



Associated Student Government of San Diego Mesa College Constitution

Preamble

The highest intellectual, social, and moral life is achieved by the ordered pursuit of learning and scholarship. Aspiring to this noble ideal, we, the academic community of the students of San Diego Mesa College, do hereby establish this Constitution as the governing document under which our student administrators shall promote the interests of our college community and its students.

Mission Statement

We, the student leaders of San Diego Mesa College, commit to the pursuit to achieve and excel academically, to push ourselves to the best of our ability. We agree to enrich our personal experiences by celebrating the diverse perspectives and backgrounds of our college community, while standing united in pursuit of our goals with the promise of integrity, equity and altruism towards our classmates, faculty and administration. We are committed to making a difference.

Article I: Name

Section I.

The name of this organization shall be recognized as the Associated Student Government of San Diego Mesa College, hereafter to be commonly referred to as "ASG"

Article II:

Membership

- Section I. Membership in the ASG of San Diego Mesa College shall be open to any regularly enrolled student, faculty, administration or alumni in accordance with guidelines as established in the bylaws.
- Section II. Membership shall allow students, faculty, administration or alumni access to all member benefits established in the bylaws and admission to all events sponsored and/or financed by the ASG free of charge, unless otherwise levied by the ASG
- Section III. An Annual Membership Fee to the Associated Student Government of San Diego Mesa College as defined in the bylaws shall be assessed. The Associated Student Government Executive Council and the Associated Student Government Senate, in consultation with Student Clubs & Organizations and its Student Constituency, will establish this fee by a four-fifths majority vote. Once determined, the AS Membership fee will be subject to the approval of the College President and the Board of Trustees.

Article III:

Organizational Structure

- Section I. The affairs and properties of the ASG shall be administered by the ASG of San Diego Mesa College. The AS Government is composed of the ASG Executive Council, and the Associated Students Senate.
- Section II. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
- The primary duty of the ASG Executive Council shall be to execute and administer ASG business and affairs.
- a. The responsibility of the Executive Council shall be to see that the legislation of the

- b. AS Senate which should always be executed accurately and expeditiously.
- c. The Executive Council shall be composed of the following elected and appointed members.
 - 1. The President, an elected member position
 - 2. The Vice President, an elected member position
 - 3. The Treasurer, an elected member position
 - 4. The Secretary Appointed Position by President
 - 5. The Senate Representative, an elected member position
 - 6. The Inter-Club Council President, elected by the Students Clubs and approved by the A.S. President and A.S. Senate.
 - 7. All members of the AS Executive Council shall have voting rights limited to only those issues stipulated in the by-laws.

Section III.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT SENATE

- A. The primary duty of the Associated Students Senate shall be to originate legislation that responds to the needs of the general student body.
- B. The responsibility of the Associated Students Senate is to advocate for student needs and concerns, speaking as the voice of the general student body.
- C. The Associated Students Senate shall be composed of 15 (fifteen) elected senators.
- D. All senators shall have full voting rights.
- E. Representatives are to represent their needs and concerns, and to advise and support the Associated Students.

Article IV:

Nominations and Qualifications for Office

Section I.

NOMINATING PROCESS

Candidates shall be eligible to run for an elected position in the Associated Students after filing a nominating petition, completion of candidate orientation and upon verification of eligibility, which is determined by the Student Affairs Office.

- A. The nomination petition for an AS Senate position requires one hundred (100) nominating signatures from the general student body.
- B. The nomination petition for the elected executive positions of AS President, AS Vice President, and AS Treasurer requires one hundred fifty (150) nominating signatures from the general student body.
- C. All other positions are filled by appointment by the AS President

Section II.

