss Junior
- d. Special Election must take place

Section 4: If the Student Government Association Vice-President is undergoing impeachment proceedings, removed, incapacitated, or suspended from office, or censured, the order of successions shall be as follows:

- a. Senate President Pro-Tempore
- b. Special Election must take place

Section 5: If a Class Queen is undergoing impeachment proceedings, removed, incapacitated, or suspended from office, or censured, the order of successions shall be as follows:

- a. 1st Runner Up
- b. Special Election must take place

Article VII: Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by one of two methods:

The unanimous vote of the full membership of the Student Senate and approval of the University Administration, or Two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting Student Body in a given election and approval of the Administration. The process shall be as follows:

- a. If the amendment(s) fail to secure the necessary votes in the Student Senate or fails to gain the approval of the Administration, the author of the amendment(s) may question the faults found in his/her/their proposal and take it directly to the Student Body to gain support for adoption. The amendment(s) shall be placed on the ballot for the Spring Election.

- b. If the amendment(s) is/are approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting Student Body in the General Election and subsequently approved by the Administration, a revised copy of the Constitution, incorporating the approved amendments, shall be sent in writing to the President of the respective undergraduate classes for distribution to the entire student population. It shall also be sent to the newspaper staff to be publicized.
- c. All amendments must be presented during the spring semester of each academic year.

Article VIII: Elected Non-Governmental Representatives

Section 1: Composition

Miss Southern University at New Orleans (hereafter referred to as Miss SUNO), as well as Class Queens, are elected representatives of the entire Student Body and serve as members of the Student Government Association.

Section 2: Miss Southern University at New Orleans shall have the following duties and powers:

- A. Officially represent the entire student body at any function on or off the University campus.
- B. Miss SUNO shall have a minimum of three 3.0 grade point average at the time of application and must maintain a 2.75 GPA average on a 4.0 grading scale throughout the academic year to remain in the position.
- C. Shall have the responsibility of representing the university at school-related functions and at other colleges and universities.
- D. Represent the University and act as host/hostess at university functions.
- E. Promote school spirit at athletic events and other campus activities.
- F. Must initiate and maintain several community service initiatives throughout their reign.
- G. Miss Southern University and her queens are the faces of the university and assets. They must display class, dignity, and the best decency always.
- H. Establish and maintain a platform.
- I. Shall be responsible to the SGA for coordinating, implementing, and executing programming and community service activities for the Student Body, including, but not limited to:
 - a) One (1) Female [Miss] Empowerment
 - b) Two (2) Community Service projects per semester
- J. Miss SUNO must be active in the Greater New Orleans community.
- K. Participating in events like charity events, New Orleans area school functions, retirement.
- L. Miss SUNO shall receive a scholarship equal to the sum of the tuition, plus room and board for the Fall and Spring semesters of a full-time, in-state student.

**The Miss Southern University at New Orleans rules and regulations manual and guidelines indicate all that must be upheld.*

Section 3: Duties of Class Queens:

- A. Represent Miss Southern University at New Orleans at events that Miss SUNO is unable to attend.
- B. Serve as members of their respective class cabinets
- C. Officially represent their respective classes at any function on or off the University campus.
- D. Assist Miss Southern University at New Orleans with her platform and community service projects.
- E. Class Queens are an extension of Miss SUNO and are the face of the university and its assets. You must display class, dignity, and the best decency at all

Article IX: Elections and Qualifications

- Section 1: All elected and appointed officials, as well as nominees to any appointed or vacant office, must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 to qualify and run for office, unless special GPA requirements are stated elsewhere in this Constitution. Once elected or appointed, all officials must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 to remain in office. No individual may qualify for candidacy using a rounded grade point average unless special permission or allowance is granted by the Election Committee. Applicants who are denied eligibility by the Election Committee may appeal the decision to the Student Advisory Board.
- Section 2: The official record of the Southern University at New Orleans Office of the Registrar shall be the final authority in all questions of scholastic eligibility.
- Section 3: All candidates for office must submit an application to the Election Committee certifying that candidates qualify and agree to abide by and fulfill all duties and regulations set forth in this Constitution.
- Section 4: All qualified candidates must attend a Mandatory Training Workshop unless extenuating circumstances prevent them from attending. In this case, proper notification and arrangements must be made at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance to the Election and Advisor(s). Any person who is absent from the Mandatory Training Workshop without a valid excuse, submitted to the Election Committee and advisors, will be dismissed from the election.
- Section 5: The winner of a given election (Spring, Fall, or Special Election if needed) will be determined by a majority vote on Election Day. In the event of a tie, a runoff election will take place.
- Section 6: All elected and appointed SGA officials must complete a full term (Fall and Spring semesters of the ensuing year) unless impeached or do not meet the qualifications to hold office.
- Section 7: The Election Commissioner/Committee shall have the power to control all Student Government Elections. A list of eligible candidates for positions shall be posted at least fifteen (15) days before an election. It shall be the responsibility of the Election Committee to see that this list is posted.

The Election Committee shall consist of the following members:

1. The appointed Election Commissioner, selected by the SGA President and confirmed as required by this Constitution.
2. The Director of Student Leadership and Engagement, serving as the administrative advisor.
3. One mutually agreed-upon faculty or staff member, appointed by the SGA President.

The Election Committee shall review candidate eligibility, oversee all SGA elections, enforce election rules, and issue decisions related to candidate qualification. Decisions of the Election Committee may be appealed to the Student Advisory Board.

- Section 9: The Election Committee shall have the responsibility for the selection of the following student representatives of the Student Government Association:
- a. SGA President
 - b. SGA Vice-President
 - c. Chief Justice
 - d. Miss Southern University at New Orleans
 - e. Five (5) Class Presidents, including One (1) from graduate class
 - f. Five (5) Class Senators, including One (1) from graduate class
 - g. Four (4) Class Queens

- Section 10: The general requirements for holding a particular elected office are as follows:

President of the Student Government Association:

- a. A cumulative grade point average of at least three point zero (3.0) by the last day of the filing period.
- b. At the time of the election, you must be at least a Junior and have acquired sixty (60) credit hours by the last day of the Spring semester.
- c. Candidates must have completed one (1) full year in the Student Government Association or in an elected or appointed position.

Vice-President of the Student Government Association:

- a. A cumulative grade point average of at least three point zero (3.0) by the last day of the filing period.
- b. At the time of the election, you must be at least a sophomore and have acquired thirty (30) credit hours by the last day of the Spring semester.
- c. Candidates must have completed one (1) full year in the Student Government Association or in an elected or appointed position.

Chief of Justice:

- a. A cumulative grade point average of at least three point zero (3.0) by the last day of the filing period.
- b. At the time of the election, you must be at least a Junior and have acquired sixty (60) credit hours by the last day of the Spring semester.
- c. Candidates must have completed one (1) full year in the Student Government Association or in an elected or appointed position.

Miss Southern University of New Orleans:

- a. A cumulative grade point average of at least three point zero (3.0) by the last day of the filing period.
- b. At the time of the election, you must be at least a Junior and have acquired sixty (60) credit hours by the last day of the Spring semester.
- c. Candidates must have completed one (1) full year in the Student Government Association or in an elected or appointed position.
- d. Must be a single female.
- e. Must have successfully completed two (2) semesters of coursework at Southern University at New Orleans.
- f. Prior to running for office, candidates must have served one (1) full year in the Student Government Association or in another elected or appointed position or have been a member of a Greek Organization or a recognized university club.

Class Queens:

- a. A Cumulative grade point average of at least two point seven-five (2.75) at the time of elections.
- b. A member of the class which precedes the class for which she wishes to run. *(Example: If a person wishes to run for Miss Junior, she must be at least a sophomore at the time of the election and is a Junior by the Fall semester).*

Class Presidents:

- a. A Cumulative grade point average of at least two point seven-five (2.75) at the time of elections.
- b. A member of the class which precedes the class for which she wishes to run. *(Example: If a person wishes to run for Miss Junior, she must be at least a sophomore at the time of the election and is a Junior by the Fall semester).*

Class Senators:

- a. A Cumulative grade point average of at least two point seven-five (2.75) at the time of elections.
- b. A member of the class which precedes the class for which she wishes to run. *(Example: If a person wishes to run for Miss Junior, she must be at least a sophomore at the time of the election and is a Junior by the Fall semester).*

Article X: Advisory Oversight.

Advisors shall serve as resources and guides to student leaders in the execution of all SGA activities. Should any proposed SGA action, program, or financial decision conflict with university policy or present potential risk to students or the institution, advisors have the authority to halt, modify, or delay the action. This authority shall be exercised solely to ensure compliance, safety, and the successful implementation of SGA initiatives, and not to limit or diminish student leadership or decision-making. The Vice-Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Success has power to overturn or remove any elected or appointed official that does not best suit the office in which they occupy and to ensure that designated persons meet all qualifications as laid out in this constitution.

Article XI: Compensation of Services and Monetary Allocations

The Student Government Association (SGA) consists of officers and representatives who work hard to serve the student body and represent their interests. These members are eligible for compensation solely based on the President's budget proposal. It is important to note that compensation is not automatically allocated - it must be proposed by the President and approved by the SGA Senate as part of the budget. Furthermore, no individual SGA member or representative has any claim on compensation or entitlement to receive one; this decision rests solely with the SGA President and SGA Senate.

