

Red Rocks Community College Student Voice Constitution
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Mission Statement

We, the Red Rocks Community College Student Voice, 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 be an 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 collegiate environment of RRCC.

Article I Bill of Rights

- A. This Constitution hereby declares the following to be basic, 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 Community College Student Voice (hereafter called “The Voice”) those functions, powers, and authorities described in its Constitution and By-Laws.
 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 Voice

- A. This governing body of students shall be officially known as, “The Red Rocks Community College Student Voice.”
- B. All authority and executive power of The Voice shall be derived from the membership of the student body.
- C. The Voice shall be governed by its Constitution, By-Laws, and any other actions as mandated by the membership that are consistent with this Constitution.
1. This Constitution and its By-Laws shall align with all applicable college policies and procedures.

Article III Purposes of The Voice

- 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 pertinent to the well-being of the college and students.
- D. Encourage all members of the student body to participate in the 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 collegiate community on campus.
- F. Provide learning and leadership opportunities for its members through seminars and training programs.
- G. Function as the approval entity for proposed student clubs.

Article IV Membership of the Student Body

- A. 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 The Voice—so long as all requirements stated in Article V are met.

Article V Voice Membership

- A. The Voice shall not deny membership to any person for any reason, for reasons including or limited to race, ethnicity, skin color, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, religion, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, marital status, age, or disability.
- B. At any given time, there may be no more than eighteen Voice members.
- C. To be eligible for membership in The Voice, a student must:

1. Be enrolled in a minimum of six credits.
 2. Maintain a grade point average (hereafter called "GPA") of 2.5 or better.
 3. Attend three consecutive meetings. Upon the fourth consecutive meeting, the candidate shall be sworn in, providing a seat is available.
 4. Provide a Student Voice Application/Grade Release Sheet (hereafter called "Voice Application"), which must be submitted to the Primary Advisor before the candidate's third consecutive meeting.
 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 Voice members.

1. The Affirmation of Office:

I, _____, do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of _____ of The Student Voice at Red Rocks Community College and will, to the best of my ability, enforce the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of The Student Voice.

- 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 The Voice 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 Voice officers shall be held at the fourth Voice meeting of each Fall semester.
- B. Officers shall be elected from the membership of The Voice, by the membership of The Voice by simple majority vote of those in attendance.

Article VII Officers of The Voice

- A. Officers of The Voice shall be:
 - 1. President
 - 2. Vice President
 - 3. Public Relations Officer
 - 4. Secretary
- B. To be eligible for an officer position on The Voice, 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, full-time RRCC faculty or staff member.
 - 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. Voice officers must meet at least once a week with the Primary Advisor to discuss agenda items, disciplinary action, future events, issues, and concerns (hereafter called the “Weekly Officer’s Meeting”).

Article VIII Compensation for Voice Members

- A. Voice members will be recognized as Student Hourly Employees and shall align with all applicable college policies and procedures.
- B. If a Voice member has another job(s) on campus, his/her employment through Voice shall not count towards the twenty hour per week limit.
- C. Initial compensation for Voice members will be set at \$1.00 more than RRCC Student Employment’s standard of minimum wage.

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- D. It is at the Primary Advisor's discretion to increase the pay rate of Voice members, based upon RRCC's semester based raises.
- E. Summer semesters will not count towards a Voice member's semester based raises.
- F. Upon inauguration, an officer's pay will be set to the maximum allowable pay grade.
 - 1. Upon exiting office, should an officer maintain membership, his/her pay shall be reset to an amount reflecting his/her time served with The Voice.

Article IX Advisors to The Voice

- A. The Coordinator of Student Activities shall serve as the Primary Advisor to The Voice, and shall be responsible for:
 - 1. Overseeing the completion and submission of all required college forms in the process of conducting Voice activities and business, including (but not limited to) the Voice Application, employment documentation, termination paperwork, and other official function forms.
 - 2. Guidance of Voice activities.
 - 3. Training and orientation.
- B. RRCC faculty and staff members may serve as additional advisors to The Voice, at the request of The Voice and approval of the Primary Advisor.
- C. Advisors serve in an advisory capacity to The Voice for matters such as group mission, 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 The Voice.
- E. All advisors shall act on behalf of the college administration.

Article X Student Voice Meetings

- A. The Voice shall hold regular meetings (hereafter called “Official Meetings”) during the Fall and Spring semesters.
- B. The Voice must have a simple majority quorum 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 (such as: dismissing meetings after an hour, remaining silent while others speak, and approving the previous week’s minutes).
- D. The Secretary shall record minutes of each Official Meeting, including a record of attendance.
- E. The President shall provide a meeting agenda for Official Meetings and shall follow and enforce parliamentary procedure during the meeting.
- F. The President shall post the agenda by 8 AM of the day of an Official Meeting.
- G. All Official Meetings shall be open unless designated as closed by a simple majority vote of the Voice members, or unless otherwise specified by the Constitution or By-Laws.
- H. 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 By-Laws.

