



**CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION
CRISWELL COLLEGE**

Purpose: To represent the interest of the student body of Criswell College. Support students and student led organizations, their community and academic endeavors. To engage with the Texas Legislature and United States Congress on behalf of Criswell College.



ARTICLE I

Scope

Section 1. This body shall represent the full time and part time members of the student body as defined by Criswell College.

Section 2. All official bodies, offices and agencies listed within this Constitution or created by the President, the Cabinet or the House will be collectively named the Student Government Association of Criswell College.

Section 3. A member of the Student Government Association is any student who actively serves in any capacity as outlined in Article I, Section 2.

ARTICLE II

The Legislative Branch

Section 1. The House of Student Representatives will have the legislative powers of the Student Government Association.

Section 2. The student body will annually elect members of the House of Representatives. Representatives are apportioned as follows:

- A. There will be ten voting seats.
- B. Seats will be filled by students in the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes with two seats for each class. In the election for the legislature each grade classification may only vote for their respective class. All Graduate level students will elect two members to the House of Representatives.
- C. No student may hold a seat for more than one constituency simultaneously.
- D. A member of the House of Representatives must be in the same classification as that which he/she represents.



Section 3. The House will select one of its members to be the Speaker of the House. The Speaker will represent the House of Representatives in executive cabinet meetings.

Section 4. The House shall have the following legislative responsibilities:

- A. To collaborate on legislation that is beneficial to the student body and Criswell College; in order for legislation to be presented to the President it must be passed by a four fifths majority of the House of Representatives.
- B. To consider all business brought before it by its members, the Cabinet, students, faculty, or staff.
- C. To set the legislative priorities that are to be presented to the President.
- D. Approve Presidential Nominations and Appointments by a simple majority vote of the House of Representatives.

Section 5. A quorum of three-fifths of SGA House members, SGA President and SGA Vice President is needed to hold a meeting.

Section 6. All meetings of the House will be open to the student body, staff and faculty of the college, unless four fifths of the members present vote to meet in executive session.

Section 7. The House of Representatives shall hold the power to overrule a Veto by the SGA President, with a four fifths vote of the House of Representatives.

ARTICLE III

The Executive Branch

Section 1. The Executive Branch, otherwise known as the Executive Cabinet, will have the executive powers of the Student Government Association.

Section 2. Cabinet will consist of the following members:

- A. Student Body President;



- B. Student Body Vice President;
- C. Secretary;
- D. Chief of Staff;
- E. The Speaker of the House of Representatives;

Section 3. The Student Body President, and Vice President shall be elected annually by a vote of the student body. Each elected official shall serve a term of one year and may not fill more than one office in the Student Government Association simultaneously.

Section 4. The roles of the Executive Cabinet shall be defined as follows:

- A. President: - To represent the interest of the Student body in all aspects of the Student Government Association. - Preside over all meetings of the Student Government.
-Approve or disapprove by signature or by means of Veto all business proposed by the Legislative Branch. - Propose approved business to the Judiciary and higher levels of authority in Criswell College. - Main advocate of the Student Body. - Shall have the authority to issue Executive Orders that may be subject to review by the Supreme Court in the matter of a raised question on the Order.
- B. Vice President: - Assist the President as designated. - Serve the student body interest. - Senior advisor to the President.
- C. Secretary: - keep minutes of all meetings. - Provide oversight of committees.
- D. Chief of Staff: - maintain internal operations. - Point person for external affairs.

Section 5. The Executive Cabinet will have the following responsibilities:

- A. To act as the executive representatives of the student body;
- B. To collaborate with all branches of the Student Government Association;
- C. To coordinate with outside agencies in support of the student body interests.
- D. To internally manage Cabinet proceedings as necessary.
- E. Hold the ability to form committees that would advise the Student Government Association and or carry out duties directed by the Cabinet.



Section 6: A simple majority of the Executive Cabinet is needed to hold a meeting. A full majority of members present are required to pass or approve all business.

Section 7. No individual shall hold two or more of the following offices concurrently: President, Vice President, Secretary, Chief of Staff.

Section 8. The order of seniority and succession of the Executive Branch shall be:

- President
- Vice President
- Speaker of The House of Representatives
- Secretary
- Chief of Staff

Section 9. The President of the Student Government Association shall not serve more than two terms in office.

Article IV

Student Programming

Section 1. Student Programming by this constitution shall be defined as any program created and or led by the Student Government Association.

Section 2. SGA student programming shall meet the following requirements:

- A. Programming shall enhance the student community at Criswell College.
- B. Programming shall represent the diverse interests and concerns of the entire Student Body.
- C. All programs, small and large, shall be student-driven, student-led and Judiciary approved.
- D. All programs shall be well advertised with easily accessible information.



ARTICLE V

The Judicial Branch

Section 1. The Supreme Court shall consist of the Director of the Student Services Office, the SGA Faculty Advisor and three student members appointed by the President and approved by the House of Representatives.

Section 2. The Judicial Branch shall hold the following Responsibilities:

- A. Oversight of the Executive and Legislative Branch
- B. Approve business proposed by the Cabinet
- C. Be the decider of any question within the Student Government Association
- D. Assist the Cabinet in communication with those in higher authority at Criswell College.

Section 3. A confirmed member of the supreme court shall serve a term of an academic year.

ARTICLE VI

Impeachment

Section 1. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated against any member of the Student Government Association by submission of a petition signed by at least 25 percent of the members of the House or by submission of an order to remove signed by the Supreme Court.

Section 2. Members and officers may be impeached only in the following cases:

- A. The member has violated the Constitution of the Student Body or the Student Body Code of conduct;



- B. The member has shown conduct grossly unbecoming of an officer or received undue personal financial or material gain through his or her actions.

Section 3. After the petition or order to remove has been submitted, the Supreme Court will hold a hearing to determine whether or not a violation occurred and decide the impeachment.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

Section 1. All proposed amendments to this Constitution must be proposed by a two-thirds vote of House and signed by the President. The amendments will then be voted on by the Student Body within the semester of House's consideration. Upon approval by a simple majority of the Student Body, the amendment(s) will be adopted.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the Student Government Association will be defined as follows:

- A. **Executive Cabinet Meeting:** A meeting of the majority of members in the Executive Cabinet. A quorum shall be in order with Article III Section 6.
- B. **Executive Session Meeting:** A meeting with members of the House of Representatives; The President and Vice President with the intention of voting on proposed business. A quorum shall be in order with Article II Section 5.
- C. **General Assembly Meeting:** A meeting of all branches of Government with the intention of setting agendas, visioning, and discussing matters. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the Executive Cabinet; and a 2/3 majority of the House. The Judiciary is welcome but not required.



Amendment I

Relating to the Term of a Supreme Court Appointee

Approved by a unanimous vote in the House of Representatives Executive Session and signed by the President on March 24th 2020 and receiving a simple majority vote by the Student Body.

A confirmed member of the supreme court shall serve a term of an academic year.

Amendment II

Relating to the Term of the President

Approved by a unanimous vote in the House of Representatives Executive Session and signed by the President on March 26th 2021 and receiving a simple majority vote by the Student Body

Section 9. The President of the Student Government Association shall not serve more than two terms in office.