



# Red Rocks Student Government

MISSION STATEMENT AND CONSTITUTION

Updated April 2023

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# Mission Statement

We, the Red Rocks Student Government (hereafter called RRSg), are a diverse and inclusive assembly of students who are committed to representing the student body of Red Rocks Community College (hereafter called RRCC). Through tenacity, integrity, and honesty, this assembly shall 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 academic environments of RRCC.

# Article I Bill of Rights

This Constitution hereby declares the following to be fundamental and inalienable rights of the RRCC student body:

- A. The student body has the power to levy, collect, deposit, and manage assessments on itself in cooperation with the college.
- B. The student body has the right to delegate to the Red Rocks Student Government (hereafter called "RRSG") those functions, powers, and authorities described in its Constitution and bylaws.
- C. The student body has the right to be represented on all committees that govern or affect the student body.

# Article II The Student Government

- A. All authority and executive power of RRSg shall be derived from the membership of the student body.
- B. RRSg shall be governed by its Constitution, bylaws, and any other actions as mandated by the membership.
- C. This Constitution and its bylaws shall align with all applicable college policies and procedures.

# Article III Purposes of the Student Government

- 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 relevant to the well-being of the college and students.
- D. Encourage all members of the student body to participate in 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 collaborative community on campus.
- F. Provide learning and leadership opportunities for the student body.

- G. Function as the approval entity for proposed student clubs.

## Article IV Membership of the Student Body

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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 elections regarding RRSB business and the right to serve on RRSB—so long as all requirements stated in Article V are met.

## Article V Student Government Membership

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- A. RRSB shall not deny membership on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, religion, age, national origin, veteran status, or ancestry, or any other category protected by applicable law.
- B. At any given time, there may be no more than twenty RRSB members, and no more than four officers.  
To be eligible for membership in RRSB, a student must:
- C.
  - 1. Be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours in the current academic term.
  - 2. Maintain a grade point average (hereafter called “GPA”) of 2.0 or better.
  - 3. Provide a Student Government Application/Grade Release Sheet, which must be submitted to the Primary Advisor before the candidate’s third consecutive meeting.
  - 4. Attend two consecutive official meetings. Upon the third consecutive official meeting the candidate shall be sworn in, providing that a seat is available.
  - 5. Complete all necessary Student Employment paperwork.
  - 6. Adhere to the RRCC Student Code of Conduct.
- D. Upon inauguration, candidates shall take the Affirmation of Office, after which they shall be recognized as official RRSB members.

The Affirmation of Office:

*I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly affirm that I will dutifully execute the office of \_\_\_\_\_ of the Student Government at Red Rocks Community College and will, to the best of my ability, enforce the provisions of the Constitution and bylaws of the Student Government.*

- E. Term limits:
  - 1. A term consists of one full year beginning the date on which they were sworn in.
  - 2. Members may serve on RRSB for a total of three terms. Of those three terms, they may serve as an officer twice.

## Article VI Election of Officers

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- A. Elections for RRSG officers shall be held at the fourth Government meeting of each fall semester.
- B. Officers shall be elected from the membership of RRSG, by the members of RRSG by simple majority vote of those in attendance.

## Article VII Officers of the Student Government

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- A. Officers of RRSG shall be:
  - 1. President
  - 2. Vice President
  - 3. Public Relations Coordinator
  - 4. Secretary
- B. To be eligible for an officer position on RRSG, a student must:
  - 1. Be enrolled in a minimum of six credits.
  - 2. Maintain a GPA of 2.5 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, permanent RRCC employee.
  - 2. A letter of intent stating why the candidate wishes to serve as an officer.
- D. RRSG officers must meet at least once a week with the Primary Advisor to set agenda items, disciplinary actions, future events, issues, and concerns (hereafter called the "Weekly Officers' Meeting").

## Article VIII Compensation for Student Government Members

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- A. RRSG members will be recognized as Student Hourly Employees and shall adhere to all applicable college policies and procedures as well as all future changes to college policy or procedure.
- B. RRSG elected officers will be compensated at the current student hourly pay rate for Level II student employees as defined by the college's Human Resources department.
- C. RRSG members will be compensated at the current student hourly pay rate for Level I student employees as defined by the college's Human Resources department.
- D. RRSG members may opt for "honorary member status" if they choose not to be on the payroll. Honorary members would have the same rights and responsibilities as regular members in all instances except payroll.

## Article IX Advisors to the Student Government

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

## Article X Student Government Meetings

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- A. RRSB shall hold regular meetings (hereafter called "official meetings") during the fall and spring semesters.
- B. RRSB must have a simple majority quorum, as established in the first meeting of each semester, 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.
- D. The Secretary shall record minutes of each official meeting, including a record of attendance.
- E. All official meetings shall be open unless designated as closed to non-voting members by a simple majority vote of RRSB members, or unless otherwise specified by the Constitution or bylaws.
- F. 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 bylaws.

