

# CONSTITUTION OF THE WASHINGTON STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## PREAMBLE

We, the students of public colleges and universities of the State of Washington, in order to initiate and coordinate student representation in venues of public policy and reflect student interests, needs, and welfare within the higher education community at large, do hereby affirm and establish this constitution.

## ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this non-profit organization shall be the “Washington Student Association” (WSA) and recorded in the Office of the Secretary of State.

## ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

### SECTION A: Association Membership

1. All recognized student government associations of public colleges and universities in the State of Washington may seek and secure institutional recognition and association membership status within the Washington Student Association.
2. Association membership may be achieved through authorized representatives attending three consecutive meetings, payment of the required dues, and a commitment to uphold and abide by this Constitution and the Washington Student Association By-Laws.
  - a. The Washington Student Association or its legal agent shall negotiate contractual agreements or provide invoices upon institutional requests. Contractual agreements shall be similar to those already in place with membership institutions.
  - b. The terms and conditions in such a contract shall contain: a mechanism for establishing and collecting student contributions which will be remitted to the Washington Student Association; the timing of contribution collection and remittance; a mechanism to amend the contract; the duration of the contract; and, a mechanism for reporting to the institution the financial condition of the Washington Student Association on an annual basis.
3. Association membership may be maintained by keeping current with all dues payments and continued adherence this Constitution and Washington Student Association By-Laws.
4. Association membership may be terminated anytime in accordance with the specification in the contract or if the institution no longer fulfilled the requirements to maintain membership.

- a. It is the responsibility of each association to ensure that dues payments are remitted in such time that their membership will not be terminated.

#### SECTION B: Board of Directors Membership

1. The Washington Student Association Board of Directors shall be composed of one vote per member association. The student association President or his/her designee shall hold the vote.

#### SECTION C: General Assembly Membership

1. Voting membership at the Washington Student Association General Assembly shall be one vote per 2500 FTEs as assigned in the biennial budget adopted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor of the State of Washington. Voting members shall be designated by their student association.

### **ARTICLE III: POWERS AND DUTIES**

#### SECTION A: Washington Student Association Board of Directors

1. The Washington Student Association Board of Directors shall have and exercise the general powers and duties usually vested in the governing board of a corporation, but specifically to include the following powers and duties:
  - a. To ensure that there are at least two elected officers.
  - b. To execute and amend the By-Laws of the organization
  - c. To establish job descriptions and if necessary remove individuals from executive positions
  - d. To amend the annual budget
  - e. To authorize entry into contractual or financial relationships
  - f. To cause to have published and approve an annual financial statement and periodic financial reports
  - g. To conduct regular meetings of the Washington Student Association Board of Directors
  - h. To approve a legislative agenda
  - i. To hire, employ, and terminate employees of the Washington Student Association

## SECTION B: Washington Student Association General Assembly

1. The Washington Student Association General Assembly shall have and exercise the powers and duties specifically included:

- a. To draft a legislative agenda
- b. To approve an annual budget
- c. To elect the executive officers
- d. To discuss and provide input to the Board of Directors on other matters

## **ARTICLE IV: AMENDMENTS**

1. Amendments to this document require a three-fourths vote of the seated membership of the Washington Student Association General Assembly and the Board of Directors.

2. The Washington Student Association Board of Directors shall adopt and amend By-Laws upon a two-thirds vote of its seated membership.

3. At no time shall By-Laws be adopted or amended to contradict this Constitution. By-Laws found to be contradictory to this Constitution are null and void.