

**2017-2018 STUDENT ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION EXAMPLE**

**ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

The name of this organization is Blue Leaders. This organization will utilize the acronym BLDS in all publicity materials and correspondence. Blue Leaders is affiliated with Blue Leaders Leadership program operating in Atlanta, GA. The website of Blue Leaders Leadership is [www.blueleadersusa.com](http://www.blueleadersusa.com).

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT**

**Example 1:**

Blue Leaders is established for the purpose of developing leadership skills and to encourage UF students to participate in community service projects such as voter registration.

**Example 2:**

The purpose of Blue Leaders is to explore and promote academic and career issues related to leadership and to help those interested in leadership to get to know one another outside the classroom.

**ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, Blue Leaders shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Blue Leaders shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

**ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

**Section A. Non-Discrimination**

Blue Leaders agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

**Section B. Sexual Harassment**

Blue Leaders agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

**Section C. Hazing**

Blue Leaders agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

**Section D. Responsibility to Report**

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Blue Leaders will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University's Title IX Coordinator.

## **ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

## **ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS**

Section A: The elected officers of Blue Leaders shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer.

Part 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees.

Part 2: The Vice-President shall serve as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in her/his absence or inability to serve.

Part 3: The Treasurer shall receive all monies of Blue Leaders; shall keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditures; shall pay out local funds in accordance with the approved budget as authorized by the organization. The Treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of Blue Leaders and at other times when requested by the President or Vice President.

Section B: The appointed officer of Blue Leaders shall be Secretary.

Part 1: The Secretary shall be appointed by the Vice President.

Part 2: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of Blue Leaders and shall perform other duties as may be delegated.

Section C: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve for a term of one academic year and/or until their successors are elected/appointed.

Section D: Any officer of Blue Leaders may be removed from office through the following process:

Part 1: A written request by at least three voting members of the organization shall be submitted to either the President, Vice President, or Treasurer. Written notification shall be sent to the officer in question asking that officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to respond to the removal request.

Part 2: A two thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer.

Part 3: In the event of the removal of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

## **ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS**

Nominations for all officers will take place annually at the general meeting prior to election meeting. Any member may nominate any other voting member, including himself or herself. A voting member is defined as having attended a majority of meetings that semester. Nominations may also be made during the election meeting prior to closing of nominations. Voting will occur by secret ballot and a simple majority vote is required to elect an officer. If there are more than two candidates running and no candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be a run-off vote between the top two vote recipients at the next general meeting. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Elections should take place in April to allow for turnover between old and new board.

## **ARTICLE VIII. STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR**

The student organization advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The student organization advisor should attend executive and general meetings; however, the student organization advisor may not vote in any Blue Leaders matters. The student organization advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a majority vote of the members. The student organization advisor will serve a term of one (1) academic year, with the chance to be reappointed. In the event that the student organization advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

## **ARTICLE IX. FINANCE**

Example 1:

Blue Leaders will be funded through the collection of annual membership dues in the amount of \$20 to be paid during the month of September. This fee covers the cost of t-shirts, travel to leadership conferences, and other operational expenses of the organization.

Example 2:

Blue Leaders will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through carwashes and similar activities, for t-shirts, travel to leadership conferences, and other operational expenses of the organization. Members are expected to participate in these fundraising activities. Blue Leaders will also apply for Student Government funding.

## **ARTICLE X. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to the "Department of Student Activities and Involvement" at the University of Florida.

## **ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Amendments to this constitution may be made at any regular meeting of Blue Leaders provided notice of the proposed amendment was given one week prior to a vote. Any member is eligible to propose an amendment, and proposals should be sent to any member of the executive board. Amendments require a two-thirds vote of the voting members in attendance at the meeting, and are subject to final approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement.