



**CONSTITUTION OF THE
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
AMENDED JULY 2022**

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Idaho State University, do provide by this Constitution a student association committed to providing effective student participation and representation in all areas of student affairs, that we may, participate in the improvement of educational programs, co-curricular activities, and services, and to advance the common interests and concerns of the student body, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I—PURPOSE

Section 1—Purpose of ASISU

1. The purpose of ASISU is:
 - A. To provide for the general welfare of students attending the University.
 - B. To represent students and initiate action upon issues arising in the University community.
 - C. To ensure student participation on the academic and administrative policy making levels of the University.
 - D. To provide educational, cultural, social and service activities for students.
 - E. To assess the ASISU fees with the Board of Trustees.
 - F. To provide monetary support for student activities through a student activity fee as recommended by ASISU.
 - G. To provide coordination for student organizations and activities.
 - H. To provide communication and interaction between the students and the administration and faculty.
 - I. To express student opinion.
 - J. To provide for participation and involvement in community concerns and affairs.

ARTICLE II—ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1—Organization and Governing Power

1. ASISU will be organized with a legislative body, known as the Student Senate, and an executive body, know as the Executive Cabinet.
2. The governing power of ASISU shall be vested in the Student Senate and Executive Cabinet.
3. All elected ASISU officers will be elected by eligible students of the ASISU for a term of one (1) year to begin at the End-of-the-Year Banquet.
4. In the event of a conflict between this Constitution and the Bylaws of ASISU or any other document or regulation, the provisions of this Constitution shall be controlling, subject to state and federal law.

Section 2—Qualifications for Membership

1. All students who have paid the ASISU student activity fee may be members of ASISU, during the academic period for which the fee was paid.
2. Those students who have paid the student activity fee and possess a valid student identification card will be eligible to vote in the ASISU elections.
3. All registered students of Idaho State University will be represented by the ASISU government.

Section 3—Eligibility for Offices

1. All ASISU officers must be members of ASISU and maintain eligibility as prescribed in the ASISU Bylaws.
2. Members of the ASISU may not hold simultaneous positions in more than one branch of the ASISU unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or Bylaws

ARTICLE III—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1—ASISU Senate

1. Membership
 - A. The Student Senate will consist of one or more representative(s) elected from each college of the university and the College of Graduate Studies.
 - B. All members of the Student Senate will be elected within each college or school of the university by eligible members of ASISU in accordance with ASISU Bylaws and this Constitution.
 - C. The members of the Student Senate will be elected in the same election cycle as the ASISU president and vice president, and serve a term concurrent therewith.
 - D. The Student Senate will elect a pro-tempore from within the Student Senate during the first meeting of each term.
2. Powers and Duties
 - A. To transact business with a quorum present.
 - B. To propose policies, procedures, Bylaws, rules and regulations of ASISU that are not in conflict with this Constitution.
 - C. To present to the president of ASISU for signature, all proposed changes in policies, procedures, Bylaws, rules and regulations of ASISU.
 - D. To confirm or reject all nominations for ASISU positions made by the ASISU president.
 - E. To propose University policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.
 - F. To express the Student Senate's position through resolutions.
 - G. To assure student representation to university administration, faculty, and staff.
 - H. To have at least one Senator represent ASISU on standing and ad hoc university-level committees. Updates should be presented during Senate caucus meetings.
 - I. To connect with and oversee one (1) department in ISU's organizational chart. Options for oversight include, but are not limited to: University Advancement, Athletic Department, Student Affairs, Enrollment Management, Operations, Finances, Research, Health and Wellness, Academic Affairs, Marketing and Communication, and General Counsel.
 - J. To meet with the Dean of their respective college at least once a month
 - K. To determine the Student Senate's own rules of procedure.
 - L. To override a presidential veto of any Senate action by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership of the Student Senate, if the Student Senate so desires.
 - M. To be responsible to the student organizations and constituents whom they represent.

- N. To attend at least eighty percent (80%) of regular senate meetings.
- O. To exercise legislative responsibility for all areas of student concern consistent with the purposes of ASISU.
- P. To exercise other responsibilities as defined herein.

ARTICLE IV—EXECUTIVE CABINET

Section 1—ASISU President

1. Eligibility
 - A. The president will be elected on a ticket with the vice president in a university wide general election to be held in accordance with the ASISU Bylaws and Election Code.
 - B. The president will be elected by eligible students of ASISU for a term of one (1) year to begin upon inauguration at the End-of-the-Year Banquet.
2. Executive Succession
 - A. Should the office of the ASISU president be permanently vacated, the ASISU vice-president will automatically be installed as the ASISU president.
 - B. Should the offices of the ASISU president and vice-president be permanently and simultaneously vacated, the pro-tem of the Student Senate will automatically be installed as the ASISU president.
 - C. Should the office of the ASISU vice president or ASISU Idaho Falls vice president become permanently vacated, the ASISU president will appoint a new vice president to fill the unexpired term.
3. Powers and Duties
 - A. To be the Chief Executive Officer and spokesman of ASISU.
 - B. To act in the interest of the University's student body.
 - C. To nominate executive board chairs from the student body to be confirmed or rejected by the Student Senate.
 - D. To approve or veto any legislation presented by the Student Senate within seven (7) days of the legislation's presentation to the president. In the absence of presidential approval or veto, properly presented legislation shall be enacted on the eighth (8) day after presentation to the president. The president may not veto Constitutional amendments.
 - E. To form ad hoc committees.
 - F. To make nominations or appointments, as appropriate, to university committees and ability to remove individuals from such committees or reduce stipend.
 - G. To make all student appointments to University committees.
 - H. To represent the university's student body at university functions.
 - I. To oversee all of the ASISU operating budgets.
 - J. To be responsible for such additional duties and powers as expressed herein and as may be requested by the Student Senate or the university.

Section 2—ASISU Executive Vice President

1. Eligibility
 - A. The vice president will be elected on a ticket with the president in a university-wide general election to be held in accordance with the ASISU Bylaws and Election Code.
 - B. The vice president will be elected by eligible students of the ASISU for a term of one (1) year to begin upon inauguration at the year end banquet
2. Powers and Duties
 - A. To function as the ASISU president in the ASISU president's absence.
 - B. To serve as a member of the Executive Cabinet.
 - C. To serve as the president of the Student Senate.

- D. To be a voting member of the Senate only in the event a Senate vote results in a tie.
- E. To be responsible for calling meetings of the Senate.
- F. To ensure actions directed by the Senate are performed.
- G. To serve as an ex-officio member of all association committees.
- H. To serve as a voting member of the Student Unions Advisory Board.
- I. To be responsible for such additional duties and powers as expressed herein and as may be requested by the president or the Student Senate.

Section 3—ASISU Idaho Falls Vice President

1. Eligibility
 - A. The Idaho Falls vice president will be elected on a separate ticket from the ASISU president and executive vice president in a campus wide general election in Idaho Falls to be held in accordance with the ASISU Bylaws and election rules.
 - B. The Idaho Falls vice president will be elected by eligible students of the ASISU in Idaho Falls for a term of one (1) year to begin upon inauguration at the year end banquet.
2. Powers and Duties
 - A. To serve as a member of the Executive Cabinet.
 - B. To serve as the representative of ASISU in Idaho Falls.
 - C. To ensure actions directed by the Senate are performed in Idaho Falls.
 - D. To serve as an ex-officio member of all association committees and organizations in Idaho Falls.
 - E. To be responsible for such additional duties and powers as expressed herein and as may be requested by the president or the Student Senate.

Section 4— Director Cabinet Positions

Section 1 – Eligibility

Appointees must be a current member of ASISU and in good standing. Executive Cabinet members must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Section 2 – Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of each cabinet position shall be laid out in the Executive Cabinet Rule Book.

ARTICLE V—OATH OF OFFICE

1. All elected and appointed officers of ASISU must be affirmed by taking the Oath of Office prior to receiving any form of ASISU compensation.

ARTICLE VI—REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT

Section 1—Executive Cabinet

1. The president, vice president, or member of the Cabinet may be recalled from office with a petition signed by at least one thousand (1,000) students and containing a specific statement of the reason(s) for the proposed recall from office.
 - A. Following the presentation of the requisite number of signatures and the petition, the Senate at its next regular meeting shall set the period for the recall election.
 - B. At the next regular Senate meeting, the accused officer shall be allowed to speak in his/her own defense.

