

**Senate By-Laws**

**Approved by the OSG Senate \*\*\***

*Article I*

**Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Oshkosh Student ~~Association~~ Government (OS~~A~~G) Student Senate.

*Article II*

**Senate Body**

**Section 1 – Membership**

1. Membership
2. Membership of the Senate shall include ~~twenty-five (25)~~ Thirty (30) Senators elected by and from the student body or appointed by the Vice President.
3. The membership of the Senate shall be broken up into three components:
4. ~~Ten (10)~~  Thirteen (13) At-Large Senators representing the entire campus;
5. ~~Ten (10)~~ Twelve (12) Advocacy Senators representing diverse communities across campus;
6. Five (5) Academic Senators representing the four colleges and graduate students which are outlined in the Senate by-laws.
7. Qualifications
8. Each Senator shall maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 during their term of office;
9. At the start of each semester, the senate shall vote upon a maximum amount of unexcused and excused absences for that semester's senate meetings. If that threshold is reached the absences will result in forfeiture of that individual’s senate seat;
10. Forfeitures can be appealed and are ultimately up to the determination of the Senate as a whole.
11. ~~Two (2) unexcused absences will result in forfeiture of that individual’s senate seat;~~
12. ~~Four (4) excused absences each term will result in forfeiture of that individuals Senate seat;~~
13. ~~At-Large Senators shall have ten (10) designations.~~

**Section 2 - Advocacy and Academic Senators**

1. Membership
2. At-Large Senators can be nominated to fill vacant Advocacy Senator positions with approval of the Senate.
3. Students advocating on behalf of communities of students or matters affecting student life shall be Advocacy Senators which shall have the following ~~ten (10)~~ twelve (12) designations:
4. Armed Services Advocacy Senator
5. Athletics Advocacy Senator
6. First Generation Advocacy Senator
7. Fraternal and Sorority Life Advocacy Senator
8. International Student Advocacy Senator
9. LGBTQ+ Advocacy Senator
10. Multicultural Advocacy Senator (1)
11. Multicultural Advocacy Senator (2)
12. Non-Traditional Advocacy Senator
13. Students with Disabilities Advocacy Senator
14. Women’s Advocacy Senator
15. \*\*\*
16. Students advocating on behalf of the education of students or matters affecting their specific college shall be Academic Senators which shall have the following five (5) designations:
17. Business Academic Senator
18. Education and Human Services Advocacy Senator
19. Graduate Advocacy Senator
20. Letters and Science Academic Senator
21. Nursing Advocacy Senator

**Section 3 – Responsibilities and Powers and Duties of Advocacy and Academic Senators**

1. Responsibilities
2. Powers and Duties of At-Large Senators
3. To serve as the official voice of the student body;
4. To oversee and approve all campus elections and referenda;
5. To establish standing and special committees of the Senate;
6. To have the power to override a Presidential veto by a two-thirds (2/3) vote;
7. To establish the Senate Bylaws and rules of proceedings;
8. To approve the ~~OSA~~ OSG budget;
9. To serve on a minimum of two (2) ~~OSA~~ OSG or campus-affiliated committees and report on the proceedings of those committees;
10. To report and brief the Senate on the status of groups being advocated for;
11. The Senate may remove, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, any person previously confirmed by the Senate and appointed by either the President or Vice President;
12. To enact all legislation, which shall be necessary and proper to execute and enforce the foregoing and all other powers vested by these by-laws in ~~OSA~~ OSG or in any department or office thereof.
13. Powers and Duties of Advocacy Senator and Academic Senators
14. The powers and duties of Article II section 3.a.i through 3.a.x apply to the powers and duties of the Advocacy ~~and Academic~~ Senators with the addition of;
15. Act as a representative or an ally of the community that the Advocacy Senator is elected or appointed to represent;
16. Participate in or create an event that is beneficial to the community that the Advocacy Senator is representing, per approval of the Vice President Pro Tempore. Or write a resolution for the community that the ~~Academic or~~ Advocacy Senator represents.
17. The powers and duties of Article II section 3.a.i through 3.a.x apply to the powers and duties of the Academic Senators with the addition of;
18. ~~The powers and duties of Article II section 3.1.1 through 3.1.10 apply to the powers and duties of the Advocacy and Academic Senators with the addition of;~~
19. Pursue a major or minor in the specific college that the Academic ~~or Advocacy~~ Senator is elected or appointed to represent;
    * 1. Participate in or create an event that is beneficial to the community that the Academic Senator is representing, per approval of the Vice President Pro Tempore. Or write a resolution for the community that the Academic Senator represents.

