

Brazilian Students Association

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization shall be the “Brazilian Students Association,” also referred to as BRASA OSU

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

The purpose of BRASA OSU is to strengthen the relationship between The Ohio State University and Brazil by creating a platform where Brazilian students—and all students interested in Brazilian culture—can connect, share knowledge, and contribute to discussions on Brazil’s development. BRASA OSU aims to promote Brazilian culture and the Portuguese language, assist prospective students, organize academic and cultural events, foster networking opportunities, and encourage professional and academic exchange programs. The organization values ethical behavior, excellence, and proactive leadership.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

BRASA OSU 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 or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

BRASA OSU 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

BRASA OSU 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 the previous 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 (CSA) 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.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Membership in BRASA OSU is open to all students, faculty, staff, and alumni of The Ohio State University who are interested in Brazilian culture or who wish to contribute to the organization's mission. Membership must be voluntary, and members may withdraw at any time without fear of retribution. At least 90% of the voting membership must consist of currently enrolled Ohio State students.

Section B. Member Selection

Prospective members may join BRASA OSU by attending meetings, completing an interest form, or contacting officers to express intent to join.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership is open year-round on a rolling basis.

Section D. Member Removal

A member may be removed for behavior that violates this constitution or university policy. The process shall include: (1) written notice to the member; (2) an opportunity to respond; (3) a discussion among officers; and (4) a two-thirds vote of officers for removal.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide guidance to officers and members. Advisors may not vote or hold office. The primary advisor must be a full-time Ohio State faculty or professional staff member and must complete advisor training and anti-hazing certification every two years.

Section B. Advisor Term

The advisor serves for one academic year, renewable upon mutual agreement.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The primary advisor shall be selected by the executive board and confirmed by majority vote of officers.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

If the advisor resigns or becomes unable to serve, the executive board shall appoint an interim advisor and seek a replacement following the same selection process.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

The executive board of BRASA OSU shall consist of a President, Vice President, and Treasurer, supported by three teams: Communications, Outreach, and Events. Officers must be full-time students in good academic standing.

- President – Oversees all organization operations, leads meetings, and serves as the primary contact with The Ohio State University and BRASA Global.
- Vice President – Assists the President and presides in their absence, overseeing weekly meetings and coordinating teams.
- Treasurer – Manages financial records, transactions, and budgets, and supports event funding.
- Communications Team – Manages social media, public relations, and digital materials.
- Outreach Team – Builds connections with university and external organizations and assists in fundraising.
- Events Team – Organizes and executes events in coordination with the Treasurer.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

All officers must be currently enrolled students in good academic standing and members of BRASA OSU.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Elections shall occur annually at the end of the spring semester. Candidates may self-nominate and present a short speech prior to voting. Voting will be conducted anonymously and counted by the current executive board. Officers shall be elected by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the current President shall cast the deciding vote.

Section D. Officer Removal

An officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the membership for violation of this constitution or failure to perform duties. In the event of resignation, the President shall call for a special election within two weeks.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

The organization may be dissolved by a three-fourths majority vote of all executive board members.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event of dissolution, all debts must be paid. Remaining assets shall be donated to a nonprofit organization aligned with BRASA OSU's mission, as approved by the executive board. No debts may remain with The Ohio State University or its entities.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

Proposed amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing to the executive board at least one week before the meeting at which they will be considered. Approval requires a two-thirds majority vote of the

members present. Amended constitutions must be submitted to the Ohio Union and Student Activities Department for approval within 30 days of adoption.