

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY – PRESCOTT CAMPUS

# THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION



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Amended by the SGA Student Council  
**Monday, February 15, 2021**

Ratified by Spring 2021 Student Body  
**Friday, February 26, 2021**

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# *Preamble*

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*We, the Student Government Association of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Prescott Campus, in accordance with the principles of American Democracy and in acknowledgment of this University as an academic community existing for the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of the student, and the general well-being of society, do establish this constitution.*

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## *Article I - Name*

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The name of this organization shall be the Student Government Association of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. The governing body of this association shall be the SGA Student Council.

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## *Article II - Purpose*

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The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Prescott Campus Student Government Association shall be the official voice of students and student organizations to provide advocacy, services, and representation in the effort of uniting and promoting cooperation between students, faculty, staff, and administration.

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## *Article III - Membership*

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### **Section 1.**

All full-time and part-time students registered with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for a specific semester or summer shall be regular members of the Student Government Association for the semester or summer sessions.

### **Section 2.**

Regular members shall have the power to vote, to hold office as provided for in this constitution, and to participate in campus organizations and events.

### **Section 3.**

No member shall be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, predisposing genetic characteristic, age, religion, pregnancy status or any other characteristic protected by University policy or state, local, or federal law and therefore eligibility for membership or appointed or elected student officer positions may not be limited on any of the above qualities.

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# *Article IV - Rights and Freedoms*

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## **Section 1.**

Students shall have the right, through their student government and its designees, to participate in the making of University policies via recommendations and the right to petition for changes in either academic or non-academic regulations.

## **Section 2.**

In accordance with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University policy and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (Section 513 of Public Law 93-380, Education Amendments of 1974) subsequent amendments, students have the right of access to their official records as described in the act. This includes the right of protection against any disclosure of information by the University concerning a student's views, belief, or political associations. The right to privacy with regard to a student's records shall be upheld except by the student's own expressed permission or under valid court order. The academic records shall be kept separate and may be referred to by appropriate University personnel.

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# *Article V - Executive Branch*

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## **Section 1.**

The executive officers of the Student Government Association shall be known as the Executive Council.

## **Section 2. Executive Council Members**

Shall consist of the following elected officers, with accordance with the SGA Bylaws: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

## **Section 3. Qualifications**

- A. Must be a member of the Student Government Association
- B. Maintain a cumulative Embry-Riddle grade point of 2.5 or better
- C. Once elected, members must not hold any elected office in another student organization
- D. Must be in accordance with other qualifications in the SGA Bylaws

## **Section 4. Functions and Powers**

- A. The Executive Council:
  - a. Shall hold a regularly scheduled meeting prior to each Student Council meeting during the academic calendar year
- B. The President shall:
  - a. Have the authority to initiate legislation that the President feels would be beneficial to the Student Government Association.
  - b. Have the power to veto all legislation passed by the Student Council (see ARTICLE VI). The President's veto can be overridden in turn by a two-thirds

- majority veto of the Representative Council. The President must exercise authority to veto within seven days or the legislation remains in the effect
- c. Nominate student to serve on University committees with the ratification of the Student Council
  - d. Serve as a member of the University Board of Trustees
- C. The Vice-President shall:
- a. Serve as the President in the event of the President being unable to execute said duties for whatever reason
  - b. Serve as administrator to the SGA Student Council (unless an elected chairman exists) and provide a tie-breaking vote in the event of any tie concerning legislation
- D. The Secretary shall:
- a. Record all minutes for SGA Meetings
  - b. Have one vote concerning legislation in the SGA Student Council
- E. The Treasurer shall:
- a. Justify all appropriations of the Student Government Association's monies in accordance with the bylaws
  - b. Have readily available to the Student Government Association all records of student finances
  - c. Act as chair of the Budget Committee
  - d. Have one vote concerning legislation in the SGA Student Council

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## *Article VI - Legislative Branch*

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### **Section 1.**

Elected members of the Legislative Branch shall be known as the Representative Council.

### **Section 2. Representative Council Members**

- A. These members shall be elected according to districts established in the bylaws
- B. The Vice-President or elected presiding Chair shall serve as administration to the Student Council and provide a tie-breaking vote in even of any tie concerning legislation
- C. The Secretary and Treasurer shall each have one vote concerning legislation in the SGA meetings

### **Section 3. Qualifications**

- A. Maintain a cumulative Embry-Riddle grade point average of 2.25 or better
- B. Be in accordance with the qualifications outlined in the SGA Bylaws

### **Section 4. Functions and Powers**

- A. Serve as the legislative body and act on legislation initiated by the President or formed by the Council itself
- B. Hold regularly scheduled meetings during the academic year
- C. Have the power to use a two-thirds majority vote to override any veto initiated by the President

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## *Article VII - Recognition for Registered Student Organizations*

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### **Section 1.**

SGA will provide funding and recognition, in accordance to the SGA Bylaws, to Student Service Organizations and Registered Student Organizations.

### **Section 2.**

All organizations desiring recognition by the Student Government Association must adhere to the requirements set forth in the SGA Bylaws.

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## *Article VIII - SGA Elections*

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### **Section 1.**

- A. All current student, within the requirements set forth by the SGA Constitution and Bylaws, have the right to run for an SGA Council position
- B. The general election for elected SGA Council Members shall be conducted no later than one month before the first day of Spring Semester Finals
- C. The election timeline, determined by the Election Committee, must within reasonable expectations of candidates having the opportunity to run for office

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## *Article IX - SGA Advisors*

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### **Section 1.**

- A. In consultation with the University, the Student Government Association shall have University Advisor(s) who will be a full- or part-time member of the University faculty, staff, or administration
- B. The Student Council reserves the right to choose their own SGA Advisor with accordance with the SGA Bylaws

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## *Article X - Amendment Process*

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**Section 1.**

The Constitution, in order to be amended, must undergo the process of formal change.

A. A two-thirds majority in the Representative Council can amend the constitution.

This in turn must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the student voting body.

**Section 2.**

The bylaws, in order to be amended, must undergo the process of formal change.

A. A two-thirds majority in the Representative Council can amend the bylaws

**Section 3.**

Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by any student.