

## **LGBTQ\*mmunity Constitution**

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

#### **Section 1- Name:**

LGBTQ\*mmunity

#### **Section 2 - Purpose:**

The purpose of LGBTQ\*mmunity is to allow every member of the LGBTQIA+ community to feel welcome on The Ohio State University campus. From many members of Q\*mmunity's experience, when they came to college, it was the first time they could be out at school, unlike how it was in their small rural towns. While we suspect this will be most of our new members' reason for joining us at our meetings, we also know that isn't the only reason we will have new members. College for many is the time for discovering oneself and their identity. We welcome new members who have recently discovered their identity or are questioning their identity, especially since we have meetings that center around the topics of identities, either to express individual feelings or educate the organization on the many identities in the LGBTQIA+ community. Even if only one member falls into that category (or even if none at all), LGBTQ\*mmunity is dedicated to providing everyone in the LGBTQIA+ community a safe space to exist without judgment. In addition to providing space for students in the LGBTQIA+ community, LGBTQ\*mmunity also provides a space for education to members of The Ohio State University student body to learn about the identities that make up the LGBTQIA+ community for those who are not members of the LGBTQIA+ community themselves because we believe that education and communication will help break the barriers that many people in the LGBTQIA+ community face in their daily lives.

#### **Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:**

LGBTQ\*mmunity 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.”

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, LGBTQ\*mmunity 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>.

### ***Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.***

Current students make up a majority of our members, and are the only members that can vote on leadership. However, other individuals such as family members, alumni, and community members are welcome to join our meetings as non-voting members.

There are no requirements to be a member of LGBTQ\*mmunity. There are not any dues. Members are encouraged, but not required, to attend our weekly meetings.

As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

### ***Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

III.a. If a member 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 majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

III.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 Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

III.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 - Organization Leadership:***

Required leadership positions:

- Primary Leader (President)
- Secondary Leader
- Treasurer
- Advisor

Responsibilities of current leadership:

Primary Leader- The Primary Leader term lasts for one academic year (August-May) and is selected by a vote from all members who have attended at least 5 meetings during the Spring Semester. They are responsible for maintaining order within this organization, and for ensuring that Q\*mmunity continues to be a safe space for queer people. The Primary and Secondary leaders work closely with each other, and with the other E-Board members, to plan meetings and events and organize any key speakers.

Secondary Leader- The Secondary Leader term lasts for one academic year (August-May) and is selected by a vote from all members who have attended at least 5 meetings during the Spring Semester. This person acts as a support for the primary leader and is responsible for attending and leading all meetings that the Primary Leader cannot attend.

Treasurer- The Treasurer term lasts for one academic year (August-May) and is selected by a vote from all members who have attended at least 5 meetings during the Spring Semester. This person is responsible for maintaining the budget and ensuring events fall within budget guidelines for student organizations. The treasurer is also responsible for ensuring that the budget is used effectively to help the organization stay true to its purpose statement. With regards to University student organization leadership requirements, this person will hold the title of “Treasurer Leader”, and must fulfill all University requirements for this role.

Secretary- The Secretary term lasts for one semester and is open to anyone who is interested in the position. If multiple people are interested, this position may be filled by multiple people or one person may be selected by a vote from the executive board. Treasurer duties include documenting general meetings and E-Board meetings, communicating with members who missed a meeting, archiving any needed paperwork, taking attendance at meetings, managing the list of members, and acting as time-keeper for the E-Board and general meetings.

Social Media Chair- The Social Media Chair term lasts for one semester and is open to anyone who is interested in the position. If multiple people are interested, this position may be filled by multiple people or one person may be selected by a vote from the executive board. The Social Media Chair is responsible for the promotion of LGBTQ\*mmunity and the organization's events, as well as communicating to Q\*mmunity members about other queer related events around campus.

Advisor- Advisors will be appointed by the Primary and Secondary Leaders, and should they choose to accept, will accept their position in the Spring and take their position in the Fall. The Advisor (s) must complete all trainings required by the university and is required to meet with the Primary Leader and/or the E-Board for Q\*mmunity at least twice per semester.

#### ***Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership***

Elections will take place in the Spring semester, and new leadership will take effect at the start of the following Fall Semester.

Any member who has attended at least 5 meetings during the spring semester is welcome to vote on Primary and Secondary Leader, and on Treasurer. Anyone present can vote on other leadership positions. Voting will be conducted through an online form and will be conducted during an in-person meeting (the specific meeting will be announced in the groupme).

In the case of a tie, the E-Board will vote to break that tie.

Terms will last one year, however re-election is possible if a person wishes to carry out their position for more than one year. Primary and Secondary leaders can serve for a maximum of two terms.

Anyone who is interested can run for any leadership position as long as they have been an active member of LGBTQ\*mmunity for at least one full year. Preference goes to upperclassmen for Primary Leader.

#### ***Article VI - Executive Committee: Size and composition of the Committee.***

The executive committee is made up of five people: the Primary and Secondary leaders, our treasurer, secretary, and social media chair.

#### ***Article VII - Standing Committees (if needed): Names, purposes, and composition.***

N/A

#### ***Article VIII – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.***

Our advisor will be required to meet with our executive board at least twice a semester in order to keep them updated as to how the club is running. They can be as involved as they would like but are not required to attend any meetings.

#### ***Article IX – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.***

No meetings are required- however attendance at all weekly meetings are heavily encouraged. LGBTQ\*mmunity will remain a space for anyone who needs it, regardless of how much time they can commit.

#### ***Article X – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency.***

The organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee's behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization's constitution.

***Article XI – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.***

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

***Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

If deemed necessary, the executive board may initiate a vote to dissolve the organization. Once initiated, a discussion must take place as soon as possible during the next general meeting, and no other business may be addressed until the vote is resolved. A motion for cloture must be seconded and supported by half of the voting membership, after which point the dissolution vote will be conducted. A two-thirds majority is required to dissolve the organization.