

2021-2022 STUDENT ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION EXAMPLE

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization is Blue Leaders. This organization will utilize the acronym BLDS in all publicity materials and correspondence. Blue Leaders is affiliated with Blue Leaders Leadership program operating in Atlanta, GA. The website of Blue Leaders Leadership is www.blueleadersusa.com.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT

Example 1:

Blue Leaders is established for the purpose of developing leadership skills and to encourage GSW students to participate in community service projects such as voter registration.

Example 2:

The purpose of Blue Leaders is to explore and promote academic and career issues related to leadership and to help those interested in leadership to get to know one another outside the classroom.

ARTICLE III. GSW AFFILIATION AND COMPLIANCE

Section A. Affiliation

This organization is a Registered Student Organization (RSO) at Georgia Southwestern State University, but is not part of the university itself. In all correspondence and publications, it may refer to itself as an organization at Georgia Southwestern State University, but not as part of Georgia Southwestern State University itself.

Section B. Financial Responsibility

Blue Leaders accepts full financial and production responsibility for all activities it sponsors

Section C. Regulations

Blue Leaders agrees to abide by all pertinent Georgia Southwestern State University policies and regulations, including the most current RSO manual and Student Code of Conduct. Where Georgia Southwestern State University policies and regulations and those of the RSO differ, the policies and regulations of Georgia Southwestern State University will take precedence.

Section D. Liability

Blue Leaders recognizes and understands that the university assumes no legal liability for the actions of the organization.

ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Non-Discrimination

Blue Leaders agrees that Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students without regard to race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender orientation, gender expression, ethnicity or national origin, religion, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students as stated in the Georgia Southwestern State University Non-Discrimination Statement. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects people from discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance. Title IX states that: no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

Blue Leaders agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Section C. Hazing

Blue Leaders agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Blue Leaders will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University's Title IX Coordinator.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at Georgia Southwestern State University. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section A: The elected officers of Blue Leaders shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer.

Part 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees.

Part 2: The Vice-President shall serve as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve.

Part 3: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of Blue Leaders; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of Blue Leaders and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President.

Section B: The appointed officer of Blue Leaders shall be Secretary.

Part 1: The Secretary shall be appointed by the Vice President.

Part 2: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of Blue Leaders and shall perform other duties as may be delegated.

Section C: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve for a term of one academic year and/or until their successors are elected/appointed.

Section D: Any officer of Blue Leaders may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: A written request by at least three members of the organization shall be submitted to either the President, Vice President, or Treasurer. Written notification shall be sent to the officer in question asking that officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to respond to the removal request.

Part 2: A two thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer.

Part 3: In the event of the removal of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Nominations for all officers will take place annually at the general meeting prior to election meeting. Any member may nominate any other member, including himself or herself. Nominations may also be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations. Voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates running and no candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be a run-off vote between the top two vote recipients at the next general meeting. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Elections should take place in April to allow for turnover between old and new board.

ARTICLE VIII. STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR

The student organization advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The student organization advisor should attend executive and general meetings; however, the student organization advisor may not vote in any Blue Leaders matters. The student organization advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a majority vote of the members. The student organization advisor will serve a term of one (1) academic year. In the event that the student organization advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCE

Example 1:

Blue Leaders will be funded through the collection of annual membership dues in the amount of \$20 to be paid during the month of September. This fee covers the cost of t-shirts, travel to leadership conferences, and other operational expenses of the organization.

Example 2:

Blue Leaders will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through car washes and similar activities, for t-shirts, travel to leadership conferences, and other operational expenses of the organization. Members are expected to participate in these fundraising activities. Blue Leaders will also apply for Student Government funding.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Amendments to this constitution may be made at any regular meeting of Blue Leaders provided notice of the proposed amendment was given one week prior to a vote. Any member is eligible to propose an amendment, and proposals should be sent to any member of the executive board. Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the members in attendance at the meeting, and are subject to final approval by the Department of Residential and Campus Life