

National Association of Black Journalists at The Ohio State University (NABJ-OSU)

Constitution 2025–2026

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization shall be the National Association of Black Journalists at The Ohio State University (NABJ-OSU).

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

We, the members of NABJ-OSU, believe that students working toward careers in journalism and media at The Ohio State University should work together under the auspices of the National Association of Black Journalists. The purpose of NABJ-OSU is to provide education, resources, and opportunities related to journalism, scholarship, internships, and professional development for members while promoting diversity and celebrating Black excellence in media.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

NABJ-OSU 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 the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

NABJ-OSU agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with The Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing.

Section C. Bylaws

NABJ-OSU retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline daily operations and clarify procedures not included in this constitution. These bylaws shall not take precedence over university, state, or federal regulations.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Membership is open to all undergraduate and graduate students at The Ohio State University interested in journalism, communications, or media-related professions.

Section B. Member Selection

Students become members by attending meetings and purchasing a \$40 national student membership from the National Association of Black Journalists.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Members are encouraged to attend at least 75% of meetings each semester and notify officers of absences.

Section D. Member Removal

A member may be removed by majority vote of the executive board in consultation with the advisor if found engaging in behavior detrimental to the organization or in violation of university policies.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The advisor shall be a full-time faculty or staff member who provides guidance to the executive board, oversees activities, and ensures compliance with university policies.

Section B. Advisor Term

The advisor serves for one academic year and may be reappointed at the discretion of the organization.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The advisor must be affiliated with the School of Communication, Department of African & African American Studies, or a related field. Selection is made by majority vote of the executive board.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

In the event an advisor can no longer serve, the executive board will select a replacement following the same process used for initial selection.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

The executive board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Social Media Chair, Events Organizer, and Advisor.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

All executive board members must maintain a 2.5 GPA and be paying members of the national NABJ organization.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Elections will take place at the end of the spring semester. Candidates will submit applications, and the general body will vote. Vacancies will trigger a special election within two weeks.

Section D. Officer Removal

An officer may be removed by majority vote of the executive board and advisor for conduct detrimental to NABJ-OSU or violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

If NABJ-OSU ceases to be active, the executive board must unanimously vote for dissolution with advisor consent.

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

Remaining funds shall be returned to The Ohio State University or donated to a related student organization. Outstanding debts will be resolved before dissolution.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Any active member or executive board member may propose an amendment. Amendments require majority approval from both the general body and executive board.