

Red Rocks  
Student  
Government

**Mission**

**Statement and  
Constitution**

*Ratified 25 April 2016*



Red Rocks Community College Student Government Constitution

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## **Mission Statement**

We, the Red Rocks Student Government, are a diverse and inclusive assembly of students who are committed to representing the student body of RRCC. Through tenacity, integrity, and honesty, this assembly shall advocate for those issues that promote a healthy learning environment, actively involve RRCC students with each other and their community, facilitate and strengthen communication between the student body, faculty, and staff of RRCC, and positively affect both the ecological and academic environments of RRCC.

## **Article I Bill of Rights**

This Constitution hereby declares the following to be fundamental and inalienable rights of the Red Rocks Community College (hereafter called "RRCC") student body:

1. The student body has the power to levy, collect, deposit, and manage assessments on itself in cooperation with the college.
2. The student body has the right to delegate to the Red Rocks Student Government (hereafter called "RRSG") those functions, powers, and authorities described in its Constitution and bylaws.
3. The student body has the right to be represented on all student committees that govern or affect the student body.

## **Article II The Student Government**

- A. All authority and executive power of RRSG shall be derived from the membership of the student body.
- B. RRSG shall be governed by its Constitution, bylaws, and any other actions as mandated by the membership.
- C. This Constitution and its bylaws shall align with all applicable college policies and procedures.

## **Article III Purposes of the Student Government**

- A. Cultivate communication among the students, faculty, staff, and administration of RRCC.
- B. Develop and promote opportunities for the benefit of RRCC's student body.
- C. Maintain a clear representation of the student body's views regarding college policies, regulations, and issues relevant to the well-being of the college and students.
- D. Encourage all members of the student body to participate in activities and decisions of RRCC.
- E. Promote the social and intellectual growth of the student body by facilitating the exchange of ideas and fostering a collaborative community on campus.
- F. Provide learning and leadership opportunities for the student body.
- G. Function as the approval entity for proposed student clubs.

#### Article IV Membership of the Student Body

The membership of the student body shall consist of all students who are officially enrolled in credit-bearing courses and have paid, by any means, their student activity fees at RRCC. Membership rights include, but are not limited to, the right to vote in student elections and the right to serve on RRSB—so long as all requirements stated in Article V are met.

#### Article V Student Government Membership

- A. RRSB shall not deny membership to any person for any reason, for reasons including or limited to disability, race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, religion, age, national origin, or ancestry, or any other category protected by applicable law.
- B. At any given time, there may be no more than eighteen RRSB members.
- C. To be eligible for membership in RRSB, a student must:
  - 1. Be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours in the current academic term.
  - 2. Maintain a grade point average (hereafter called “GPA”) of 2.5 or better.
  - 3. Provide a Student Government Application/Grade Release Sheet, which must be submitted to the Primary Advisor before the candidate’s third consecutive meeting.
  - 4. Attend three consecutive official meetings. Upon the fourth consecutive official meeting the candidate shall be sworn in, proving that a seat is available.
  - 5. Complete all necessary Student Employment paperwork.
- D. Upon inauguration, candidates shall stand and take the Affirmation of Office, after which they shall be recognized as official RRSB members.

The Affirmation of Office:

*I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of \_\_\_\_\_ of the Student Government at Red Rocks Community College and will, to the best of my ability, enforce the provisions of the Constitution and bylaws of the Student Government.*

- E. Term limits:
  - 1. A term consists of one full academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters); however, a member’s term begins in the semester in which they were sworn in.
  - 2. Members may serve on RRSB for a total of three terms. Of those three terms, they may serve as an officer twice.

#### Article VI Election of Officers

- A. Elections for RRSB officers shall be held at the fourth Government meeting of each fall semester.
- B. Officers shall be elected from the membership of RRSB, by the members of RRSB by simple majority vote of those in attendance.

## **Article VII Officers of the Student Government**

- A. Officers of RRSB shall be:
  - 1. President
  - 2. Vice President
  - 3. Public Relations Officer
  - 4. Secretary
- B. To be eligible for an officer position on RRSB, a student must:
  - 1. Be enrolled in a minimum of six credits.
  - 2. Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better.
  - 3. Must be an RRCC student in the fall and following spring semester.
- C. Candidates must provide the following to the Primary Advisor at least one week prior to the election:
  - 1. A letter of recommendation from a current, permanent RRCC employee.
  - 2. A letter of intent stating why the candidate wishes to serve as an officer and what he or she would like to accomplish.
- D. RRSB officers must meet at least once a week with the Primary Advisor to discuss agenda items, disciplinary actions, future events, issues, and concerns (hereafter called the "Weekly Officer's Meeting").

## **Article VIII Compensation for Student Government Members**

- A. RRSB members will be recognized as Student Hourly Employees and shall adhere to all applicable college policies and procedures as well as all future changes to college policy or procedure.
- B. RRSB elected officers will be compensated at the current student hourly pay rate for Level II student employees as defined by the college's Human Resources department.
- C. RRSB members will be compensated at the current student hourly pay rate for Level I student employees as defined by the college's Human Resources department.

