

Constitution for Buckeyes for Harm Reduction

Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization

Section 1: Name

- A. This organization shall be called Buckeyes for Harm Reduction, with BHR as the abbreviated name.

Section 2 - Purpose

- A. Buckeyes for Harm Reduction is a grassroots student organization that aims to provide support to those affected by the overdose crisis by advocating for harm reduction at the local, state, and national levels. Buckeyes for Harm Reduction engages with the campus community to provide students with harm reduction resources and empower them to advocate for comprehensive public health reforms that prevent overdoses and increase public well-being.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy

- A. This organization does not discriminate 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 bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

Section 4 - Sexual Misconduct Policy

- A. As a student organization at The Ohio State University, Buckeyes for Harm Reduction expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu.

Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership

Section 1 - Eligibility

- A. Membership is open to all currently enrolled undergraduate students, graduate students and non-student members who demonstrate interest in membership. However as required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of Buckeyes for Harm Reduction must include current The Ohio State University students. Members will be considered in good standing upon attending at least one general body meeting in the

academic year, not including election day. The Executive Board is able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of Buckeyes for Harm Reduction. Non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

Section 1- Grounds for Removal for Members and Executive Board Officers and the Removal Process

- A. If a member or Executive Board officer engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a unanimous vote of the other Executive Board officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.
- B. Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The Executive Board may act for removal upon a unanimous affirmative vote of the rest of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.
- C. In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

Article IV- Organizational Leadership

Section 1- Overall Organization and Leadership

- A. The Executive Board shall consist of up to five and no less than three individuals. These include a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and up to two additional officers. The titles and duties of these additional executive board members can be discussed by the current executive board prior to an election.

Section 2- President and Vice President

- A. The President and Vice President are responsible for overseeing the Executive Board and the organization as a whole, planning and presenting at all general body meetings or ensuring another member is doing so, running Executive Board meetings, mediating and assisting with any issues Executive Board officers encounter, looking for new areas of

growth for the organization, and keeping the organization as a whole updated on substance use and harm reduction legislation at the local, state, and national levels. The President and Vice President must also act as a point of contact for outside organizations. The President and Vice President are ultimately responsible for logistical purposes of creating and maintaining the organization as a whole, including, but not limited to, updating the annual goals and the Constitution-- updates which must be approved by a majority vote by the Executive Board. As the Primary Leader, the President is responsible for completing all training required by the Office of Student Life.

Section 3- Treasurer

- A. The Treasurer is responsible for collecting and keeping tabs on all monetary and material donations Buckeyes for Harm Reduction receives. Additionally, the Treasurer is responsible for providing the Executive Board with any financial advice if needed, managing the organization's financial accounts and budgets, and for completing all training required by the Office of Student Life.

Section 4- The Advisor

- A. The Advisor must be a full-time member of The Ohio State University faculty or Administrative & Professional Staff
- B. The Advisor shall act as a mentor for the Executive Board officers and the organization as a whole by providing advice and guidance to the Executive Board when needed and completing all training required by the Office of Student Life.

Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership

Section 1- Leadership Eligibility and Election Procedures

- A. Any individual who wishes to serve on the executive board must be a Buckeyes for Harm Reduction member in good standing.
- B. Elections must be held every year between March 1st and April 15th.
- C. The official election date will be announced by the Executive Board at a general body meeting at least two weeks before the election date.
- D. Any individual who wishes to serve on the executive board must indicate their desire to serve to the Executive Board in writing at least one week before the election date.
- E. The creation of ballots is the responsibility of the President and the specific result tabulations will be made available upon request by a member in good standing.
- F. The ballot shall be virtual and members will be allowed at least a week to submit their votes.

- G. The ballot shall include a position for President, Vice President, and Treasurer. The inclusion of specific titles on the ballot for the other Executive Board positions will be decided by the current Executive Board.
- H. The new executive board shall assume its duties at the conclusion of the spring semester. Training and transitions will take place immediately following the election.

Article VI – Meetings of the Organization

Section 1- Frequency of meetings

- A. There should be no fewer than four general body meetings per semester, but the amount of general body meetings may change depending on the month. The Executive Board shall notify the members of the date of each general body meeting as soon as possible.

Article VII- Method of Amending the Constitution

Section 1- Procedure

- A. Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any member of the Executive Board and a two-thirds majority vote by the Executive Board is required for the Amendment to take effect.

Article VIII- Method of Dissolution of Organization

Section 1- Procedure

- A. The dissolution proposal may be brought forth by any member of the Executive Board. The decision to dissolve will be made with a unanimous vote by the Executive Board.

Article IX- Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1- False or Misleading Statements

- A. Any member or Executive Board officer found to be making false or misleading statements that misrepresent the beliefs of our group as a whole (i.e. on the internet or in an interview) shall be required to rescind or edit their statement. However, members and Executive Board members are more than encouraged to talk to members of the press and news media about their individual opinions on certain issues pertaining to the mission and goals of the organization

Section 2- Consequences of Neglecting Duties as an Executive Board Officer

- A. Any Executive Board officer found to be neglecting their duties within the organization shall receive notification from the President that they must either increase their involvement or tender a resignation.

B. If the Executive Board believes the President is neglecting their duties, they shall receive notice from the Vice President that they must either increase their involvement or tender a resignation.