

**Created by 2023 Co-President Ruby Lobert, in collaboration with and at the behest of the 2023 CONNECT Executive Board.**

Article I: Name, Purpose, & Objectives

Section A: Name

The name of this organization shall be known as CONNECT.

Section B: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage and empower young people to develop their leadership and professional skills, civic engagement, better understand career opportunities, and to create a community of Ohio State Students who will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Section C: Objectives

To achieve its purpose, this organization shall:

- Provide trainings, resources, and a network of professionals in the politically oriented field
- Create and advertise opportunities for civic engagement and advocacy
- Increase knowledge of career avenues and professional development opportunities
- Support young people in their political and career aspirations
- Create a supportive community for students to learn about civic engagement, advocacy, professional development, and engage with other like minded students

Article II: Membership

Section A: Eligibility

Membership is open to any college/university student who is interested in increasing their civic engagement, leadership skills, and understanding of the politically oriented career fields. All members have the right to vote on issues that the Executive Board has presented to the main body. Members will be able to participate in general body meetings and events.

Section B: Active membership

Upon their attendance at a chapter meeting, the applicant will be considered an active member.

The responsibilities of active membership are as follows:

- Attend chapter meetings and be an active, respectful, and responsible participant during meetings
- Participate in events, conferences, field trips, and other relevant activities organized by the leadership team and other members

All members are able to apply for Executive Board positions following a semester of active membership.

Article VII: Nondiscrimination Clause

Section A: Official Clause

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 B: Sexual Misconduct

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, CONNECT 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>.

#### Section C: Resources

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](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).

#### *Article III: Officers*

##### Section A: Duties of Officers

All officers must attend every Executive Board meeting, chapter meeting, chapter event, and social meeting unless otherwise excused in advance by the President. Officers must complete all duties herein and those designated by their Executive Board peers within a timely manner.

Officers must also provide transitional documents (that will live with all other documents - see Article V), or host a transitional meeting, for their successors and be willing to answer questions following the end of their terms, within reason. All office positions can be done by multiple people who shall split their duties as they see fit. If positions need to be added, the constitution shall be amended to add the new position and job description with the approval of the majority of the Executive Board members.

The officers of CONNECT shall be:

- **President(s):** The President(s) shall be responsible for managing and organizing the Executive Board and their respective responsibilities, lead Executive Board meetings, and assist in facilitating chapter meetings when necessary. The President(s) will be both the face and point of contact of CONNECT. The President(s) shall also participate in all mandatory trainings. Additionally, the President(s) will serve as a primary support contact for all Executive Board members and assist them in accomplishing their duties if needed.
- **Treasurer(s):** The Treasurer(s) shall be responsible for all finances and finance tracking for CONNECT, including: applying for funding, organizing fundraisers (if necessary), maintaining a budget, and spearheading the merch creation process. The Treasurer(s) shall participate in all mandatory trainings.
- **Vice President(s) of Internal Communications:** The Vice President(s) of Internal Communications shall run all internal group communications including, but not limited to: running a newsletter, sharing events, monitoring GroupMe or other group chats, and managing emails from membership
- **Vice President(s) of External Communications:** The Vice President(s) of External Communications shall facilitate all external communications including, but not limited to: running social media pages including intentionally building up follower lists and engaging with those online, creating flyers, and other marketing materials
- **Vice President(s) of Outreach:** The Vice President(s) of Outreach shall be responsible for engaging with external stakeholders. They will be responsible for engaging with other student organizations at Ohio State, Columbus organizations, recruiting speakers, and tabling at outreach events hosted by Ohio State.

- **Vice President(s) of Membership:** The Vice President(s) of Membership will be responsible for managing the general body of CONNECT. They shall be the primary manager of the GroupMe or any other group chat and ensure a welcoming entry for new members. They shall guide membership into continuing to attend meetings, events, and social activities. The Vice President(s) of Membership shall also be responsible for upholding CONNECT's DEI initiatives and commitment.
- **Vice President(s) of Scheduling:** The Vice President(s) of Scheduling shall be responsible for maintaining CONNECT's calendar of Executive Board meetings and general body meetings. They will also be responsible for maintaining meeting minutes of Executive Board meetings and taking attendance at meetings. The Vice President(s) of Scheduling will also keep tabs on events in the Columbus area (protests, events, civic engagement opportunities, etc.) to add to the calendar as well.

All officers may assist with the tasks of other officers if needed.

#### Section B: Elections

Chapter officers must be students in good standing and committed to the perseverance of CONNECT. Candidates must complete an application written and provided by the previous administration, for which the completed copies shall be provided to every member of the chapter. The officers shall be elected by ballot at the last meeting of the spring semester by a majority of the votes cast for that office. The officers shall serve for one year and their term of office shall begin at the beginning of the fall semester. If for any reason a vacancy occurs, the Executive Board may hold additional elections if they deem it necessary.

#### Section C: Officer Removal

Once elected, officers will serve out their terms unless removed by a unanimous vote of other Executive Board officers. Any member may lodge a complaint against an officer by contacting another officer, and the officer team will determine appropriate disciplinary action, including removal if necessary. All efforts will be made to mediate disputes and resolve problems with less severe actions.

Should an officer choose to step down, they need to voice that to the Executive Board. An application to instate a replacement will be promptly released, after which the officer may officially step down. Their position will be opened for special filling until the end of the term and the process shall be conducted by the Executive Board.

#### Article IV: Amendments

Any member in good standing may submit an amendment to the constitution to the President at any time. The constitution must be amended by the President following a majority vote of the Executive Board.

#### Article V: Records

CONNECT must keep complete and permanent records that shall be kept together in a single location. All officers on the Executive Board shall retain responsibility for keeping the records up to date and ensure they are passed down to new leadership as they are elected.

#### Article VI: Dissolution

If CONNECT is inactive for 12 consecutive months, the group will be dissolved.