*Article III*

**Voting Rights and Quorum**

**Section 1 - Voting Rights**

1. Elections of At Large Senators and Advocacy Senators
2. At-Large Senators, Advocacy and Academic Senators shall have voting rights after taking office through election or appointment.
3. ~~Advocacy and Academic Senators shall have voting rights after taking office through election or appointment.~~

**Section 2 - Meetings and Quorums**

1. Meetings
2. The Vice President shall determine the day, time and place of regular meetings;
3. A Sponsor ~~or a representative or sponsor~~ of a resolution must be in attendance for that resolution to be considered or voted on.
4. Quorum
5. A quorum to conduct business shall be a majority of the full Senate which is over 50% of the entire Senate body;
6. A full Senate shall be the number of Senators allowed by the ~~OSA~~ OSG Constitution;
7. To reach quorum, vacant or unoccupied seats will not be counted.

*~~Article IV~~*

**~~Officers~~**

**~~Section 1 – Vice President~~**

1. ~~Qualifications~~
2. ~~Completed two consecutive semesters at the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh prior to their candidacy;~~
3. ~~Attained a 2.5 cumulative grade point average prior to candidacy.~~
4. ~~Tenure and Succession~~
5. ~~Elected by a plurality vote with the President on a ticket in an all-campus election for a term of (1) one year and the term shall end when the next duly elected Vice President takes office;~~
6. ~~If the office of the Vice President becomes vacated, the President can appoint a new Vice President with approval from the OSA OSG Senate;~~
7. ~~The Vice President may not serve as a president or vice-president of any organization, activity, or interest group, except UW System Student Representatives, during their term of office;~~
8. ~~The Vice President may not serve as a state, local or county elected official while in office.~~
9. ~~Powers and Duties~~
10. ~~To chair all meetings of the Senate;~~
11. ~~To serve as the tie-breaking vote in the Senate if necessary;~~
12. ~~To serve at the pleasure of the President;~~
13. ~~To call emergency meetings of the Senate at their own initiative;~~
14. ~~To appoint both Advocacy, Academic, and At-Large Senators following an interview;~~
15. ~~To prepare the agenda for the Senate meetings;~~
16. ~~Maintain a 2.5 grade point average while serving in this office;~~
17. ~~To serve on the OSA OSG Executive Board and receive one vote during these meetings.~~

**~~Section 2 – Vice President Pro–Tempore~~**

1. ~~Qualifications~~
2. ~~Be a current member of the OSA OSG Senate and completed two consecutive semesters at the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh;~~
3. ~~Attained a 2.5 cumulative grade point average prior to their candidacy.~~
4. ~~Tenure and Succession~~
5. ~~Elected by a plurality vote in the OSA OSG Senate and will serve in the entirety of the administration’s full term after being elected by fellow Senators;~~
6. ~~If the office of Vice President Pro–Tempore becomes vacated, the office will remain vacated until the OSA OSG Senate elects a new Vice President Pro–Tempore;~~
7. ~~The Vice President Pro–Tempore may not serve as a state, local or county elected official while in office.~~
8. ~~Powers and Duties~~
9. ~~The Vice President Pro–Tempore shall temporarily assume the powers of the Vice President in their absence;~~
10. ~~To assist the Vice President in student appointments, committee lists, and other OSA OSG-related business;~~
11. ~~To continue the powers and duties of Senator;~~
12. ~~Maintain a 2.5 grade point average while serving in this office;~~
13. ~~To serve on the OSA OSG Executive Board and receive one vote during these meetings.~~

**~~Section 3 - OSA Program Advisor~~**

1. ~~Appointments~~
2. ~~The Program Advisor of OSA OSG shall be the recording Secretary of the OSA OSG Senate;~~
3. ~~In the absence of the OSA OSG Program Advisor, the Vice President Pro Tempore shall be the recording secretary of the OSA OSG Senate;~~
4. ~~Powers and Duties~~
5. ~~To record the minutes of all OSA OSG Senate meetings and to have said minutes of all OSA Senate meetings ready for the next OSA OSG Senate meeting;~~
6. ~~To keep on file a record of minutes of all OSA OSG Senate meetings and to keep on file a record of all reports and minutes of the Senate committees;~~
7. ~~To prepare materials to be presented at the Senate meeting;~~
8. ~~To keep an accurate record of attendance at all regular meetings;~~
9. ~~To be of general assistance to the Vice President of OSA OSG and the Vice President Pro-Tempore.~~