Article XII: Impeachment or Removal

Section 1. The grounds for impeachment of any elected official shall be as follows (Impeachment means the charging of an elected official with misconduct while in office):

a. Any elected or appointed Student Government Association officer, who knowingly evades his/her duties, as set down by this Constitution, or commits such act which is determined to be detrimental to the welfare of the Student Body, or commits any major offense in behavior not positively reflecting on the University, or for violating the Student Code of Conduct, or for negligence in Constitutional procedure, is subject to impeachment.

b. No elected or appointed Student Government Association officer may be brought up under the same charges twice.

Section 2. The impeachment process shall be as follows:

Impeachment proceedings may be initiated by three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of the Judicial Branch or two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate membership present at a meeting. (Initiation is defined as the act of bringing the officer in question up for review.)

a. Impeachment by way of the Judicial Branch:

1. After bringing an officer before the Judiciary on charges of Impeachment, a majority vote of the student judiciary committee of the Judicial Branch may recommend the removal of an officer to the Senate for the Senate's consideration. Once received by the Student Senate, the recommendation shall then be tabled to the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting where the Senate shall vote as to whether or not to remove the officer. If the Senate disagrees with the Judicial Branch's recommendation, then the proceedings shall immediately cease, and the accused officer shall be exonerated of all wrongdoing. If the Senate agrees with the Judicial Branch's recommendation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, the officer shall be removed from office.

b. Impeachment by way of the Senate:

1. A Bill of Impeachment, outlining the reasons for an officer's impeachment, shall not be accepted by the Senate without at least a total of one (1) author and two (2) co- authors. When a Bill of Impeachment is introduced in Regular Session of the Student Senate, it shall be numbered and deemed to have been classified as New Business for the next regularly scheduled session. A Bill of Impeachment shall not be considered by any committee.
 2. Upon review of the officer in question, the impeachment issue shall be tabled until the following Senate meeting, where a vote shall be taken as to whether or not to continue and move to removal proceedings. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate membership present at the meeting will be required to continue to removal proceedings.
 3. Accused officers must abstain from all impeachment votes taken.
 4. If the motion to continue to removal proceedings carries, removal proceedings shall begin immediately. The officer charged, must be notified of the Senate's decision within forty-eight (48) hours, in writing by the President of the Senate, and approved by majority vote of the Senate or the charges must be dropped.
 5. Also, a brief, thoroughly explaining the Senate's reasoning as to why the officer in question should be removed from office, shall drafted by the President of the Senate and approved by majority vote of the Senate and shall be presented to the Chief Justice of the Judicial Branch within forty-eight (48) hours of the Senate's decision to begin with the removal process or the impeachment charges must be dropped.
- c. The process for the removal of an officer after Impeachment has been initiated in the Student Senate shall be as follows:
1. The Chief Justice of the Judicial Branch shall preside over all removal hearings. In the event that the Chief Justice is accused, the Student Government Association President shall act as presiding officer.
 2. Both the Executive Cabinet and full membership of the Senate shall be present.

3. A motion to review the evidence against the impeached officer shall be made by the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate. A review shall include all evidence relevant to the case. This motion must be properly seconded by a member of the Senate and voted on by the members present. If the motion carries, the removal proceedings will continue. If the motion fails, then the accused officer will be exonerated.
4. The officer in question shall be given the opportunity to speak in his/her defense and offer evidence as he deems necessary. At any time, the President of the Senate may appoint a member of the Senate to express the views of the Senate.
5. Following full discussion, a member of the Judiciary shall move to send the proceedings into executive session of the Judicial Branch, clearing the room of all persons except the Judiciary, with the Judicial Branch having no more than two (2) hours to deliberate, each justice to cast a vote, and draft a decision. After such time, the proceedings shall reconvene, and the Chief Justice shall read the decision of the Judicial Branch. Contingent upon the majority vote of the Judiciary, the officer in question shall then be either terminated from office or absolved of all wrongdoing. By no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the rendering of the decision, copies of the ruling shall be published to all officers of every branch of the Student Government Association and the University's newspaper.

Article XIII: Oath of Office

The Oath of Office shall be administered to each elected or appointed official at the time of his/her/their election or appointment by the person specified in these By-laws and/or the Constitution of this Student Government Association. With the official(s) left hand on a copy of the Student Government Association Constitution and right hand raised, the candidate shall repeat the following:

"I (state your name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of Student Government Association (state elected or appointed position) and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Southern University at New Orleans."