

The Bylaws of DePauw University Student Government

Article I: Qualifications for Offices and Representatives

Section 1. Qualifications for Specific Office

1. Student Government President, Executive Vice President, and Chief of Staff shall be open to all current DePauw students.
2. Qualifications for the office of Vice President of Allocations shall be:
 - a. At least one (1) semester of experience with the DSG Allocations Board.
 - b. Demonstrate reasonable knowledge of financial matters and the student organization financial policies of DePauw University, the Constitution, and the accompanying Bylaws.
3. Qualifications for the offices of Vice President of Student Life, Vice President for Academic Life, Vice President of Community Relations, Vice President of Public Relations, Vice President of Equity and Justice, and Vice President of Programming shall be open to all current DePauw students.
4. Qualifications for the offices of Graduate Member to the Alumni Board and Graduate Member to the Board of Trustees shall be that the individual is a graduating senior.

Section 2. Qualifications for General Office

1. For any office except graduate positions, an individual shall be a full-time undergraduate student enrolled in the fall semester and in good standing with DePauw University during the same school year of the election.
2. For executive or allocations positions, the individual shall be able to serve in office for the entire term of election or appointment. Plans to travel off campus for either the Fall or Spring semesters during the time they shall be in office shall disqualify any individual.
 - a. Plans to travel off campus for Winter Term shall not disqualify any individual.
3. For Senate positions, if the candidate plans to be away for a semester then they may choose to run with another candidate in order to fill the position for the entire academic year. In this case, the candidate does not have to be on campus for the entire academic year.
4. Demonstrate reasonable knowledge of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Article II: Elections and Terms of Office

Section 1. Elections

1. A silent ballot shall conduct internal elections with more than one candidate.
2. All results, disqualifications, and fines levied shall be released simultaneously by the Elections Board upon the conclusion of the electoral process.
3. The number of votes each candidate(s) receives shall be released when the winner is announced regardless of fines or removal from the ballot.
4. Any candidate who accrued fines in the All-campus Elections shall appear before Senate for the governing body to discern whether the candidates' electioneering was fair and just.
 - a. If the electioneering was decided fair and just under the spirit of the electioneering rules by a majority vote within the Senate the candidate shall pay all fines levied against them in order to take office.
 - b. If the majority of the Senate decides that the electioneering was deemed unfair or unjust under the spirit of the electioneering rules, they shall be removed from the ballot. If there are additional candidates for that position, there shall be re-election without the individual who was removed from the ballot for the violation of the electioneering rules.

Article III: Recognition of Student Assembly Organizations

Any student organization seeking recognition or membership may apply.

1. To qualify for application for recognition a student organization shall meet the following criteria:
 - a. The organization shall have a DePauw faculty or staff advisor.
 - b. The organization shall have a written constitution reviewed by the Vice President of Student Life.
 - c. The organization shall have a mission statement.
2. Application requirements and deadlines shall be available from the Vice President of Student Life.
3. Voting on recognition and membership shall take place at Student Life Board sessions.

Article IV: Allocation of Student Activity Fee

Section 1. Philosophy of Student Activity Fee

The DePauw University Student Activity Fee should be used to create a campus climate, socially and intellectually, comfortable and advantageous to the entire DePauw community.

Section 2. Priorities

The following prescribes the priorities for the use of the Student Activity Fee:

1. Events are open to the entire campus community.

2. Events co-sponsored with a recognized student-organization, university office, or academic department.
3. Events are exclusive to members of the organization.
4. Events requiring full use of campus advertising.

Section 3. General Operating Funds

The use of General Operating Funds shall be explained thus:

1. General Operating Funds are defined as, but are not limited to:
 - a. Budget requests for conferences
 - b. Advertising
 - c. Supplies
 - d. Copies
 - e. Maintenance issues
 - f. Office expenses
2. General Operating Funds shall be included for review during the allocations process.

Section 4. Procedures

The procedure for allocating the Student Activity Fee shall be the following:

1. All organizations requesting money shall submit budgets no later than the date set by the Allocations Board.
2. The Allocations Board may personally question representatives from organizations requesting money as deemed necessary for further consultation.
3. Organizations shall receive notification of allocations no later than the final week of classes of each semester.
4. Budgets shall be considered, in no particular order, on the basis of:
 - a. Priorities outlined in Article IV: Section 2 of these Bylaws.
 - b. Adherence to Philosophy of Student Activity Fee.
 - c. Necessity, novelty, and diversity of programming.
 - d. The total amount of money available for funding each semester.
5. Organizations requesting money shall be recognized.
6. All receipts shall be presented at the Budget Proposal meeting from the prior semester.
7. Semester budgets shall be submitted by the end of the prior semester.

Section 5. Components of a Budget Proposal

Organizational budgets shall follow the criteria given on the DePauw Campus Labs website.

