

UCF-5.0021 Student Government and Registered Student Organizations.

(1) Purpose.

- (a) The University of Central Florida encourages its students to actively participate in Student Government and Registered Student Organizations as a way of complementing and extending the classroom experience. Participation in Student Government and Registered Student Organizations is an integral part of the overall University of Central Florida experience, because it provides opportunities for students to network, to develop leadership skills, and to pursue social, civic, recreational, and career interests.
- (b) Student Government and Registered Student Organizations provide a valuable service to the University community by promoting leadership development, community spirit, activism, community service, and social and cultural interaction. Student Government and Registered Student Organizations sponsor conferences, seminars, lectures, debates, cultural and social events, and fine arts programs. These activities allow UCF students to meet and interact with local, state, nationally, and internationally renowned scholars, artists, politicians, academicians, and other professionals. Student Government and Registered Student Organization members spend countless volunteer hours each academic year participating in service projects for campus and community efforts.

(2) Student Government.

- (a) Student Government is the official representative of the student body of the University of Central Florida and aims to represent student issues and concerns at all levels of University decision making. However, Student Government must operate with the recognition that the ultimate decision making authority for University affairs rests with the University's Board of Trustees, President or their designees. The University exercises general oversight over all Student Government activities and is involved in the Student Government budget process. Student Government is subject to the policies, procedures, rules, and regulations governing or promulgated by the University and/or the Florida Board of Governors.

- (b) Student Government may not act as an agent for the State of Florida or the University of Central Florida. Student Government may not enter into agreements or contracts which purport to bind the University for any purpose.
- (c) Student Government may adopt internal procedures, including a constitution, bylaws, student statutes, and other student legislative acts; may establish appointed or elected student officer positions; and may recommend University employment or personnel to carry out its functions. Any internal procedures adopted by Student Government must be consistent with applicable law, UCF and Florida Board of Governors' policies and regulations, and must generally serve the best interests of the UCF Student body. Internal procedures of Student Government are not effective unless approved by University administration.
- (d) Student Government is authorized to make recommendations to or through the Vice President for Student Development and Enrollment Services concerning all University policies, regulations, and operating procedures which significantly affect students and further, is authorized to nominate students to serve on University committees, councils, and boards, which have student membership or representation.
- (e) Through its own constitutional procedures and in accordance with Section 1009.24(10)(b), Florida Statutes, Student Government may determine the allocation and expenditure of that portion of University fees fixed by law and designated as Activity and Service Fees. The University must review the Activity and Service Fee budget, and the President may veto any particular line item in the budget.
- (f) All Activity and Service Fees shall be maintained in accounts kept by the UCF Finance and Accounting Office. All contracts and purchases on behalf of Student Government shall be made in accordance with University rules, regulations, and policies, and all appointments and payments of personnel shall be made in accordance with University personnel and payment procedures.
- (g) Student Government shall audit all accounts which receive and/or expend Activity and Service Fees.

- (h) At the end of each university fiscal year, unexpended Activity and Service Fees shall revert to Student Government for reallocation in the subsequent fiscal year.

(3) Registered Student Organizations.

- (a) Any student association, group, or organization other than the Student Government Association is eligible for active registration as a Registered Student Organization. Registration is contingent upon the review and recommendation of the Office of Student Involvement, compliance with all registration requirements (including academic requirements for members) and approval of the Student Government Association and Associate Vice President for Student Development and Enrollment Services or designee.
- (b) Registration of a student organization by the University does not imply the University's support for the purpose, philosophy, or activities of the Registered Student Organization. Registration of a student organization by the University does not mean or imply that the Registered Student Organization has been granted status as an entity or agent of the State of Florida or the University of Central Florida. The University will not assume any legal liability for any student organization's activities. While faculty and staff members of the University serve in advisory capacities to student organizations, it is presumed that students of legal adult age are adults and, therefore, make and are accountable for their decisions and behaviors as individuals and as members of the organization.
- (c) To be considered for registration, a student organization must submit in writing to the Office of Student Involvement a list of UCF student members and their UCF PID numbers, a list of all officers and their UCF PID numbers, the signature of all officers and the faculty/staff advisor(s), and the organization's constitution. Proposed student organizations must have a minimum of twelve UCF student members. Student membership exceptions apply to student organizations at regional campuses, which need a minimum of eight student members, and, on a case by case basis, to student organizations affiliated with a national governing body, which need a minimum of four student members. A proposed student organization with a mission/purpose that appears to duplicate that of an existing organization may not be recognized. No student organization may be set up so

that any individual benefits monetarily from its existence. In seeking, securing and maintaining the privilege to be registered, each student organization must agree in writing to abide by all University policies, procedures, and regulations and to hold harmless the University for any actions or activities of the organization.

(d) Student Organizations registered by the University may be granted certain privileges as established by Student Development and Enrollment Services. Such privileges may include:

1. The privilege to use University facilities depending on availability, program, and guidelines;
2. The privilege to request that Student Government allocate activity and service fees to the organization, provided that the student organization adheres to the internal procedures of Student Government;
3. The privilege to establish dues and sponsor money-raising projects;
4. The privilege to use the University's name as part of the organization's name as per the Organizational Rules of Conduct;
5. The privilege to invite guest speakers to campus;
6. The privilege to grant awards and honors to organization members;
7. The privilege of access to campus for recruiting, fundraising, and publicity;
8. The privilege of a free organizational email address and website;
9. The privilege of access to resources provided by University departments and offices;
10. The privilege to apply for cubicle space on campus;
11. The privilege to program with Student Government Association agencies;
12. The privilege to participate, as a group, in University-sponsored events.

(e) Registered Student Organizations are subject to the Organizational Rules of Conduct. Registered Student Organizations that violate the Organizational Rules of Conduct are subject to disciplinary action. Such disciplinary action may include:

1. Recommendation for Charter Revocation: An official request to a national office that the local chapter's charter be revoked.
2. Revocation of UCF Registration: Permanent severance of the organization's relationship with UCF.
3. Suspension of UCF Registration: Temporary severance of the organization's relationship with UCF for a specific period of time. The period of time and any requirements that must be satisfied before re-registration must be specified in the recommendation of the hearing body.
4. Probation: Temporary restrictions of certain activities on the part of the organization as defined by the hearing body and/or an officially sanctioned status of the organization whereas further violations of UCF policy could result in suspension, revocation of registration, etc.
5. Warning: An official warning that the organization's behavior is in violation of UCF policies, and that if the organization is subsequently found in violation of this policy, subsequent action may be more severe.
6. Restitution: Reimbursement for a loss caused by the organization's actions.
7. Community Service: Assignment to work a specific number of hours at a community service agency or project.
8. Mediation: Official mediation between the organization and any offended parties.
9. Restrictions: Restriction of some or all of the organization's activities or privileges, including, but not limited to, social activities, intramural competition, organizational competition, Homecoming, etc.
10. Organizational Suspension: Suspension of all organization activities with the exception of regular business meetings.
11. Required Educational Programs: Alcohol awareness programs, risk management programs, etc. for a specified percentage of organizational membership.

Authority: BOG Regulations 1.001 and 6.014. History–New 11-8-79, Amended 12-4-83, Formerly 6C7-5.021, Amended 4-23-03, 10-18-05, Formerly 6C7-5.0021, Amended 2-6-09, 7-2-13, 7-28-16.