

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
BROWARD COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

**PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Broward College, through the authority of Broward College Policy, ordain and establish this constitution and follow its laws, to ensure the representation of the Student Body, and to provide for, the government of students and their own affairs. We seek to foster an inclusive and participatory relationship, the propagation of balance and fairness, and the well-being and prosperity of the students of Broward College.

**ARTICLE I**  
*Provisions*

- Section 1      **Name**  
The name of this Organization shall be Broward College Student Government, herein referred to as Student Government.
- Section 2      **Scope**  
Central Campus [Includes Willis Holcombe Center], North Campus, and South Campus [Pines Center and Weston Center], shall have its own Student Government functioning independently of all others. These bodies may come together to form a collective College-wide Student Government to coordinate college-wide efforts, known as Student Government Council.
- Section 3      **Jurisdiction**  
Student Government shall be the representative of the Student Body.
- Section 4      **Authority Vested**  
The authority vested in Student Government is given by College Policy.

**ARTICLE II**  
*Executive Branch*

- Section 1      **Executive Authority**  
The Student Government executive branch shall consist of the President and the Vice President. The President, assisted by the Vice President, shall appoint administrative officers to effectively carry out the business of Student Government. All executive powers and those powers not specifically granted herein to other branches shall be vested in the President, assisted by the Vice President.
- Section 2      **Powers and Duties of the President**  
The President shall:
- A.      Represents the interests of the Student Body to the faculty, staff and administration of the respective campus.
  - B.      Assume temporary Senate responsibilities, as outlined in the Campus By-Laws, in the event that the senate is deemed inactive.
  - C.      Preside over the General and Executive Board meetings, and make all necessary arrangements for those meetings, including setting the agenda.
  - D.      Vote in General and Executive Board meetings only in the case of a tie.
  - E.      Have the power to veto Senate ruling within five (5) business days of its approval, excluding holidays. Failure to veto within the allotted time will declare the Senate ruling as ratified.

- F. Attend the Student Government Council meetings
- G. Create ad hoc committees.
- H. Recommend to the Senate the creation of standing committees.
- I. Appoint all Standing Committee Chairs approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate/Executive Board.
- J. Appoint all vacant Executive Board and Senatorial positions, with the approval of the majority of the Senate/Executive Board members, as stated in your campus By-Laws.
- K. Serve on the College-wide committee Student Affairs Program and Service Committee (SAPSC), and campus committees, as stated in the Campus By-Laws.
- L. Shall not run or hold any other office with any other college club or organization.
- M. Must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours per term at Broward College, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 and cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0 the previous semester. It shall not be required to take summer classes in order to hold position. Credit requirements shall be waived for members in their last semester of classes.
- N. Complete fifty (50) hours of office work per month.
- O. Take, sign, and uphold the oath of office.

### Section 3

#### **Powers and Duties of the Vice-President**

The Vice President shall:

- A. Fulfill the presidential responsibilities in the absence of the President as detailed in the Student Government Constitution and campus By-Laws.
- B. Attend the Student Government Council meetings.
- C. Serve as the Senate President.
- D. Assist the President in appointing all vacant Executive Board and Senatorial positions, with the approval of the majority of the Senate/Executive Board members, as stated in your campus By-Laws.
- E. Shall vote during a Senate hearing only in the event of a tie.
- F. Assists in representing the issues of the student body to the faculty, staff and administration.
- G. Shall not run or hold any other office with any other college club or organization
- H. Must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours per term at Broward College, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 and cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0 the previous semester. It shall not be required to take summer classes in order to hold position. Credit requirements shall be waived for members in their last semester of classes.
- I. Complete forty (40) hours of office work per month.
- J. Take, sign, and uphold the oath of office.

**ARTICLE III**  
*Executive Board*

- Section 1      **Executive Board**  
Each campus Student Government has the right to institute an Executive Board in accordance with the Campus By-Laws.

**ARTICLE IV**  
*Senate*

- Section 1      **Senate Authority**  
Each campus Student Government has the authority to implement a Student Senate. If the campus Student Government wishes to have a Student Senate then the structure of the senate must be stated in the Campus Bylaws.

Section 2      **Powers, Duties and Limitations of the Senate**

The Senate shall:

- A. Convene as stated in the respective Campus By-Laws.
- B. Establish rules and procedures as stated in the Campus By-Laws.
- C. Assist the President and Vice President in appointing all vacant Executive Board and Senatorial positions, with the approval of the majority of the Senate/Executive Board members, as stated in your campus By-Laws.
- D. Approve all appropriations of the fiscal budget of Student Government.
- E. Override a veto by the President by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate within five (5) business days of its veto, excluding holidays.
- F. Senators shall serve on at least one college-wide or campus committee as available.
- G. Each Senate shall conduct surveys as stated in the respective Campus By-Laws.
- H. Must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours per term at Broward College, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 and cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0 the previous semester. It shall not be required to take summer classes in order to hold position. Credit requirements shall be waived for members in their last semester of classes.
- I. Senators must complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of office time per month.
- J. The Senate shall be considered active when its total membership is greater than two.
- K. Senators must take, sign, and uphold the oath of office.

**ARTICLE V**  
*Powers*

Each Student Government shall have the power to conduct the following business.

- A. Determine positions and elect individuals as necessary to conduct the business of the Student Government as stated in the respective Campus By-Laws.
- B. Arrange its meetings at least once a month.

- C. Call for a special election or referendum with approval of two-thirds vote of the Senate and Executive Board.
- D. By two-thirds vote of the Senate and Executive Board, Student Government may establish or dissolve any Standing Committee(s).
- E. Carry out other such responsibilities and duties which are consistent with the purposes of Student Government, and conform with state laws and College policies and procedures.

