

Latine Student Association

Student Organization Constitution 2026-2027

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The Name of This Organization Shall Be The Latine Student Association; Hereinafter Referred to as LSA.

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

The Latine Student Association (LSA) is dedicated to celebrating Latine culture and fostering awareness and appreciation of the Latine community at The Ohio State University. Through general meetings, cultural events, and community engagement opportunities, LSA promotes student connection, cultural education, and belonging within the Latine student body and the broader campus community. LSA is open to all students who are interested in learning about and engaging with Latine culture, regardless of cultural or ethnic identity.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

The Latine Student Association (LSA) agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination 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 basis in accordance with these guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

The Latine Student Association (LSA) agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

Section C. Bylaws

The Latine Student Association (LSA) retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in these constitutional articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State

University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities Department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

1. Membership shall be open to all currently enrolled students at The Ohio State University. The Latine Student Association shall not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, national origin, religious creed, political views, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, or veteran status.

2. In accordance with CSA guidelines, at least ninety percent (90%) of voting membership must consist of currently enrolled Columbus campus Ohio State University students. Faculty, staff, alumni, and affiliates may participate as associate members; however, associate members may not comprise more than ten percent (10%) of total membership and may not hold voting rights.

Section B. Member Selection

1. Non-members may become members of the Latine Student Association by attending general body meetings and expressing interest in joining the organization. Membership is voluntary and open to all eligible students.

2. Active (voting) membership status is obtained by attending at least three (3) general body meetings per academic semester and participating in at least one (1) LSA-hosted or co-sponsored event, program, or fundraiser. Only active members are eligible to vote in Executive Board elections and any general body votes held throughout the academic year.

3. The Vice President of Member Relations is responsible for maintaining accurate attendance record and tracking membership status to determine voting eligibility. Members may choose to leave or disassociate from the organization at any time without penalty or retaliation.

Section C. Membership Timeline

1. Individuals may join the Latine Student Association at any point during the academic semester by attending an official general body meeting or LSA-sponsored event. Membership is open on a rolling basis throughout the academic year.

2. Members who become inactive due to lack of participation may lose active (voting) status. In order to regain active status, members must again meet the requirements outlined in Section B by attending a future general body meeting or LSA-sponsored event.

Section D. Member Removal

1. A member may be subject to removal if they engage in conduct that is detrimental to the mission and values of the Latine Student Association or if they violate the Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct. Examples of such conduct may include, but are not limited to, harassment, discrimination, or actions that harm the organization's reputation or functioning.

2. The removal process shall be initiated by the Executive Board following a documented concern or report of misconduct. The Executive Board will review the situation in consultation with the advisor before a decision is made. Removal of a member requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

1. The advisor shall serve as a mentor and resource to the Latine Student Association while supporting its mission, operations, and leadership development. The advisor shall not hold office or possess voting rights within the organization.

2. The advisor's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Providing guidance to Executive Board leaders and members in planning programs, events, and initiatives
- Assisting with organizational and leadership transitions
- Ensuring the organization operates in alignment with university policies and procedures
- Serving as a liaison between the organization and the university when necessary

3. In accordance with requirements set by the Council on Student Affairs (CSA), the advisor must:

- Complete advisor training every two (2) years
- Complete the anti-hazing training module available through BuckeyeLearn or stophazing.osu.edu
- Submit online approval of the organization's registration annually
- Submit online approval of the organization's goals annually

- Submit online approval of any CSA Operating or Programming funds requests initiated by the organization's treasurer
- Follow all applicable laws, regulations, university rules, policies, and guidelines
Complete all relevant reporting obligations

Section B. Advisor Term

The advisor shall serve a term of one (1) academic year. Advisors may be reappointed for additional terms upon mutual agreement between the advisor and the organization.

Section C. Advisor Selection

1. The advisor MUST be a member of the faculty or administrative and professional staff at The Ohio State University.
2. The Executive Board, led by the President and Vice President, is responsible for identifying and recruiting potential advisor candidates. The Executive Board confirms the advisor selection via an Executive Board voting process. A 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Board is required to appoint an advisor.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

1. An advisor may be removed from their position if they are unable or unwilling to fulfill their responsibilities. An advisor first must establish grounds for removal. This can include, but is not limited to, voluntary resignation, failing to meet CSA requirements, lack of engagement or communication, or violation of university policies.
2. If the advisor does not voluntarily resign, the Executive Board is responsible for initiating and voting on advisor removal. This decision will take place during an Executive Board meeting, and a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required to remove the advisor from their position. In the event of a removal or resignation, the organization will initiate the advisor selection process outlined in Section C within a reasonable timeframe to maintain compliance with university requirements.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

1. President (Primary Leader):

The President shall serve as the primary leader of the organization. They shall call and preside over all general body and Executive Board meetings, serve as the official representative and spokesperson of LSA, and set agendas for organizational meetings. The President shall maintain communication with the Executive Board and the organization's advisor.

2. Vice President (Secondary Leader):

The Vice President shall assist the President in all organizational matters and assume the duties of the President in their absence. In the event of resignation, removal, or inability of the President to serve, the Vice President shall assume the role of President.

3. Vice President of Finance (Treasurer):

The Vice President of Finance shall manage all financial matters of the organization, including budgeting, tracking expenditures, and maintaining accurate financial records. A financial report shall be presented to the Executive Board at the beginning and end of each semester.

4. Vice President of Digital Communications:

The Vice President of Digital Communications shall oversee all print, digital, and online communications and branding for LSA. This includes managing promotional materials, maintaining organizational archives, and publicizing events and initiatives.

5. Vice President of Fundraising:

The Vice President of Fundraising shall plan and coordinate fundraising initiatives to support the organization's mission and activities. This includes organizing fundraising events, collaborating with other officers on promotion and logistics, and working with the Vice President of Finance to ensure accurate tracking of all funds raised.

6. Vice President of Member Relations:

The Vice President of Member Relations shall promote member engagement and retention within LSA. Responsibilities include tracking attendance at events, maintaining membership records, and implementing strategies to foster an inclusive and welcoming environment.

7. Vice President of Outreach:

The Vice President of Outreach shall coordinate social and community service events and establish collaborations with other student organizations. This position is also responsible for assisting with event logistics such as reservations and external partnerships.

8. Executive Assistant:

The Executive Assistant shall record minutes during Executive Board meetings and support Executive Board operations as needed. They shall serve as a liaison between the Executive Board and general membership and ensure meetings follow established procedures. The Executive Assistant shall also oversee constitutional maintenance and present substantive

changes to the Executive Board for approval. They shall facilitate at least one open forum per term for general membership feedback.

9. Special Events Chair:

The Special Events Chair shall plan and coordinate major signature events that foster community engagement within LSA. This includes organizing at least two major events per academic year and collaborating with other officers to coordinate logistics such as reservations, vendors, and event execution.

10. Additional details to these Executive Board positions can be found within the Latine Student Association bylaws.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

1. Officer candidates must be currently enrolled students at The Ohio State University (Columbus campus) and active members of the Latine Student Association. Active membership is defined in Section B of Article IV.
2. Eligible candidates must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5, submit a completed officer application by the stated deadline, and participate in the organization's established election process.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

1. Officer candidates shall be identified through an open application process distributed to all eligible members of the Latine Student Association. Candidates may apply for one or multiple officer positions.
2. The election process shall be overseen by the Executive Board, with the President and Vice President coordinating the application review and election logistics. All eligible active members of the organization shall be permitted to vote in officer elections.
3. Following the application period, eligible candidates shall be invited to present to the membership prior to voting. Elections shall be conducted for each officer position individually.
4. Officers shall be selected by a simple majority vote of eligible voting members. In case of a tie, a runoff vote shall be conducted between tied candidates. If a tie persists, the Executive Board shall determine the outcome by majority vote. All officer positions are elected annually. Detailed Election procedures can be found in the Latine Student Association bylaws.

Section D. Officer Removal

1. An Executive Board member may be removed from their position for failure to fulfill their responsibilities, violation of the Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct, violation of Student Life policies, or conduct that negatively impacts the organization.
2. Removal of an officer may be initiated by the President or, in cases involving the President, by the Vice President or Executive Board. The Executive Board shall review the concern and provide the officer an opportunity to respond prior to a final decision. Removal requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board.
3. In the event of a vacancy due to removal, resignation, or ineligibility, the Executive Board shall determine the process for filling the position in accordance with the organization's election procedures and bylaws. Any interim or replacement appointment must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

1. The organization may be dissolved if it is determined that it is no longer able to fulfill its mission, maintain active membership, or operate in accordance with The Ohio State University's Student Organization guidelines.
2. A motion for dissolution must be proposed by a member of the Executive Board or by a petition of the general body. A formal meeting shall be held to discuss the proposed dissolution, with prior notice given to all active members.
3. Dissolution of the organization shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the active membership, provided that quorum is met. The organization must also comply with all requirements set forth by The Ohio State University Student Life in order to complete the dissolution process.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

1. Upon approval of dissolution, the Executive Board shall be responsible for overseeing all necessary procedures to formally close the organization.
2. All outstanding debts and financial obligations must be resolved prior to the distribution of any remaining assets. The organization shall ensure that all accounts are settled in accordance with university policies and applicable laws.
3. Any remaining assets, including funds and property, shall be distributed in accordance with The Ohio State University's Student Organization guidelines. Assets may not be distributed to

individual members. Instead, they shall be transferred to an appropriate nonprofit organization, campus entity, or as otherwise required by university policy.

4. All records, documents, and materials belonging to the organization shall be properly archived or submitted as required by Student Life.

ARTICLE VIII: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by any member of the Executive Board. All amendments should be presented in writing.

2. All proposed amendments shall be reviewed and voted on by the Executive Board. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all Latine Student Association Executive Board meetings, except in matters specifically provided by The Latine Student Association. Approval of any amendment shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board. In the event of a tie, the President shall determine the deciding vote. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

3. Should the organization transition leadership or wish to amend the constitution in between registration cycles, the articles set forth in this document will remain in place until a new constitution is provided to the Ohio Union and Student Activities Department and is approved.

4. All approved amendments shall be submitted to The Ohio State University Student Activities Office within 30 days for review and approval. The existing constitution shall remain in effect until the amended version is officially approved.