

**The Constitution of
The Rural Health Initiative
of the Ohio State University College of Medicine**

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

Section 1: Name of the Organization

This constitution establishes the organization known as the Rural Health Initiative of the Ohio State University College of Medicine.

Section 2: Purpose of the Organization

The Rural Health Initiative of the Ohio State University College of Medicine (“The Consortium”) shall serve to

A.) Prepare the students of the College of Medicine who are interested in rural medicine, as well as potential careers in rural healthcare, by providing opportunities to develop their clinical skills with the faculty and residents.

B.) Introduce the students of the College of Medicine to research, academic, and clinical opportunities in rural health by providing educational presentations pertaining to the current disparities of the rural community and fostering discussions on how the medical community can work to lessen the burdens placed on these communities with the help of faculty, residents, and fellow moderation and input.

C.) Introduce OSUCOM students to the faculty members and residents that provide care to rural populations at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center to foster mentorship opportunities for those looking to pursue a career in rural medicine

D.) Expose youth individuals in rural communities to science and higher education through outreach opportunities organized in conjunction with other OSUCOM Initiatives.

Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy

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.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, the Rural Health Initiative 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 & Categories of Membership

Any medical student enrolled with the College of Medicine may consider membership of the Rural Health Initiative. To join the Rural Health Initiative students should attend one or more organization meetings per academic year..The group shall not charge dues to its members.

Article III: Organization Leadership

Section 1: Leadership Positions

The Rural Health Initiative shall be led by an Executive Board consisting of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Board is collectively responsible for organizing and running all proceedings of the organization. The Board shall serve as student liaisons to the Ohio State University student body.

Section 2: Responsibilities of Leadership

The Board shall also ensure that the following events take place during their term.

A.) An Introductory Meeting, at which the Board shall introduce current 1st & 2nd year medical students to the purpose and events of the Rural Health Initiative for the current scholastic year.

B.) 4 (four) to 6 (six) specialty-oriented “Didactic Sessions,” OR “Clinical Skills Sessions” which shall be comprised of any combination of the following activities:

1.) A short presentation regarding research activities and/or the day-to-day activities, which a student or faculty member has conducted in rural health, as presented by the student or faculty member who conducted the research.

2.) A networking or educational session with the resident(s), fellow(s), and/or faculty of the Department representing said specialty. This presentation shall also be coordinated with the corresponding Initiative.

3.) Hands-on volunteer opportunities to fulfill the objective(s) outlined in Article I, Section 2, Purpose D.

These events shall be coordinated with the staff of the College of Medicine’s Clinical Skills Center, as well as the faculty and administration of the College of Medicine.

The Board shall be responsible for maintaining accurate financial records and overseeing the checking account of the group.

The Board shall also serve to fulfill all purposes of the organization outlined in Article I, Section 2, represent The Rural Health Initiative to students, administrators, and faculty members of the College of Medicine, as well as steer the actions and deliberations of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Terms of Leadership

The Board shall serve a term of 1 (one) year extending from March of their Med 1 year to March of their Med 2 year.

Article IV: Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Board: a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary.

Article V: Methods of Selecting & Removing Officers/Members

Section 1: Selection of Officers

In the March of their Med 2 year, the current Board of The Rural Health Initiative shall appoint four (4) members to serve as Executive Board members for the following year, with the advice and consent of the Administrative Advisor and the Faculty Advisor.

Section 2: Removal of Officers

In the event that a Board member is not acceptably fulfilling his or her responsibilities with regards to the organization, either of the other Board members may refer him to the Administrative Advisor and the Faculty Advisor, who may dismiss and replace the offending Board member at their unanimous discretion.

Section 3: Removal of Members

In the event that a member conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to the purpose of the organization, or that is in violation of the Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed from participating as a part of this organization through a majority vote of the executive board with the consultation of the advisor.

Article VI: Advisors & Advisory Board

Section 1: Administrative Advisor

The Executive Board of The Rural Health Initiative shall appoint a faculty member from the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center as the Faculty Advisor. The Faculty Advisor shall assist the members of The Group in fulfilling its purposes and fostering the support of other administrators of the College of Medicine.

Section 2: Faculty Advisor

See Article VI, Section 1.

Article VII: Meetings of the Organization

The Board shall hold additional meetings from the events outlined in Article III, Section 2 above as necessary. Events coordinated by the organization shall be open to all students of The Ohio State University. All proceedings of the organization shall be governed by the rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order in all cases to which they are applicable, in which they are inconsistent with the by-laws of the organization.

Article VIII: Method of Amending the Constitution

Proposed constitutional amendments should be submitted in writing. Said proposed amendments shall be read in the general meeting in which they were proposed. Said proposals shall then be acted upon in the next general meeting, following the re-reading of the proposal(s). Approval should require at least two-thirds (66%) of members present. Frivolous amendments shall not be considered.

Article IX: Method of Dissolution of the Organization

The organization shall be dissolved in the event that its purposes are no longer to the benefit of the students of the College of Medicine, as evaluated by all five members of the Board, and the Faculty Advisor (with the advice and consent of the College's other faculty).

The By-Laws of

The Rural Health Initiative of the Ohio State University College of Medicine

Date of Origin: September 12, 2023

By Law I: Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised by Sarah Corbin Roberts shall be used as parliamentary authority in cases not covered by the Constitution and By-Laws of The Consortium.

By Law II: Selection of Leadership

The Executive Board of The Rural Health Initiative shall be selected in March of the current members' Med 2 year. The current Board shall openly advertise the impending selection of the Board, imploring current members of The Rural Health Initiative to express interest in becoming the new Executive Board. Based on the responses of said interested members and their previous dedication to events conducted by The Group, the current Board shall appoint three (3) to serve as Executive Board members for the following year, with the advice and consent of the Faculty Advisor.

By Law III: Method of Amending By-Laws

Proposed by-laws should be submitted in writing. Said proposals shall be read and acted upon in the general meeting in which they are proposed. Approval should require at least two-thirds (66%) of executive members present. Frivolous by-law amendments shall not be considered.