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 The Voice.
- B. Non-officers are allowed up to three absences from Official Meetings during a semester, after which they are immediately removed from The Voice.
- C. Members who are more than ten minutes late for an Official Meeting are considered tardy.
 - 1. Two instances of tardiness in one semester equals one absence.

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- D. The Primary Advisor may excuse documented absences and tardiness as outlined in the By-Laws.

Article XII Resignation and Vacancies

- A. A Voice member wishing to resign his/her position must give written two-week notice to the Primary Advisor.
- 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's position becomes vacant during the Fall or Spring semesters, the Voice membership shall vote to fill the vacancy from its own ranks.
 - 1. Current officers are not eligible to fill these vacancies.

Article XIII Reinstatement

- A. Reinstatement of a Voice 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, he/she must explain in writing why they left The Voice and why they wish to return.
 - 1. Such written explanation must be submitted to the Primary Advisor.
 - 2. The Primary Advisor will submit this letter of explanation to The Voice as an agenda item for the next Official Meeting.
 - 3. The Voice shall review the letter and may then reinstate the former member by 2/3rds vote of those present.
 - 4. If a previous member is denied reinstatement, that decision is permanent.

Article XIV Discipline

- A. A member may initiate the act of bringing charges against any other member by presenting his/her complaint to the Weekly Officer's Meeting.

1. Positive solutions outside of the disciplinary process are highly encouraged.
- B. In the case of irresolvable issues, the accuser shall work with an officer or Advisor to draft a letter describing the offense.
1. This act shall not be secret and must be communicated through the membership once initiated.
 2. 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 the Voice officers, the Primary Advisor, and the Director of Student Life, discipline, up to and including immediate removal from The Voice, may occur under the following example conditions:
1. Negligence
 2. Incompetence
 3. Misappropriation of funds
 4. Violations of the Constitution or By-Laws
 5. Conduct unbecoming of a member of The Voice
 6. Failure to follow RRCC rules/regulations
- E. Voice members will be immediately removed from the membership if they fail to meet the following requirements:
1. Membership in the student body.
 2. GPA of 2.5 for members, 3.0 for officers.
 3. Attendance requirements for Official Meetings.

Article XV Student Voice Committees

- A. The Voice 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 the best interest of The Voice and the student body.
 - 1. An ad hoc committee can be created by a simple majority vote of the Voice membership and is dissolved by simple majority vote when its objectives are accomplished.
 - 2. Standing committees are created by a simple majority vote of the Voice membership.
- B. All Voice committee chair persons must be Voice members.
- C. Committee membership is open to Voice 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 the Voice Constitution and By-Laws.
 - 2. Keep an attendance record for all meetings.
 - 3. Share reports of their progress with The Voice at every other Official Meeting.
 - 4. Consist of no less than three Voice members.

Article XVI Campus Clubs

- A. It is the duty of The Voice to approve the establishment of any new clubs wishing to create an official membership at RRCC.
 - 1. The advisor and a student leader from the proposed club shall come before the Voice membership to state why their club should be established.
 - 2. The Voice may charter any proposed club by a simple majority vote.

- B. The Voice 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 The Voice.

Article XVII Club Round Table

- A. The Club Round Table shall:
 - 1. Consist of the Voice Vice President, the Student Life Program Coordinator, and the leaders of the official RRCC clubs.
 - 2. Be chaired by the Voice Vice President.
 - 3. Create a line of communication between The Voice 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.
- B. It will be mandatory for an appointed representative of each club to attend these meetings.
- C. The Voice President shall be present for the first Club Round Table of each semester.

Article XVIII Voice Representation on College and Community Committees

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

Article XIX Voice Financial Authority

- A. Voice operating expenses shall be determined annually by the Student Life Director, who will make such information readily available to The Voice.
- B. In addition to operating expenses, The Voice 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 he/she feels the appropriateness of the expenditure is questionable.
- E. Requests for funding that do not originate from The Voice shall be heard and tabled until the next Official Meeting, at which time the request shall be voted upon.

Article XX Campus Referendum

- A. The Voice may hold only one referendum per 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 of those who voted.
- D. Referendums must be at least one week long 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.
 - 1. 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 Voice members.
- H. Referendum results shall be tabulated by the Primary Advisor and at least two Voice officers.
- 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 Voice 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 The Voice, so long as he/she provided documentation of his/her 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 Voice officer who remains for the summer semester shall become the Interim Summer Board President.
 - 1. 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 the Voice membership by the officers and the Primary Advisor.
- F. 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 Voice 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.