QUALIFICATIONS

Students seeking, campaigning or holding any office with the Associated Students of San Diego Mesa College must comply with the following:

- A. As per Education Code 76061, maintain a minimum of five (5) units at Mesa College throughout their term and at time of nomination
- B. As per Education Code 76061, maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA
 - a. This means at the time of election, the candidate must have a 2.0 GPA
- C. Have completed at least 6 units at Mesa College or any other accredited Community College or University, and,
- D. The majority of units in a candidate's course load must be attended to at Mesa College. Students should be guided towards their respective colleges' AS that coordinates with where their majority classes are placed.
- E. The potential Executive Council candidate will be available for the following meetings
 - a. ASG Closed Executive Meetings
 - b. ASG Public General Meetings
 - i. Both dates and times determined by the ASG
- F. The potential Senate candidate will be available for the following meetings:

- a. ASG Closed Senator Meetings
- b. ASG Public General Meetings
 - i. Both dates and times determined by the ASG

Section III.

REQUIREMENT FOR AS PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT
AND SENATE REPRESENTATIVE

- A. Candidacy for the AS President, Vice President and Senate Representative shall be open only to those who currently or have held previously an elected or appointed position in the Associated Students of San Diego Mesa College for at least one semester or sixteen (16) weeks.
- B. The position of AS Senate Representative is open only to AS Senators.
- C. In the event that no eligible candidate exists based on the stipulations in Article IV, Section III, part A, then all candidates are eligible.

Article V:
Elections

Section I.

ELECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

All Associated Students Elections shall be coordinated by the Student Affairs department. .

Section II.

EXECUTION OF ELECTIONS

- A. The AS Government shall hold regular elections annually at the end of the spring semester in accordance with the AS Election Code to elect members to serve specifically during the Fall and Spring semesters of the following academic year.
- B. The Associated Students President, Associated Students Vice President, Associated Students Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote.
- C. To be elected to the Associated Students Senate, a candidate must receive thirty three percent (33%) of the votes cast for that office (If a total of 1000 ballots are

cast, but only 300 indicate preferences for the Senate, then 99 votes would be required for a candidate to take office).

- D. In the event that more than fifteen (15) senatorial candidates receive the necessary number of votes, the fifteen candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be declared the winners.
- E. In the event of a tie for any position on the Associated Students Executive Council or the Associated Students Senate, or any measures on the ballot the Student Affairs Department will call for a special runoff election.
 - a. The special runoff elections shall be held within five (5) days of the last election.
- F. In the event that a regular annual election at the end of the spring semester fails to produce at least fifty percent (50%) of the Senate positions and/or fails to elect a President and/or Vice President, a special collegewide general election shall be held no later than four (4) weeks after the start of the fall semester

Section III.

VACANCIES

- A. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of an elected position of the AS, after the regularly scheduled AS elections, steps must be taken to fill the vacancy with a person possessing all qualifications required for an elected position.
- B. Upon notification of the vacancy, the AS President must address the Senate with a recommendation as to whether the vacancy should be filled immediately or in the next general election.
 - a. If the next election is more than one month away, attempts should be made to fill the vacancy immediately.
- C. Should the AS choose to fill the vacancy, this vacancy must be advertised campuswide for a time equivalent to at least two (2) weeks.
- D. Minimum advertisement must include:
 - a. Dissemination of flyers.
 - b. Posting of A-Frames around campus
 - c. Advertisement through applicable San Diego Mesa College's Social Media pages.
- E. The responsibility and compliance of these requirements resides in the AS Executive Council.
- F. This special election will fill the vacancy by a simple

(2/3) two thirds majority vote of the AS Executive Council and the AS Senate meeting in a joint session. This will be a secret ballot counted by the Student Affairs Department

- G. In the event that the office of the Associated Students President is vacated, the Associated Students Vice President shall assume the office of the Associated Students President.
 - a. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Associated Students Vice President, the Associated Students Senate Representative shall assume the office of the Associated Students Vice President.
 - b. An office of the Associated Students Executive Council and the Associated Students Senate may be considered vacant if:
 - i. There are three (3) consecutive absences in the AS Business and Discussion Meetings without prior notification.
 - ii. There are five (5) consecutive tardiness- past five minutes of the meeting start time- in the AS Business and Discussion Meetings without prior notification.
 - iii. Failure to fulfill office hours- three (3) hours- consisting of at least 75% of the semester's schedule without prior notification; and failure to meet other assigned responsibilities, (i.e. committee meetings, AS sponsored events, and Senator hosted projects)
 - iv. Contested vacancies will be brought to the Student Judicial Review Board for review

Section IV.

REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

- A. In the event that a member of the Associated Students feels that a senator or executive council member has not performed the responsible execution of duties, said student carries the right to request that said senator or executive council member be removed from office. Such a decision shall be supported by a vote of the current senators and executive members.
- B. Before removal, the person must be notified verbally

and in writing as a warning. If no change occurs, a closed meeting with the ASG President, ASG Vice President, and member should be held to discuss further plans and actions based on the member's decision.

- C. Should the removal be contested by the ASG Member, the Student Judicial Review Board must act upon the student's request, unless the request is withdrawn by the student.
- D. The Student Judicial Review Board shall meet in a closed session hearing first with the student and then with the involved executive council member or senator.
- E. A written opinion shall be forwarded by the Chief Justice of the Student Judicial Review Board to the Dean of Student Affairs, the ASG President, the ASG Vice President, all senators and the complainant.

Section V.

RESIGNATION

- A. Each Senator and Executive Council member has the right to resign and may do so by submitting their resignation in writing to the executive or legislative body they serve and the Dean of Student Affairs.
 - a. The word "resign" must appear in the resignation.
- B. The resignation of an AS officer shall be publicly noted at the next scheduled AS meeting.

Article VI:

Terms of Office

Section I.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL and ASSOCIATED STUDENTS SENATE

- A. All members of the ASG Executive Council and Student Senate will serve terms of one (1) academic year.
- B. All the members of the ASG Executive Council and Student Senate shall serve no more than two (2) terms in any one position.

Section II.

STUDENT JUDICIAL REVIEW BOARD

- a) All Student Judicial Review Board members shall serve one (1) year terms from the beginning of fall semester to the end of spring semester.
- b) . All Student Judicial Review Board Members shall serve no more than two (2) terms.

Article VII:

Recognized Organizations

Section I.

SUPPLEMENTARY CHARTERS AND BYLAWS

Members of the ASG have the right to adopt supplementary charters and By-laws for clubs and organizations that will meet their needs. However, nothing in the supplementary charters and/or bylaws shall conflict with this constitution and/or Bylaws.

Section II.

All supplementary charters and bylaws must have a twothirds (2/3) vote of approval by the ASG Executive Council and ASG Senate.

Section III.

All supplementary charters and by-laws may be reviewed by the Student Judicial Review Board if requested by the ASG Executive Council or ASG Senate.

Article VIII:

Financial Code

Section I.

A **Financial Code** shall be established within the By-laws of this constitution, as outlined in Article XIV of the By-laws. This code will define the policies and procedures for financial transactions related to the Associated Student Government of Mesa College and its affiliated clubs and organizations,

ensuring proper management and accountability of student body funds.

Article IX:
Election Code

Section I. An **Election Code** shall be established within the By-laws of this constitution.

Article X:
Amendments, Revisions, and Ratifications

Section I. CONSTITUTION

- A. Amendments or revisions to the constitution shall be made by a two thirds (2/3) vote of Mesa College students voting at a regular election as per Article V, Section II. or under a special election as per Article V, Section II.
- B. Amendments or revisions must be submitted in writing to the Student Judicial Review Board at least two weeks prior to the date(s) of election to be added to the ballot.
- C. This Constitution must be effective upon approval of the AS members voting

ACCEPTED BY APRIL 16, 2025
ASG:

ACCEPTED BY May 7, 2025
CAMPUS: