

STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS
CHAPTER XXI
Residence Hall Association

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Residence Hall Association (RHA) is to better advocate the interests and opinions of all students of UNC through each residence halls. This association, by working closely with Student Senate, will allow more students to be directly involved with the activities of Student Senate.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

Residence Hall Association: A student association to represent the interests the students living in the residence hall at UNC.

Membership: Membership in RHA shall be defined as the elected officials of the RHA.

Developed: RHA that has met the required organizational structure (see Section 4), which allows them to see to their affairs with minimal monitoring.

Review: Student Senate may place under “review” status RHA which it finds has not adequately performed its duties outlined in Section 5.

Dissolved: RHA which is neither developed nor under review. It is not recognized as an official College Student Council.

Constituent: As defined for this chapter, a constituent of RHA will refer to any student living in the residence halls.

SECTION 3: QUALIFICATIONS OF RHA ELECTED OFFICIALS

- A. Membership shall be open to all UNC students (graduate and undergraduate) who are living in the residences halls.
- B. All RHA Officers must be elected/selected by the process outlined by the RHA Constitution. In the case of a vacancy created during the year, the RHA Constitution shall govern the filling of that position.
- D. Student Cabinet members will not be permitted to hold any office of RHA.
- E. RHA Officers must meet all of the General Qualifications of Student Senate Members, as outlined in Article XIV, Sections 5 of the Student Body Constitution, with the exception that they shall not be required to enroll for the summer term.

SECTION 4: DEVELOPMENT

- A. To earn “developed” status, RHA must submit to Student Senate:
 - 1. A current copy of RHA Constitution which includes:
 - a. an AA/EO compliance statement
 - b. a Hazing Policy that is compliant with the Student Code of Conduct
 - c. a description of the RHA Advisor.

SECTION 5: DUTIES

- A. RHA must conduct elections in accordance with its respective constitutions at the end of each school year. A list of newly elected officers must be submitted to the Student Body President before the end of classes in spring semester. The list shall reflect each individual’s office and provide contact information to Student Senate.

- B. RHA must send a representative to at least three-quarters (3/4) of all Student Senate meetings.
- C. RHA must, within reason, meet the stated requests of Student Senate for specific meeting (e.g. SFAP progress).
- D. The representatives of RHA shall be invited and required to attend a designated preparation course on Student Senate and parliamentary procedure.
- E. The representatives of RHA must keep Student Senate members and fellow representatives informed of issues affecting each other's area.
- F. In addition to sound communication and cooperation with Student Senate, RHA must actively maintain a reasonable degree of communication with its constituents regarding pertinent residences hall/university events.
- E. RHA must provide Student Senate with each of the following on an annual-basis regardless of changes in RHA Constitution:
 1. A current copy of RHA's Constitution in accordance with the Student Senate Bylaws; (Any amendments to this Constitution must be submitted to the Student Body President no later than one week after they are adopted.)

SECTION 6: RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

- A. In addition to their constitutionally guaranteed voting rights, RHA shall be entitled to:
 1. Use University buildings, facilities, and services at the same rate of charge as Student Senate according to prescribed University area policies.
 2. Use the University's name in conjunction with the RHA's name for any official group functions.
 3. Invitations to all Student Senate official functions.
 4. A mailbox in the Student Activities area.
 5. Recognition by Student Senate as representing the interests of the residence hall students.

SECTION 7: REVIEW STATUS

- A. While in "review" status, RHA loses all privileges outlined in Section 6, including voting rights.
- B. Noticed will be sent to RHA, stating that RHA is about to enter into "review" status. RHA will have two weeks to correct the situation. In addition, RHA will submit a letter for support from the RHA officers and their advisor.
- C. To return to developed status, RHA must submit documentation to Student Senate regarding:
 1. Action taken to correct the situation(s) for which they were placed under review status.
 2. A support letter from the Advisor.
- D. SRC must approve the decision to return a RHA to developed status with a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

SECTION 8: ADVISOR

- A. RHA must have an Advisor approved by Housing and Residence Life.

SECTION 9: INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

- A. Prior to Student Senate's vote on the proposed changes to Chapter XXI the following procedure must followed:
 1. Student Senate will forward the proposed changes in writing to RHA.
 2. RHA will review the proposed changes, attach their recommendations, and forward them to

Student Senate within two weeks.

- B. The interpretations of the Chapter XXI Bylaws shall be made by Student Senate by 2/3-majority vote. If Student Senate is not in session, then the Student Body President shall be authorized to interpret the Chapter XXI Bylaws. All interpretations by the Student Body President can be changed by a 2/3 vote of Student Senate.

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