- C. If two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast at the recall election approve of the recall, the officer shall be removed from office.
- D. The Director of Governmental Affairs shall work closely with this process.

Section 2—

1. A senator shall be automatically removed from office if:
 - A. At any time during a semester that a senator has failed to attend sufficient meetings such that he/she will not, by the end of the semester, be able to have attended eighty percent (80%) of the regular Senate meetings of a semester. Regular Senate meetings that occurred, or meetings for which he/she can present to the ASISU vice president a valid written medical, religious or other valid excuse explaining the reason(s) for non-attendance seven (7) days before the meeting, or for a medical reason promptly after the absence, shall not be included in calculating the attendance requirement. Attending a meeting shall be defined as presence at the first and final roll calls between the beginning of the meeting and the time scheduled for adjournment according to the agenda, plus presence (defined as a yes, no, or abstention) at seventy percent (70%) of roll calls relating to main motions between those two points in time.
 - B. Each senator must be officially enrolled in the college or school that senator was elected to represent during the entire term of service. In the event any senator changes enrollment to a different college or school, the said senator shall be considered to have resigned position as of the date of enrollment change.
2. Any senator may be recalled from office for grounds with a petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of that senators constituency and a specific statement of the reasons for the proposed recall.
 - A. Grounds will include but are not limited to: violation of specific office duties as defined in the ASISU Constitution, Bylaws, rules, or any other governing documents.
 - B. If two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast at the recall election approve, the senator shall be removed from office. Only students represented by that senator may cast votes for or against the recall.
3. Replacement
 - A. In the event of a vacancy in the ASISU Senate, the person receiving the greatest number of votes for senator, who did not become a senator, shall assume the vacated office.
 - B. If there is no runner up able or willing to fill the vacancy, the ASISU president shall appoint replacement to fill the vacancy. The president’s appointment will require confirmation from the Senate before being seated as a senator.
 - C. If a senator is removed from office, that senator is not eligible to fill any vacated seat within that academic year.

ARTICLE VIII—FISCAL MATTERS

Section 1—Senate Fiscal Authority

1. The Senate has sole authority to approve ASISU funded budgets of student government operations, operation groups, projects, student services, and activity groups and publications.

Section 2—Senate Finance Committee

1. The Senate Finance Committee shall be composed of the director of finance , seven (7) senators, the President, and the Vice president
2. The Senate Finance Committee shall meet at the call of the vice president, the chair of the Finance Committee, the Director of Finance , or any three (3) senators thereof. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum.
3. Functions and Powers

- A. The committee shall participate in budget hearings conducted by the Senate Finance chair to allocate revenues to student activities and services, and report to the Senate a recommended annual budget for the Association.
- B. All new appropriations of funds for Association activities, all modifications to annual appropriations for activities under the sole authority of the Senate, shall be presented to the Senate Finance Committee for its consideration, and shall then be forwarded to the ASISU Senate for final action.

Section 3—Balanced Budget

The budget of the ASISU must be in balance such that expenditures for the fiscal year do not exceed revenues from that fiscal year, allowing for a surplus if so desired by the Senate.

Section 4—Sponsorship and Financial Allocations

- 1. When a group applies to the ASISU Senate for sponsorship and/or affiliation it shall describe its membership requirements and recruiting methods.
- 2. When a group submits its budget each year to petition for funding, each group shall describe in writing its membership requirements, recruiting methods, and goals. This information shall be sent to the Senate along with budget requests.
- 3. The Senate shall not fund any activity or group which discriminates against any student by race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, physical disability, or political activity or belief in its method or recruitment and acceptance for membership.
- 4. The ASISU Executive shall fully investigate, upon receipt of complaint by any member of the ASISU any alleged violation of this section and shall initiate action before the Director of Governmental Affairs, the Student activities Coordinator, and other ASISU members deemed appropriate. This subsection shall not be deemed to limit in any way the right of any member of the Association to initiate action before the Director of Governmental Affairs under this section.

Section 5—Fiscal Accountability

- 1. The ASISU shall specify, in the Bylaws, restrictions on the use of ASISU funds.
- 2. Those restrictions may be waived with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Senate Finance Committee, subject to final approval by the Senate. A waiver granted by the Finance Committee may be overturned by a majority vote of the Senate at the next regular Senate meeting.
- 3. Any time a fund waiver is granted, the standardized form will be included with the agenda for the next regular Senate meeting.

