

# **Constitution of Student Organ Donation Association (SODA) at The Ohio State University**

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## **Article I. Name of Organization**

The name of this organization shall be the **Student Organ Donation Association (SODA)** at The Ohio State University.

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## **Article II. Organization Purpose**

The Student Organ Donation Association (SODA) at The Ohio State University exists to promote education, awareness, and advocacy surrounding organ donation.

### **Goals:**

- Educate the campus community on the importance and impact of organ, eye, and tissue donation.
  - Increase awareness and dispel myths about the donation and transplantation process.
  - Empower students to advocate for organ donation through outreach, events, and service initiatives.
  - Partner with local and national organizations to advance the mission of saving lives through donation.
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## **Article III. University Regulations**

### **Section A. Harassment and Discrimination (Verbatim)**

**Student Organ Donation Association** agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, political affiliation, socioeconomic status, or any other basis in accordance with University guidelines.

### **Section B. Hazing (Verbatim)**

**Student Organ Donation Association** agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or

humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

### **Section C. Bylaws (Verbatim)**

**Student Organ Donation Association** retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in these constitutional articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities Department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

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## **Article IV. Membership**

### **Section A. Membership Eligibility**

- Membership is open to all currently enrolled Ohio State students.
- Faculty, staff, and alumni may participate as associate members but may not exceed 10% of total membership.

### **Section B. Member Selection**

Students may become members by:

- Attending a meeting or event and signing up for the roster.
- Contacting an officer to express interest.

### **Section C. Membership Timeline**

Membership is open on a rolling basis throughout the academic year.

### **Section D. Member Removal**

Members may be removed for conduct that violates University policy, this constitution, or the mission of the organization. Removal requires a two-thirds majority vote of the executive board after notice and opportunity to respond.

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## **Article V. Advisor**

### **Section A. Duties**

The advisor shall provide guidance to officers and members, ensure continuity, and support compliance with University policies.

**Section B. Term**

Advisors shall serve a renewable one-year term.

**Section C. Selection**

The advisor must be a faculty or staff member of The Ohio State University, selected by the executive board and confirmed by majority vote of the membership.

**Section D. Replacement**

In the event of resignation or removal, the executive board shall appoint a temporary advisor and begin the selection process for a permanent replacement.

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**Article VI. Organization Leadership****Section A. Officer Positions and Duties****President (Primary Leader):**

- Provides overall leadership for SODA.
- Oversees and runs executive and general meetings.
- Represents the organization to the university, partners, and external organizations.
- Ensures compliance with university policies and SODA's constitution.
- Oversees officer transitions at the end of the term.

**Vice President (Secondary Leader):**

- Assists the President in leadership duties.
- Coordinates awareness events, outreach programs, and service initiatives.
- Supports officer transitions and ensures continuity of operations.

**Treasurer:**

- Manages the organization's finances, including budgeting, fundraising, and expense tracking.
- Reports financial status to officers and members regularly.
- Ensures proper documentation and compliance with university financial guidelines.

**Secretary:**

- Maintains membership records, meeting minutes, and official correspondence.
- Keeps accurate documentation of organizational activities.
- Assists in officer transitions by providing records and guides for successor.

**Outreach/Events Chair (Optional):**

- Plans and executes organ donation awareness events and service projects.
- Coordinates logistics, volunteers, and outreach materials.
- Ensures successful communication and promotion of events.

**Section B. Officer Eligibility**

Any active student member in good standing is eligible to hold office.

**Section C. Officer Selection**

- Officers shall be elected annually in the spring semester.
- A majority vote of active members is required for election.

**Section D. Officer Removal and Vacancies**

- Officers may be removed for failing to fulfill duties or for conduct inconsistent with SODA's mission or University policy by a two-thirds majority vote of members.
- Vacancies shall be filled by a special election.

**Article VII. Dissolution**

**Section A. Requirements**

Dissolution may occur by a two-thirds majority vote of active members.

**Section B. Procedures**

- All debts must be resolved before dissolution.
- Remaining assets shall be donated to a nonprofit organization aligned with SODA's mission, as chosen by membership.
- No debts may be left to The Ohio State University.

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**Article VIII. Constitutional Amendments**

- Amendments may be proposed by any active member.
  - Amendments require a two-thirds majority vote of members present at a scheduled meeting.
  - Approved amendments must be submitted to the Ohio Union and Student Activities Department within 30 days.
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