Section 6. Event-By-Event Funding

Event-by-event funding shall be constituted by:

1. Event-By-Event funding shall exist to fund unforeseen organizational needs that may not have been present during the regular allocation process.
2. All requests shall be in the spirit of the Philosophy of the Student Activity Fee and are subject to the priorities outlined in Article IV: Section 2 of these Bylaws.
3. The Allocations Board shall meet as necessary to hear these funding requests.
4. All organizations shall present requests to the Allocations Board for individual review.

Article V: Removal of Officers, Senators, and Executive Appointees

Section 1. Removal of Officers and Senators

Any Officer or Senator can be removed under the following circumstances:

1. In the event that two-thirds (2/3) of Senators believe that an Executive officer or another Senator has not fulfilled one or more of their duties as specified in the Constitution and these Bylaws, the Assembly shall hold a vote of impeachment.
2. A four-fifths (4/5) vote of the Senate is required to remove their respective persons.
3. The officer or Senator has not met attendance requirements.

Section 2. Removal of Executive Appointees

Removal of executive appointees is thus:

1. Executive appointees may be removed if they fail to reflect the voice of DSG.
2. Removal is enacted either upon Executive discretion or upon a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the Senate.

Article VI: Vacancies

Section 1. Vacancy in the Office of DSG President

If the vacancy is in the office of the Student Government President, the Executive Vice President shall assume the office of the Student Government President immediately.

Section 2. Vacancy in the Office of Executive Vice President

If the vacancy is in the office of the Executive Vice President, the Executive Board shall determine three candidates from all qualified applicants. An internal Senate election shall select one of the three candidates.

Section 3. Vacancy in Another Executive Office

1. In the event of a vacancy in any office, the Executive Board shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy.
 - a. Officers of the Executive Board are not eligible to be appointed for these vacancies.
 - b. The appointment shall be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

Section 4. Vacancy in a Senate position

In the event of a vacancy, the Senate chamber shall evaluate the election results of the vacant class Senate position and appoint the candidate with the next largest number of votes.

1. This process shall continue once a candidate accepts the nomination. Once a Senator agrees with this nomination, they shall get the 100 signatures typically required for election eligibility, to indicate current support. The appointment shall then be reviewed and approved by the Senate Chamber, the Executive Vice President, and DSG President. This replacement would hold the seat until the end of the Senator's current term.
2. In the event that there are no other candidates available, the Executive Board and Senate Chamber shall nominate students from the appropriate class. Interested students shall submit a two-hundred fifty (250) word platform typically required for external elections. The Senate Chamber and Executive Board shall appoint the replacement based on the slate of interested students.

Article VII: The Assembly

Whenever the Executive officers, Student Senators, and Student Assembly Organizations convene for their monthly meeting, that meeting shall be known as the Assembly.

Article VIII: Amendments

Section 1. Submission

Any submission of amendments to these bylaws shall be handled in the following manner:

1. Any member of DSG may request an amendment to these Bylaws.
2. An amendment to these Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Board.
3. The Executive Board shall have one week to review the amendment for validity and consistency with this Constitution and the accompanying Bylaws. The Executive Board shall not be empowered to change the amendment's intent, but may make suggestions for revision to the author in order to make the amendment valid and consistent with this Constitution and the accompanying Bylaws.

Section 2. Amendments

Any amendments to these bylaws shall be voted upon in the following manner:

1. Amendments affecting all bodies of DSG shall first be passed by the Senate and then shall be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of each of the Executive Board and General Assembly. Any veto of this amendment by an individual body may be overridden by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Senate.
2. Amendments affecting a specific body of DSG shall be first passed by the Senate with a two-thirds (2/3) vote. The amendment shall then be directed to the affected body as determined by the Student Senate for a two-thirds (2/3) approval. Any veto of this amendment by an individual body may be overridden by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Senate.

Article IX: Ratification

These Bylaws shall be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of each of the bodies of the DePauw Student Government. Any veto of these Bylaws may be overridden by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Senate. These Bylaws shall be submitted for all previous Bylaws.

Ratification:

September 28, 2022.

Revisions by Amendment:

October 3, 2010

November 6, 2011

May 6, 2012

May 3, 2015

Authors:

Nicholas Flores, DSG Parliamentarian '09-'11

Aaron Dicker, DSG Vice President of Student Affairs '09-'10

Nicole Craker, DSG President '09-'10

Christine Walker, DSG President '10-'11

Gary Pett, DSG Vice President of Student Life '10-'11

Charles Pierre, DSG President '11-'12

Roy Leaf, DSG Parliamentarian '11-'12

Sara Scully, DSG President '12-'13

Mark Fadel, DSG Executive Vice President '12-'13

Claire Halffield, DSG Parliamentarian '14-'15

James O'Keane, DSG President & Paige Burgess, DSG Chief of Staff '22-'23