ARTICLE VIII—RATIFICATION & AMENDMENTS

Section 1—Ratification of the Constitution

- 1. This Constitution will become effective upon the approval of a majority vote of the members of ASISU voting in a general ASISU referendum and two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire Senate.
- 2. Ratification of this Constitution shall repeal the existing Constitution, and all Bylaws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Constitution.

Section 2—Constitutional Amendments

1. Amendments may be proposed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all seats of the Student Senate; or by a formal petition signed by 6% of the members of the ASISU, the signatures therein to be verified by the Director of Governmental Affairs followed by ASISU presidential review.
2. This constitution may be amended with a sixty percent (60%) majority vote in a general ASISU referendum.

Section 3—Presentment

1. The president may approve or veto ASISU Bylaws or policy and procedure changes, within seven (7) days of their presentation to the president. In the absence of presidential approval or veto, properly presented Bylaw or policy and procedure changes shall be enacted on the eighth (8) day after presentation to the president.
2. A presidential veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all seats in the Student Senate.
3. If the president vetoes proposed Senate Bylaw changes, the veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all seats of the senate.

ARTICLE IX—ELECTIONS

Section 1—General

1. Control of all ASISU elections and related activities shall rest with the Elections Commission, made up of a the Director of Governmental Affairs and members appointed by the president and approved by a majority vote of the Senate, as empowered by the ASISU Bylaws. The election Governmental Affairs shall be responsible for the execution and conduct of all ASISU elections.
2. Only students currently enrolled at Idaho State University and members of ASISU may vote.
3. One (1) regular ASISU election shall be held each year during the spring semester. No special election shall be held to fill vacancies in elected offices. This shall not be construed to prohibit recall elections.

Section 2—Election Dates

1. The specific dates for regular elections and for any special elections shall be set requested by the Director of Governmental Affairs and set by the ASISU Senate. The election period for special elections must be during the spring or fall semester, not on a Saturday or Sunday, and not on an official school holiday. The election period for regular elections must be during the spring semester, not on a Saturday or Sunday, and not on an official school holiday.
2. The Senate shall set the election (voting) period of a recall election no later than one regular meeting following receipt of the petition. A recall election must be held no later than the second regular Senate meeting following the setting of the voting date(s).
3. The time of the vote on an initiative, referendum, or amendment shall be set by the Senate.

Section 3—Election Publicity

Notice of an election and full statement of any proposed recalls, initiatives, referenda, and/or amendments shall be published at least once prior to the election period in the ASISU-funded newspaper.

Section 4—Voting

1. All voting in Association elections shall be by secret ballot. Any member of the ASISU may request a paper ballot even if the election is being primarily conducted by electronic device.
2. All election returns will be certified by the elections board and approved by the ASISU Senate within two weeks of the election, except in case of protest in which one extra week will be allowed. All election protests must be received by the Director of Governmental Affairs, in writing, within three (3) school days of the election date. The Director of Governmental Affairs shall be the final authority for all questions regarding elections.

Section 5—Initiatives and Referendums

1. Initiatives may be proposed by a formal petition presented to the ASISU Senate signed by 6% of the members of the ASISU, the signatures therein to be verified by the Director of Governmental Affairs.
2. Referendums may be proposed by a majority of the ASISU Senate.
3. ASISU will have the unaltered text of the initiative or referendum along with dates, times, and methods for voting published in the student newspaper, along with a student email memorandum sent to students at least once before the date of the vote.
4. A vote of the association on proposed initiatives shall occur within four (4) weeks of the date the ASISU Senate receives the Initiative petition (excluding holiday and vacation break). Referendum voting shall occur on a date set by majority vote of the ASISU Senate.
5. Majority approval of those voting on the initiative or referendum is needed for it to pass. The content may not be altered after passage, except to make the form of its presentation compatible with ASISU documents.
6. The ASISU president shall have no veto power over initiatives or referendums.

Section 6—Campaign Rules, Procedure and Finance

The Senate shall be responsible for further enactment of election guidelines and procedures in the Bylaws and for approving specific election rules, including campaign financing regulations, upon the recommendation of the Director of Governmental Affairs and the Elections Commission.