*~~Article V~~**Article IV*

**Parliamentary Procedure and Resolution**

**Section 1 - Parliamentary Procedure**

1. Parliamentary Authority
2. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure shall govern this organization in all parliamentary situations that are not provided for in the Constitution, By-Laws, or adopted Laws.
3. Censuring Senators
4. A Senator may be reprimanded by the chair at the Senate meeting and can only be made at the meeting in which the cause of the reprimand is needed.  A reprimand is defined as to reprove informally.
5. A Senator may be censured by a majority of the full Senate. Censure is defined as an official reprimand by the Senate.
6. ~~Policies for Approving Organizations and Appointments~~
7. ~~The Senate shall grant or withdraw official recognition for each student organization that seeks or hold such recognition.~~
8. Numbering Legislation
9. All Senate legislation shall be marked SS-the year the present Senate was elected and the number of the legislation;
10. Senate numbering of legislation shall start with 001, representing the first piece of legislation of the new Student Senate.
11. Emergency Powers
12. An emergency shall require:
13. An emergency student political protest, conference, moratorium or action, or
14. Imminent danger to students, physical and otherwise, or
15. A situation requiring student position immediately on any affair, the usefulness of which position would be gone or reduced by the next Senate meeting, or
16. The following powers may be assumed by the Vice President:
17. Power to make or negate financial commitments in ~~OSA~~ OSG’s name, other than as provided in the Constitution.
18. Power to extend emergency powers beyond the one-week limit specified in these By-Laws.
19. Power to commit ~~OSA~~ OSG to any policy beyond the one-week limit, and
20. Power to dissolve or limit any branch, committee, or agency of ~~OSA~~ OSG except as provided in the Constitution.
21. The power (s) assumed would expire at the next Senate meeting after the proclamation of an emergency, unless the President or Senate nullifies ~~his/her~~ their proclamation before the end of that period after the Senate’s next meeting the power can only be extended by a resolution.
22. After one (1) week the power (s) may only be extended by resolution of the Senate. Otherwise, the President may not proclaim a related emergency again for thirty (30) days, unless the Senate changes the number of days.
23. If emergency powers are assumed, the president will file a written report on any and all action taken under those powers by the time of the Senate meeting following the expiration of power.

**Section 2 – Resolutions**

Resolution Procedures

1. ~~Resolutions shall be introduced one week prior to any action on the resolutions.~~ Resolutions introduced during a senate meeting shall be voted on during that meeting unless tabled until the next meeting prior to any action on the resolutions.
2. All resolutions shall include the sponsor’s name (s).

*~~Article VI~~**Article V*

**Referendums**

**Section 1 – Referendums**

1. Referendum Procedure
2. The Senate, upon receiving a bona fide petition containing ~~five hundred (500)~~ one hundred (100) signatures shall direct the Election Commission to add the referendum question to the Presidential or Senatorial Election ballots, whichever comes first;
3. The Elections Commission shall represent the results of the referendum to the Senate;
4. All referendums except constitutional amendments must conform to the ~~OSA~~ OSG Constitution;
5. The ~~OSA~~ OSG ~~Assembly and~~ Senate may place a referendum on the ballot with a two-thirds (2/3)approval.
6. Ratifying By-Laws
7. These By-Laws shall become effective upon approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full Senate;
8. All previous By-Laws for the ~~OSA~~ OSG Senate are hereby void with the passage of these By-Laws.
9. Amendments to By-Laws
10. Any amendments shall be prepared by any Senator to the ~~OSA~~ OSG Senate;
11. The voting on the amendment shall be at the meeting following the introduction of the amendment;
12. Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full Senate in order to be enacted.

~~REVISED 03-04-2008 and 09-22-2015~~

~~PROPOSED REVISIONS 09-04-2019~~

~~REVISED 04-15-2020~~

~~REVISED 09-14-2022~~