Class of 2026 Student Government Association Constitution

**Article 1 - The Government**

Section 1 – Name

Student Government Association College of Dentistry Class of 2026 \*hereafter referred to as “The Government”

Section 2 - Purpose Statement

The Government shall fairly, accurately, and professionally represent the College of Dentistry’s class of 2026, encourage a positive and cohesive environment within the class, and serve as an accessible and helpful resource to foster success inside and outside of the classroom.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy

This organization does not discriminate based on 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.

**Article 2 - Member Selection and Removal**

The Government’s membership is limited to the students within the dental class of 2026 at The Ohio State University’s College of Dentistry. For members to be relieved of this prestigious honor, they must meet with faculty and staff and be dismissed from the dental class of 2026.

**Article 3 - Leadership Positions and Duties**

President: The Government’s President shall serve as the class of 2026 liaison for all matters concerning the curriculum, clinics, and the overall student experience; attend meetings designated for student leaders by SGA or the Student Affairs Office; and collaborate with SGA executive members, class representatives, and student organization leaders to ensure a fulfilling, enjoyable student experience. When needed, the President will call on the Vice President to assist in meetings with faculty.

Vice-President: The Government’s Vice President shall organize Homecoming and Mandiball while encouraging attendance from classmates and act as a member on the Student-Faculty Committee on Professionalism. The Vice President will also assist the president in meetings with faculty, staff, or students to have multiple parties present. In the absence of the President (due to illness, conflict, or other extenuating circumstances), the Vice President and Secretary will be in attendance. The Vice President will also help handle communication of these events to the student body.

Treasurer: The Government’s Treasurer shall raise funds through sales, budget for events and maintain transparency while managing mutual funds for halfway dinner, graduation dinner as well as intermittent class social events. The Treasurer has unique financial responsibilities to the College of Dentistry as well as the student body of the class of 2026 and shall keep detailed records of cash flow in and out of The Government.

Secretary: The Government’s Secretary shall keep students informed of upcoming events with GroupMe reminders and a weekly email (the Buccal Down). The Government’s Secretary is also responsible for decorating the class bulletin board. Overall, he or she should be well organized, being a positive and approachable resource for the class. If the President is absent (due to illness, conflict, or other extenuating circumstances), the secretary will assist the Vice President in any meetings that need to be attended to have two parties in attendance.

Class Wellness Advocate: The Government’s Class Wellness Advocate shall be a resource to support and connect the College of Dentistry community to mental health services, as well as continue the work of the mental health task force. The Wellness Advocate, however, is not a therapist, but a means for students to get professional help. He or she shall also plan wellness events and promote a positive environment throughout the college. The Wellness Advocate must display exceptional judgment and confidentiality when dealing with personal matters of the students of the class of 2026. Under no circumstance is the Wellness Advocate allowed to share personal information about fellow classmates to anyone else outside of health professionals that are directly involved in the care of the student of interest if the situation arises. The Wellness Advocate must be aware that they must take appropriate action if a student’s health is vitally at risk due to mental health issues. The ensuing process in this scenario would be to first relay the concern to the Student Affairs office in a manner that reflects the severity of the situation. Subsequent involvement from the Student Affairs office and the College of Dentistry will follow in a manner deemed fit in accordance with best practices for managing mental health crises.

Social Chair: The Government’s Social Chair shall put their efforts toward creating a feeling of community within the College of Dentistry. The primary responsibility of the social chair will be managing the Class of 2026 social media accounts, which exists to be an avenue for students to connect socially, learn about class events, and interact with The Government. The social chair should put effort toward attending class events to help students feel welcome and create content for the class’s social media.

**Article 4 - Officer Renewal and Removal**

Officers shall be selected annually. At the beginning of each academic year, there shall be a day where potential class officers will lobby for their candidacy. The class will vote on each of the positions, and such positions shall be awarded based on the vote of the majority. Officers shall be removed by Student Affairs as deemed necessary. Should the situation arise, The Government’s members may bring concerns to student affairs who will then decide on the fate of the current club officers.

**Article 5 - Advisors**

Danielle Whitaker shall advise The Government’s officers. The advisors will also provide words of wisdom. It is expected that the advisors provide some form of candy or treats in a bowl in their office to help students in times of stress.

**Article 6 - Meetings**

The Government’s members are expected to attend required courses. The Government’s class officers will meet as needed to discuss the needs of the class and organize events.

**Article 7 - Class Committees**

To establish a better class experience, The Government shall establish a system whereby its members or officers create committees to address matters which benefit the entire organization. The terms and conditions of this process appear below.

Section 1 - Establishment

In order for an organization to be considered a legitimate affiliate of The Government, one of its members must acquire an approved petition form. This form includes 20 signatures from those individuals who feel the establishment of said committee would benefit their student experience.

Section 2 - Leadership

Each committee must establish a chairperson whose role is to liaise between their respective committee and The Government. The Government’s officers and advisors shall act as an overseeing body to each committee, but direct leadership shall remain separate.

Section 3 – Finances

Each committee shall remain financially independent from The Government. All funds raised within the committee shall be used at the discretion and for the benefit of said committee. All funds raised within The Government shall remain within the government and handled at the discretion of the Treasurer.

Section 4 – Committee Review and Dissolution

The Government’s officers shall complete a full review of each committee following the completion of each academic year. Committees whose function has become obsolete shall be dissolved by a majority vote amongst The Government’s officers and advisors.

**Article 8 - Amendments**

Class officers shall amend this constitution as deemed fit. Such amendments may only be made to this constitution by a unanimous vote amongst The Government’s officers.

**Article 9 - Dissolution of Organization**

The dental class of 2026 will be terminated in the middle of the year 2026.