## **Article IX Advisors to the Student Government**

- A. The Coordinator of Student Activities shall serve as the Primary Advisor to RRSB, and shall be responsible for:
  - 1. Overseeing the completion and submission of all required college forms in the process of conducting RRSB activities and business, including, but not limited to: RRSB Application, employment documentation, termination paperwork, and other official function forms.
  - 2. Guidance of RRSB activities.
  - 3. Training and orientation.
- B. RRCC faculty and staff members may serve as additional advisors to RRSB, at the request of RRSB and approval of the Primary Advisor.

- C. Advisors to RRSg for matters such as the group’s objectives, project guidelines and goals, coordination of events, budget development and monitoring, selection of members, election of officers, and procedural questions within meetings.
- D. At the discretion of the Primary Advisor, at least one advisor shall be present at each official event sponsored by RRSg.
- E. All advisors shall act on behalf of the college administration.

#### **Article X Student Government Meetings**

- A. RRSg shall hold regular meetings (hereafter called “official meetings”) during the fall and spring semesters.
- B. RRSg must have a simple majority quorum, as established in the first meeting of each semester, in order to hold an official meeting.
- C. Official meetings shall be conducted based upon Robert’s Rules of Order and other accepted parliamentary procedures.
- D. The Secretary shall record minutes of each official meeting, including a record of attendance.
- E. The President shall provide an agenda at the beginning of each official meeting and shall follow and enforce parliamentary procedure during the meeting.
- F. All official meetings shall be open unless designated as closed to non-voting members by a simple majority vote of RRSg members, or unless otherwise specified by the Constitution or bylaws.
- G. All votes are final and the results binding on the entire group, but a decision may be reconsidered according to policies and procedures outlined in the bylaws.

#### **Article XI Absences and Tardiness**

- A. Officers are allowed up to two absences from official meetings during each semester, after which they are immediately removed from office but will retain member status.
- B. Non-officers are allowed up to three absences from official meetings during a semester, after which they are immediately removed from RRSg.
- C. Members who are more than ten minutes late for an official meeting are considered tardy.
- D. Two instances of tardiness in one semester equals one absence.
- E. The Primary Advisor may excuse documented absences and tardiness as outlined in the bylaws.

#### **Article XII Resignation and Vacancies**

- A. RRSg members wishing to resign their position must give written two-week notice to the Primary Advisor in order to remain in good standing.
- B. If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall assume the office and duties of President.

- C. With the exception of President, if an officer position becomes vacant during the fall or spring semesters, RRSg membership shall vote to fill the vacancy from its own ranks.
- D. Current officers are not eligible to fill these vacancies.

#### **Article XIII Reinstatement**

- A. Reinstatement of a RRSg member is limited to fall and spring semesters.
- B. Reinstatement may only occur once per member.
- C. If a former member who provided an appropriate notification of resignation wishes to be reinstated that member will be reinstated immediately provided a seat is available. If membership is full, that member will be reinstated when the next open seat becomes available.
- D. If a former member left without notification, they may rejoin RRSg by following the same criteria required of new members as outlined in Article V.
- E. Exemptions to Article XIII may be made under exceptional circumstances and only by the RRSg Primary Advisor or the Director of Student Life.

#### **Article XIV Discipline**

- A. Positive solutions outside of the disciplinary process are highly encouraged, however a member may initiate the act of bringing charges against any other member by presenting their complaint to the Weekly Officer's Meeting.
- B. In the case of irresolvable issues, the accuser shall work with an officer or Advisor to draft a letter describing the offense. This letter shall be provided to the President as an agenda item for the next official meeting.
- C. Once the complaint has been presented to the membership in an official meeting, a hearing may be initiated by a 2/3rds vote of members present.
- D. At the agreement of RRSg officers, the Primary Advisor, and the Director of Student Life, discipline, up to and including immediate removal from RRSg, may occur under the following example conditions:
  - 1. Negligence
  - 2. Incompetence
  - 3. Misappropriation of funds
  - 4. Violations of the Constitution or bylaws
  - 5. Conduct unbecoming of a member of RRSg
  - 6. Failure to follow RRCC rules and regulations
- E. RRSg members will be immediately removed from the membership if they fail to meet the following requirements:
  - 1. Membership in the student body.
  - 2. Minimum GPA of 2.5 for members, 3.0 for officers.
  - 3. Enrollment in a minimum of 6 credit hours in the current academic semester
  - 4. Attendance requirements for official meetings.

### **Article XV Student Government Committees**

- A. RRSB shall have full authority to create, dissolve, and define the jurisdiction of any standing and/or ad hoc committee, according to what it deems to be in the best interest of RRSB and the student body.
  - 1. An ad hoc committee can be created by a simple majority vote of RRSB membership and is dissolved by simple majority vote when its objectives are accomplished.
  - 2. Standing committees are created by a simple majority vote of RRSB membership.
- B. All RRSB committee chair persons must be RRSB members.
- C. Committee membership is open to RRSB members and members of the RRCC student body.
- D. By consensual agreement of the committee membership, guests (RRCC faculty and staff, community members) may be invited to participate in committee meetings.
- E. Committees shall:
  - 1. Be governed by RRSB Constitution and bylaws.
  - 2. Keep an attendance record for all meetings.
  - 3. Share reports of their progress with RRSB at every other official meeting.
  - 4. Consist of no less than three RRSB members.