## Article XI Absences and Tardiness

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- A. Officers are allowed up to three absences from official meetings during each semester, after which they are immediately removed from office but will retain member status.
- B. Non-officers are allowed up to four absences from official meetings during a semester, after which they are immediately removed from RRSB.
- C. Members who are more than ten minutes late for an official meeting are considered tardy.

- D. Two instances of tardiness in one semester equals one absence.
- E. The Primary Advisor may excuse documented absences and tardiness as outlined in the bylaws.

## Article XII Resignations and Vacancies

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- A. If an officer or member wishes to resign their position they must give written notice to the Primary Advisor in order to remain in good standing.
- B. Vacancy of an officer position will be filled via election. All members and officers are eligible to run for the vacant position.

## Article XIII Reinstatement

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- A. Reinstatement of a RRSg 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 that member will be reinstated immediately provided a seat is available. If membership is full, that member will be reinstated when the next open seat becomes available.
- D. If a former member left without notification, they may rejoin RRSg by following the same criteria required of new members as outlined in Article V.
- E. Exemptions to Article XIII may be made under exceptional circumstances and only by the RRSg Primary Advisor or the Director of Student Life.

## Article XIV Discipline

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- A. Positive solutions outside of the disciplinary process are highly encouraged, however a member may initiate the act of bringing charges against any other member by presenting their complaint to the Weekly Officers' Meeting.
- B. In the case of irresolvable issues, the accuser shall work with an officer or Advisor to draft a letter describing the offense. 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 RRSg officers, the Primary Advisor, and t a secondary witness, such as the Director of Student Life or a Dean, discipline, up to and including immediate removal from RRSg, may occur under the following example conditions:
  - 1. Negligence
  - 2. Incompetence
  - 3. Misappropriation of funds
  - 4. Violations of the Constitution or bylaws
  - 5. Conduct unbecoming of a member of RRSg

6. Failure to follow RRCC rules and regulations
- E. RRSB members will be immediately removed from the membership if they fail to meet the following requirements:
  1. Membership in the student body.
  2. Minimum GPA of 2.0 for members, 2.5 for officers.
  3. Enrollment in a minimum of 6 credit hours in the current academic semester
  4. Attendance requirements for official meetings.

## Article XV Student Government Committees

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- A. RRSB 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 in the best interest of RRSB and the student body.
  1. An ad hoc committee can be created by a simple majority vote of RRSB membership and is dissolved by simple majority vote when its objectives are accomplished.
  2. Standing committees are created by a simple majority vote of RRSB membership.
- B. All RRSB committee chair persons must be RRSB members.
- C. Committee membership is open to RRSB 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 RRSB Constitution and bylaws.
  2. Keep an attendance record for all meetings.
  3. Share reports of their progress with RRSB at official meetings as needed.
  4. Consist of no less than two RRSB members.
- F. At the discretion of the Primary Advisor, RRSB members may represent RRSB upon college and community committees, boards, and councils.
- G. RRSB representatives will be replaced if they miss more than two meetings per semester of the committee they are serving upon. Depending on the committee's function, the Primary Advisor may see fit to make exceptions to this restriction.

## Article XVI Campus Clubs

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

## Article XVII Club Round Table

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- A. The Club Round Table shall:
  - 1. Consist of the RRSG Vice President, the Student Life Program Coordinator, and a representative from each of the official RRCC clubs.
  - 2. Be chaired by the RRSG Vice President.
  - 3. Create a line of communication between RRSG 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.  
After each Club Round Table meeting a report will be presented by the Vice
  - 5. President at the next official meeting.
- B. It is highly encouraged for an appointed representative of each club to attend these meetings.
- C. All RRSG officers shall attend the first Club Round Table of each semester if available.

## Article XVIII Student Government Financial Authority

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- A. In addition to operating expenses, RRSG has the authority to allocate up to 10% of the student fee cash reserves annually.
- B. Allocations of \$10,000 or more must be approved by campus referendum.
- C. The Primary Advisor is authorized to require approval by campus referendum of any proposed budget if they feel the appropriateness of the expenditure is questionable.
- D. Requests for funding that do not originate from RRSG shall be heard and tabled until the next official meeting, at which time the request shall be voted upon.

## Article XIX Campus Referendum

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- A. RRSG may hold only one referendum per each 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.
- D. Voting must be available for seven consecutive days 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. 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 RRSB members.
  - H. Referendum results shall be tabulated by the Primary Advisor, at least two RRSB officers, and a Vice President and/or President of RRCC.
  - 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 XX Interim Summer Board

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- A. The Interim Summer Board shall consist of all RRSB 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 RRSB, so long as they provide documentation of 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 RRSB officer who remains for the summer semester shall become the Interim Summer Board Chair.
- F. During the final Weekly Officers' Meeting of the spring semester, if no officer is participating during the summer semester, an Interim Summer Board chair person shall be selected from RRSB membership by the officers and the Primary Advisor.
- G. 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 XXI Student Handbook

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- A. Senior Coordinator of Student Life and RRSB members attend annual meeting to go over updates to the student handbook.

## Article XXII Amendments

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- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by a 2/3rds vote of all present RRSB 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.