

2025-2026 Constitution for OHI/O at the Ohio State University

Article 1 - Name, Purpose, and Policies of the Organization

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization is OHI/O; in this constitution, it is referred to as the organization.

Section 2: Purpose Statement

The organization's mission is to foster a tech culture in and around the Ohio State community by hosting a variety of events throughout the school year to connect with students in order to spread interest in technology and its applications, and be a resource on campus for all students.

Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy

This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other basis, or any other basis in accordance with applicable law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment

Section 4: Sexual Misconduct Policy

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, OHI/O expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from discrimination, harassment, and 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

Section 1: Qualifications of Membership

Membership in OHI/O is open to all currently enrolled Ohio State University students, regardless of major, academic level (undergraduate or graduate), or prior experience. We welcome students from any discipline who are interested in technology, innovation, or supporting the mission of OHI/O to foster a tech-focused and inclusive community.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a currently enrolled student at The Ohio State University.
- Must express a genuine interest in participating in or supporting OHI/O programs, initiatives, or events.
- No restrictions based on major, GPA, or class standing.

Joining Process:

1. **Interest Form Submission:** Prospective members are encouraged to fill out an OHI/O Interest Form available on OHI/O website to indicate their desire to join and receive updates.
2. **Participation Requirement:** Students may officially become members by joining at least one committee, attending at least two general body meetings, three committee meetings, two events, or one volunteer opportunity hosted by OHI/O.
3. **Welcome Email & Communication Access:** Upon attending an event or meeting, new members are added to our communication channels (such as Discord or mailing lists) to receive updates on upcoming opportunities and meetings.

Timelines:

- Membership is open year-round; students may join at any time during the academic year.
- OHI/O hosts formal recruitment drives at the beginning of each semester (August/September for Fall and January/February for Spring), but students are welcome to get involved at any point.

Faculty and Staff Membership: Any current Ohio State University faculty or staff member who supports the mission of OHI/O is welcome to join as an affiliate member. While they may not hold voting rights, their guidance and participation in events and mentorship are highly valued.

Section 2: Membership Body

In order to fully comply with Ohio State's Guidelines for Student Organizations, the organization's voting membership is limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Additionally, 90% of the membership of the 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.

Section 3: Standing Committees

To fully constitute joining the organization, members must join one or more of the organization's standing committees: Sponsorship, Sustainability, Webteam, Marketing and Communications, Mentorship, Judging, Registration, HackOHI/O Planning, MakeOHI/O Planning, High School I/O planning, and ShowOHI/O planning. The standing committees should be flexible in name, responsibilities, and membership size to meet the needs of the organization and as such, a majority vote of the Executive Board members present at any Executive Board meeting will approve the addition or removal of a committee.

Further, the four event planning committees will have sub-committees as needed that members may join as well. Sub-committees may be formed or dissolved as the team needs by the leader of the committee.

Article III: Executive Officers

Section 1: Purpose & Membership

The organization shall maintain an executive board of students to oversee the organization's operations and vote in matters concerning the organization. All executive board officers must be active members of the organization and all executive board officers must be in good academic standing with the university.

Section 2: Positions of the Executive Board

The positions of the executive board shall include (but may not be limited to): Two HackOHI/O Chairs, Two MakeOHI/O Chairs, Two High School I/O Chairs, Two ShowOHI/O Chair, Sustainability Chair, Tech Team Lead Chair, Marketing & Communications Chair, Sponsorship Chair, Mentorship Chair, Judging Chair, and Outreach Chair. Unless otherwise voted by a majority of the executive board, the HackOHI/O Chairs shall be the organization's President and Vice President, and the Sponsorship Chair shall be the organization's treasurer. Any active member in good standing may be nominated or self-nominate for an executive board position. Elections will occur through a plurality vote of the current executive board in the spring semester each year.

Section 3: Executive Board Election

The executive board officers shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the previous executive board in an annual election taking place during the spring semester of the school year. The new executive board officers shall take office on May 1st and serve for one year.

Section 4: Term Limits

Appointment or nomination of an individual to an executive board position within the organization shall be in general limited to two full consecutive terms in the same position. This recommendation is intended to encourage the continuing infusion of new volunteers into the organization and to encourage office holders to give thought to planning for their successor. Appointment or nomination to a third or subsequent consecutive term should be limited to situations where such appointment or nomination is believed to be in the best interests of the Association (as determined by the organization's faculty advisor).

Section 5: Faculty Advisor

The organization's faculty advisor shall be the Director of the OHI/O Program.

Article IV: Methods for Removing Members & Executive Officers

Section 1: Member Removal

If an organization member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or bylaws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the organization member may be removed through a majority vote of the executive officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

Section 2: Executive Officer Removal

Any executive officer of the organization may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or bylaws, 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 $\frac{2}{3}$ affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor. Removed officers or members may appeal the decision within 7 days by submitting a written appeal to the organization's advisor, who will review the case and issue a final decision.

Section 3: Non-student Member Removal

Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: General Removal

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), {00312468-1} the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

Article V: Organization Operation

Section 1: Events of the Organization

The organization shall hold at least 4 events per calendar year: HackOHI/O, MakeOHI/O, High School I/O, and ShowOHI/O, with the goal of adding additional events and activities as the organization evolves. To add a new event or activity of the organization, there should be a majority vote of the executive board or approval from the organization's director to do so. To remove an event or activity of the organization (except for HackOHI/O, MakeOHI/O, High School I/O, and ShowOHI/O), the organization's director must approve its removal. To remove any of the four original events of the organization (HackOHI/O, MakeOHI/O, High School I/O, and ShowOHI/O), there must be both approval from the organization's director and a majority vote of the executive board.

Section 2: Meetings of the Organization

Executive board meetings of the organization should be held no less frequently than monthly while school is in session. At the first executive board meeting of the school year, a majority vote of the executive board will determine the meeting frequency of executive board meetings. At any time, a majority vote of executive board members present at a meeting may suspend or postpone a following meeting if it is deemed not necessary.

Meeting frequency of all committees will be determined by each committee's lead with the organization's director's approval. In addition, meeting frequency of all subcommittees of a committee will be determined by the subcommittee's lead with the committee lead's approval.

Article VI: Method of Amending Constitution

Section 1: Amendment Process

Any proposed amendments to the constitution should be presented to the organization at an executive board meeting and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the meeting, allowed time for discussion, and then voted upon at the next executive board meeting. As an exception, if $\frac{2}{3}$ of the executive board members vote to move forward with the amendment, voting does not need to wait until the next executive board meeting. If $\frac{2}{3}$ agreement is not reached or $\frac{2}{3}$ of the executive board members are not present, voting will take place in the next executive board meeting.

2025-2026 Goals for OHI/O at the Ohio State University

1. To cultivate greater inclusivity in our organization's membership as well as within our event participation by creating inviting environments where students feel valued and welcome.
2. To create a focus on leadership development in our members by increasing delegation within committees to promote responsibility opportunities.
3. To broaden our network in order to widen our impact on campus by forming and maintaining strong relationships with other student organizations, industry partnerships, and our own alumni network.