

THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

We, the medical students at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, for the purpose of advancing the interests and well being of the medical school and its students, both current and future, do propose and subscribe to the following constitution of the University of Wisconsin Medical Student Association.

Article I: Name

The name of the Association shall be the Medical Student Association of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (“MSA”).

Article II: Principal Office

The principal office of association for the MSA shall be in the City of Madison, Dane County, State of Wisconsin.

Article III: Purpose

MSA is organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes, including:

- A. The advancement of the interests and well being, through the involvement of all students, of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (“UWSMPH”) community; and
- B. The making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) section 501(c)(3) (or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code).

Article IV: Limitation

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Constitution or the MSA Bylaws, the MSA shall not carry on any activities prohibited by a 501(c)(3) organization.

Article V: Membership

All enrolled medical students at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health shall be members of the MSA

Article VI: Governance

The governing body of the MSA shall be an elected council. Council membership is specified in the Bylaws.

Section A: Responsibilities

The council shall:

1. Promote communication among students, faculty, administration, and the community.
2. Obtain and allocate funds in a manner consistent with the stated purpose of the MSA.
3. Promote involvement of all members in UWSMPH affairs, the MSA, and the community.
4. Serve as a representative of the students of UWSMPH community.
5. Promote communication between medical school organizations and assist them in the coordination of their activities.
6. Conduct student elections for class officers and representatives and any other official representatives of the student body at large.
7. Regulate MSA procedures and functions.
8. Exercise any such additional authority as may be granted to it by the UWSMPH or by other bodies as consistent with Article II.
9. Make all rules and bylaws necessary and proper for the carrying out of the foregoing responsibilities and other powers given to it by this constitution.

Section B: Council membership

1. The following shall serve as elected student council members:
 - a. Six first-year class representatives
 - b. Two first-year class co-presidents
 - c. One first-year Educational Policy Committee (“EPC”) representative
 - d. One second-year council treasurer
 - e. One first-year council treasurer-elect
 - f. One first-year representative from the Organization of Student Representatives (“OSR”)
 - g. One second-year representative from the OSR
 - h. One first-year webmaster
 - i. One second-year webmaster
 - j. Six second-year class representatives
 - k. Two second-year class co-presidents
 - l. One second-year EPC representative
 - m. At least two third/fourth-year class representatives
 - n. At least two third/fourth-year class co-presidents
2. *Ex officio* members: One or two members of the Dean’s office of the UWSMPH and a representative of the Medical Alumni Office shall be *ex officio* members of the council.

Section C: Council leadership

The council shall be lead by the officers:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Second-year treasurer
4. First-year treasurer-elect
5. Secretary

Section D: Replacement of council members

In the event of resignation or impeachment of a council member, the election committee shall conduct an election to fill the office in accordance to the election procedures for that office as outlined in the Bylaws. The election shall occur within two weeks of the member's resignation or impeachment.

Section E: Meetings

1. Frequency: Meetings shall be held weekly during the academic school year. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the council president.
2. Meetings shall be open to all enrolled medical students. Discussion of a specific issue may be closed to non-council members only upon a two-thirds majority of voting members present.
3. Quorum: A quorum shall be two-thirds of standing first- and second-year members.

Section F: Voting Rights

For any motion before the council or election within the council, each council member shall have one vote, except the council president, who shall vote only in the event of a tie.

In MSA Council, *ex officio* members are unable to vote.

Article VII: Standing Committees

Section A: Standing Committees

The following are standing committees of the MSA. Additional committees may be created by a majority vote of the council.

1. Social Committee
2. Deans' Cup Committee
3. Elections Committee
4. Finance Committee
5. Equipment and Clothing Sale Committee
6. Orientation Committee
7. Curriculum and Policies Committee
8. Facilities Committee

9. WMAA Student Committee
10. Bylaws and Constitution Committee

Section B: Committee Composition

1. Membership: The council president shall appoint council members to the standing committees within four weeks of the election of first-year representatives and co-presidents. Each committee shall consist of at least one first-year and one second-year council member.
2. Leadership: The council president shall appoint at least one council member to serve as chairperson of each committee. The council president shall appoint chairperson(s) for each committee within four weeks of the election of first-year representatives and co-presidents.

Article VIII: Ratification

The MSA Constitution and Bylaws shall be subject to ratification by the council each academic year. Ratification shall require a majority of those present. The vote regarding ratification shall occur by the second council meeting after the election of first-year representatives and co-presidents.

Article IX: Amendments

The Constitution or Bylaws may be amended at any MSA meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the council present. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the council president at least two week prior to voting and make available to the entire council at least one week prior to voting. Before calling the council vote, the president shall present both the current wording of the Constitution or Bylaws and the proposed amendment to the council and allow for adequate discussion.

Article X: Publication

The council president shall publicly post and make available copies of the MSA Constitution and Bylaws at the start of the academic year and after any amendment.

Article XI: Dissolution

Section A: Procedure

The MSA and its council shall be dissolved:

1. Upon the dissolution of the UWSMPH; or
2. After a majority referendum vote of all enrolled students of the UWSMPH. A dissolution referendum vote shall be held if at least one-third of all enrolled students sign a petition that requests dissolution and states the reason(s) for

such action. The council president shall conduct a written referendum within one week of receipt of a proper petition. All enrolled students of the medical school shall be permitted to vote. Voting shall be by anonymous, written ballot. The council president shall publicly post the results of the vote within one week of the end of balloting.

Section B: Asset distribution

1. Council distribution: Upon dissolution, the council shall distribute MSA assets:
 - a. To the federal, state, or local government for a public purpose;
 - b. For exempt purpose(s) within the meaning of IRC section 501(c)(3) (or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code).
2. Court disposition: Any assets that the council fails to distribute properly shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in Dane County (or the county in which the MSA's principal office is then located). The court shall dispose of such assets exclusively for exempt purpose(s) within the meaning of IRC section 501(c)(3) or to organization(s) that court deems to be organized and operated exclusively for such purpose(s).