**ARTICLE VI**  
*Meeting and Quorum*

- Section 1      **Meetings**  
General Meetings shall be held at least once a month. Meeting dates and times shall be publicly displayed. Unless specifically addressed within the Constitution of the Student Government or the campus Bylaws, issues of parliamentary procedure will defer to the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order. The Constitution and its Bylaws take precedent over Robert's Rules of Order.
- Section 2      **Quorum**  
Voting/official business at General Meetings and Senate Meetings shall commence after quorum has been met. Quorum shall be defined as, the attendance of the voting majority (50% + 1).
- Section 3      **Attendance**  
A total of three (3) non-consecutive absences (except for approved absences as stated in college policy) from general meetings shall be grounds for automatic removal from office. Two (2) consecutive absences (except for approved absences as stated in college policy) from general meetings shall be automatic removal from office. This member may not assume a student government position until the subsequent semester.

**ARTICLE VII**  
*Impeachment/Removal from Office*

An elected or appointed official may be removed from office by a voting majority as stated is the Campus By-Laws. An official may only be removed for committal of malfeasance (misconduct or wrongdoing), misfeasance (improper and unlawful execution of an act that in itself is lawful and proper) or nonfeasance (failure to perform an act that is either an official duty or a legal requirement). Notice of an impeachment/removal hearing must be announced Two (2) weeks prior at a general assembly meeting. Due Process must be given as stipulated in the Campus By-Laws. In the event that the President of the meeting is the subject of the removal proceedings, the advisor will serve or elect an acting chair that will preside over the meeting.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
*Resignation and Succession*

- Section 1      **Resignation**  
An official's resignation must be documented two weeks before his/her final day in Student Government. If the official's final day in Student Government arrives and documentation is not received, the President may place a report on file that shall serve as both documentation and finalization of the former official's resignation.
- Section 2      **Succession**  
In the event of temporary or permanent vacancy of the office of the President, the vacancy shall be filled by the Vice President. Upon the Vice President assuming the role of President, the Vice President's vacancy shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the majority of the Senate/Executive Board members. If formal documentation is not on file by the Presidents final day in office the Vice President may place a report in its place that finalizes the transfer of power.

Section 3       **Transfer of Power**  
In the event that the Senate/Executive Board is unable to fulfill their duties as outlined in this Constitution, then the Senate/Executive Board shall be deemed inactive and the Executive Branch shall assume complete authority and responsibility for the remainder of that term until new officials can be appointed/elected.

**ARTICLE IX**  
*Elections and Appointments*

Section 1       **Elected positions**  
The President, Vice President and Senators shall be elected by a majority vote of the Student Body at their respective campus. Candidates may only run for one Student Government position per election.

Section 2       **Elections**  
Each campus will hold elections, for the term of office from July 1 through June 30, no later than April, to provide ample time for a proper transitional period between administrations.

An election committee shall be established on each campus consisting of at least two members. Candidates are ineligible to sit on the elections committee.

Section 3       **Term limits**  
No President shall serve for more than two terms total. A term for a President shall be considered being in office from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

**ARTICLE X**  
*Oath of Office*

"I (state your name), do solemnly swear and affirm to carry out my duties and responsibilities as (stated position) as stated in the Broward College Student Government Constitution and the Campus Bylaws of my campus to the best of my abilities. I (state your name) solemnly swear as a member of Student Government that I will conduct myself in a way that accurately represents Broward College and Student Government. I understand that if I fail to uphold my responsibilities or conduct myself in an ethical way that represents the College and Student Government, I will be subjected to removal from the office."

**ARTICLE XI**  
*Student Government Council*

Section 1       **Role**  
The Student Government Council shall convene to report on the status of each student government, coordinate a college-wide agenda, and review constitutional amendments.

Section 2       **Membership**  
The Student Government Council shall consist of three members from each campus: President, Vice-President and an appointed/elected official.

Section 3       **Meetings**  
The Student Government Council shall meet at least twice a semester. Each meeting shall be hosted by a different campus on a rotating basis.

Section 4       **Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Assistant**  
The President of the hosting campus shall serve as Chair of the meeting. The Vice Chair shall be the President hosting the next meeting. In the absence of the hosting President, the meeting shall be chaired by the Vice Chair. The Student Government Council Executive Assistant will be chosen by the hosting President.

Section 5       **Duties**

The Chair of the Student Government Council shall set the agenda for the meeting. The Executive Assistant and make them available seventy two hours (72) prior to the next meeting.

Section 6

**Quorum/ Voting**

Each campus can send up to three representatives with voting power, to each Student Government Council meeting. If a campus President or Vice President is unable to attend a meeting, it is their responsibility to designate a member to serve as an official voice and vote of that campus's Student Government. The vote of the majority (50%+1), in attendance, governs.

**ARTICLE XII**

*Amending the Constitution*

A majority (50%+1) of the established student government's Senate/Executive Board shall pass a proposed amendment before it can be sent to the Executive Branch, who will send the proposal to the Student Government Council for ratification.

**ARTICLE XIII**

*Ratifying the Constitution*

In order to ratify the Broward College Student Government Constitution the Student Government Council must vote and have a majority of those votes in favor of the proposed constitution.

**ARTICLE XIV**

*Authorization of Bylaws*

Each Student Government has the right to establish its own By-Laws to the Constitution relevant to that campus only. Each individual campus will decide how they wish to ratify their By-Laws. The By-Laws of the individual campuses shall not need approval from any other campus. The campus By-Laws cannot conflict or supersede the Constitution of the Student Government.