



Constitution

Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD)
Maricopa Student Senate (MSS)

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PREAMBLE

We, the students of the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), establish the Maricopa Student Senate (MSS) as the MCCCD's representative student body. In order to improve and protect the quality of education, the MSS will provide recommendations to improve the overall environment of the MCCCD. The MSS is committed to maintaining student rights and interests, encouraging student engagement, and improving general student welfare. We do ordain and establish this constitution for the MSS of the MCCCD.

ARTICLE I: AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT

The MSS is an officially recognized student organization of the MCCCD that represents the students of the District and acts as the body through which students are able to provide input regarding the internal policies of the MCCCD. The MSS has the authority to represent the students of the MCCCD through the election of Student Senators and officers.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVE

The objectives of the MSS shall be to promote a representative democratic governing model of the Student Senate, to provide students a forum for communication of student issues, to offer the opportunity for leadership development in the individual, and to promote social, cultural, educational, and leadership activities for students of the MCCCD.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP OF THE STUDENT BODY

Any person taking courses at any one of the MCCCD colleges, whether full-time or part-time, is considered to be a member of the student body. Persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing educational relationship with the college are considered members of the student body. All members of the student body, as defined herein, shall have the right of inquiry, speech, and petition before the MSS.

ARTICLE IV: AMENDING THE MSS CONSTITUTION

Section 1. Any member of the MSS or student body may offer, in writing, a proposed amendment to the MSS Constitution no less than seven business days prior to the next regular meeting. Copies of the proposed amendment must be given to the MSS chair, deputy chair, and secretary as well as distributed to the local colleges' student body representatives for review. An amendment is defined as any change to the text other than a typo or grammatical error.

Section 2. Once proposed amendments are received, they must be presented at the next scheduled meeting of the MSS for a first reading. This will allow a comment period between the first and second readings. At the next scheduled MSS meeting, the second reading will occur and a vote will ensue according to the MSS's rules of order as prescribed in MSS Bylaws. Amendments shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the total MSS in order to be ratified.

Section 3: Revisions that do not affect the substance of this Constitution (typos, grammar, etc.) shall be proposed in the same manner as amendments.

ARTICLE V: BYLAWS

Section 1. The MSS shall be empowered to adopt its own rules and procedures, through Bylaws, consistent with the MSS Constitution.

Section 2. Bylaws and amendments to the bylaws may be introduced in writing by any voting member and passed by a simple majority vote of a quorum (see Bylaws) of the MSS members present.

ARTICLE VI: TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1. A Senator's term of office shall be a one-year term from election day (to be prescribed by the Bylaws, but no later than the official end of the semester) to the following day prior to the subsequent election day.

Section 2. No senator may hold the same elected position in consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VII: REMOVAL FROM MSS

A Senator may be removed from the MSS for a violation of District policies and in accordance with the MSS Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII: EFFECTIVE DATE

The Constitution shall take effect immediately after ratification by a two-thirds majority vote of the MSS.