

STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY ALAMOGORDO

ARTICLE I

Name of Organization

Reserved

ARTICLE II

Purpose

To represent the student body of NMSU-A for decisions impacting quality of student life, and the finances available to the students.

To encourage cooperation and communication between students, university personnel, and campus/community organizations.

To provide a forum for student expression and the exchange of student-faculty views.

To have representation in the different committees on matters concerning students.

ARTICLE III

Members and Membership

Students must be enrolled in the NMSU system including, but not limited to, concurrent/dual credit students, online students, distance education/bachelors programs, and graduate students. Members must attend classes delivered through the NMSU-Alamogordo campus regardless of fees paid. This is intended to be inclusive of all students, and meets the mission statement of providing quality learning opportunities for individuals in the diverse community we serve.

Structuring

A minimum of nine senators comprised of one senator from each currently chartered student group, and five at-large senators elected by campus-wide election with a maximum of two from any one student group. NMSU-A Student Government members must be in good academic standing.

In the event there are too few senators from student groups to meet the required nine, the shortfall will be filled by at-large senators. The election process will be overseen by the office of the Campus Student Services Officer.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Five officers to include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations Officer.

Terms of Office: One academic year (fall and spring semesters), two consecutive terms. Officers must be away from office for a period of one academic year if running for re-election. This includes any special election.

Special Election: If an office is vacated then a special election will be held to fill the position vacated. The election will be held within a 30 day period.

General Guidelines for All Officers

Attendance: If any officer misses two consecutive meetings, with the exception of prior approval of the other officers, then they are subject to recall.

Duties of Officers

President: sets the agenda, presides over meetings. In the event of a tie vote, the President will have the deciding vote. The President shall serve as a liaison between the NMSU-A Administration and the NMSU-A Student Government. The President will also have other duties as assigned.

Vice President: will assume the duties of president should the president be absent, and have other duties as assigned.

Secretary: will take attendance, record minutes, and will see to all in-house paperwork, including all other duties as assigned.

Public Relations Officer: will oversee all external correspondence, advertising, and all other media needs, working with the office of the Campus Student Services Officer. All other duties as assigned.

Treasurer: handles all financial affairs, and makes regular written reports to the membership. Other duties as assigned.

Requirements for Office

Officers will be elected from and by the currently elected senate members.

Recall of Officers

Any officer may be subject to recall for misuse of power and/or failure to fulfill duties and obligations

A petition signed by half of the voting membership must be given to the President with copies to each member of the Executive Board before a motion to recall can be made.

Voting on motions to recall shall take place at the general meeting following the one at which the motion to recall was made.

A three-fourths vote of the quorum is needed to recall.

In the case of a motion to recall the President, the Vice President shall temporarily preside.

Executive Board

The officers of the NMSU-A Student Government and the advisor(s) shall constitute the Executive Board. The advisors shall serve as ex-officio members.

The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the NMSU-A Student Government between business meetings. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the student government and none of its acts shall conflict with the actions taken by the student government.

The Executive Board shall oversee the routine affairs of the NMSU-A Student Government after the final meeting of the spring semester and before the first meeting of the fall semester. In the event of any significant issues, the full student government will meet in a special session.

All business will be transacted at a general meeting.

A quorum is needed to conduct general meetings.

Any member who wishes to be included in the Executive Board during the summer session, may participate.

ARTICLE V

Advisors

A minimum of two advisors to the student government shall be selected, with the consent of the proposed advisor, by the student government and the Campus Student Services Officer.

The advisors may be a part-time or full-time faculty or staff.

Duties

The duties of the advisor(s) shall be as follows:

- A. Shall serve as advisor to the student government as needed. Shall coordinate yearly transition of student government officers.
- B. Shall serve as a liaison between the NMSU-A administration and the student government.
- C. Shall work with the student government to establish a yearly budget for approval by the student government, advisors, and CSSO.
- D. Shall coordinate all expenditures of student government monies from student activities fees ensuring all professional requirements and authorizations have been obtained.
- E. Shall receive from the Business Office a report of finances and present with the cooperation of the treasurer said report to the student government on a monthly basis. The report shall include total monies spent, monies encumbered, and the balance available left to spend.
- F. Shall facilitate the process for all requests for funding.
- G. At least one advisor must be present at each meeting.
- H. In the event that an advisor is not available, the Campus Student Services Officer will appoint a temporary advisor for that meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Committees

- A. Committees will be established as necessary by the senators.
- B. All committees shall be made up of an at least one senator and other interested parties.
- C. The committees shall meet as necessary. The senator will report on the progress of the committee, and will present recommendations in the form of a motion from the committee to the student congress in general meetings.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

This constitution and by-laws may be amended at a special meeting of the NMSU-A Student Government. The amendment shall be passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the senators, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing and published for the student body to review thirty days prior to this meeting. In extenuating situations, a written limited proxy will be authorized. The meeting will be open to the student body.

ARTICLE VIII

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the NMSU-A Student Government in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with this constitution and by-laws.

ARTICLE IX

Finances

All financial transactions will be conducted by the Student Government Treasurer, through the advisors and the office of the Campus Student Services Officer, and the NMSU Alamogordo Business Office under the applicable laws of the state of New Mexico.