### **Article XVI Campus Clubs**

- A. It is the duty of RRSB to approve the establishment of any new clubs wishing to create an official membership at RRCC.
  - 1. A student leader from the proposed club shall come before RRSB membership to state why their club should be established.
  - 2. RRSB may charter any proposed club by a simple majority vote.
- B. RRSB shall consider funding requests from clubs wishing to spend more than the per-club maximum allocated in the Student Life budget.
- C. Clubs who wish to change their club name must present this as an official meeting agenda item to be voted upon by RRSB.

### **Article XVII Club Round Table**

- A. The Club Round Table shall:
  - 1. Consist of the RRSB Vice President, the Student Life Program Coordinator, and the leaders of the official RRCC clubs.
  - 2. Be chaired by the RRSB Vice President.
  - 3. Create a line of communication between RRSB and the campus clubs to increase club effectiveness, improve relations within the campus club communities, and provide guidance on club projects and events.
  - 4. Meet at least once per month during the months of September, October, November, December, February, March, April, and May.



5. After each Club Round Table meeting a report will be presented by the Vice President at the next official meeting.
- B. It will be mandatory for an appointed representative of each club to attend these meetings.
- C. All RRSB officers shall attend the first Club Round Table of each semester if available.

#### **Article XVIII Student Government Committee Representation**

- A. At the discretion of the Primary Advisor, RRSB members may represent RRSB upon college and community committees, boards, and councils.
- B. RRSB representatives will be replaced if they miss more than two meetings per semester of the committee they are serving upon. Depending on the committee's function, the Primary Advisor may see fit to make exceptions to this restriction.
- C. RRSB representatives shall share reports of their progress and activities at every other official meeting.

#### **Article XIX Student Government Financial Authority**

- A. RRSB operating expenses shall be determined annually by the Student Life Director, who will make such information readily available to RRSB.
- B. In addition to operating expenses, RRSB has the authority to allocate up to 10% of the student fee cash reserves annually.
- C. Allocations of \$10,000 or more must be approved by campus referendum.
- D. The Primary Advisor is authorized to require approval by campus referendum of amounts between \$1,000 and \$10,000 if they feel the appropriateness of the expenditure is questionable.
- E. Requests for funding that do not originate from RRSB shall be heard and tabled until the next official meeting, at which time the request shall be voted upon.

#### **Article XX Campus Referendum**

- A. RRSB may hold only one referendum per each fall and spring semester.
- B. All referendum issues must be publicized college-wide for at least two weeks prior to the referendum.
- C. Referendum issues must pass with a simple majority vote.
- D. Voting must be available for seven consecutive days and must end at least one week before the end of the semester.
- E. All voters must be members of the student body, and their participation must be recorded by some system in which their names can be noted for purposes of voter eligibility. Voting must be made available to all student body members, regardless of class schedule or campus of attendance.
- F. Each member of the student body is allowed to fill out one ballot per referendum.

- G. Any student protest of referendum procedure must be filed in writing with the Primary Advisor within fourteen days of the referendum in question. Upon appearance of a just cause for complaint of referendum fraud or malfeasance, a new referendum can be held following a simple majority vote of approval by RRSg members.
- H. Referendum results shall be tabulated by the Primary Advisor, at least two RRSg officers, and a Vice President and/or President of RRCC.
- I. Ballots must be kept for at least thirty days following the determination of election results in case of protest or contest of the tabulation.

#### **Article XXI Interim Summer Board**

- A. The Interim Summer Board shall consist of all RRSg members who are willing to be available for the summer semester.
- B. The Interim Summer Board's purpose shall be to approve new clubs, approve funding requests, and develop and promote opportunities for the benefit of RRCC's student body.
- C. Members who wish to be present during summer semester but are not registered at RRCC for the summer may continue to serve as a member of RRSg, so long as they provide documentation of fall registration to the Primary Advisor prior to the first Interim Summer Board meeting.
- D. Quorum shall be established by attendance of the first meeting of the Interim Summer Board.
- E. At the end of the spring semester, the highest ranking RRSg officer who remains for the summer semester shall become the Interim Summer Board President.
- F. During the final Weekly Officer's Meeting of the spring semester, if no officer is participating during the summer semester, an Interim Summer Board chair person shall be selected from RRSg membership by the officers and the Primary Advisor.
- G. If unable to attend Interim Summer Board meetings, members in good standing will immediately be reinstated at the first official meeting of the following fall semester, assuming they continue to meet the original membership guidelines and qualifications.

#### **Article XXII Amendments**

- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a 2/3rds vote of all present RRSg members or by petition of 10% of the student body.
- B. Such proposed amendments shall be placed on a ballot for voting by the student body. A minimum of two weeks shall elapse between time of proposal of such amendment(s) and the date set for a student body election, during which time the proposed amendment(s) shall be publicized vigorously.
- C. Amendments shall become part of this Constitution upon a consenting vote by a simple majority of the students voting at the official election and in accordance with RRCC policy.