

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**  
**STUDENT SENATE CONSTITUTION**

Article I      Name

The name of this organization shall be Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) at Amarillo Student Senate and shall be referred to herein as the Student Senate.

Article II      Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote, coordinate and direct those student affairs/activities affecting the TTUHSC student body as an entity as well as encourage communication among the individual schools

Article III      Membership

- A. All members of the Student Senate must be registered fulltime students at TTUHSC.
- B. Any vacancies before the term of a member of the Student Senate ends shall be filled by the alternate from that respective school. Elections for an alternate will be held within thirty days of the vacancy.
- C. The members of the Student Senate shall consist of representatives from each of the disciplines within the TTUHSC of Amarillo campus. The numbers of Senators and Alternates from each school is set forth in the by-laws.
- D. Term is for one academic year (August – May).

Article IV      Organization

- A. The representatives of the TTUHSC Students shall be the Student Senate.
- B. The members of the Student Senate shall elect an executive committee from its members, which will include:
  - 1. President

2. Vice- President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer

Article V      Elections

- A. Eligibility for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be any member of the Student Senate in good academic standing as set forth by the respective school.
- B. Term is for one year.
- C. Elections of Senate offices shall be held at the first meeting in the Fall

Article VI      Responsibilities

- A. Members of the Student Senate shall be entrusted by their constituency to represent the interest of their respective school as well as TTUHSC student interest.
- B. As a representative spokesperson and advocate of the TTUHSC students in academic, administrative, and philosophic affairs, each Senator is also entrusted with the duty of communicating, publicizing, and discussing controversies or proposals pending action by the Senate.

Article VII      Officers

- A. President
  1. Shall represent the official opinion of the student body at TTUHSC when requested to do so to persons not affiliated with TTUHSC. The President shall do so by vote of the Student Senate.
  2. Shall preside over Senate meetings.
  3. Shall represent the Student Senate at all business or social functions or appoint a substitute to do so.
  4. Shall call meetings, both special and regular of the Student Senate.

5. Shall supervise the appointment and establishment of the Senate committees, except as provided by the by-laws.
6. Shall chair the Resolutions Committee.
7. Shall authorize any reimbursement requests from Senate funds ensure proper forms are completed and track the movement of monies. The President will enlist the help of the Treasurer when necessary.
8. Shall act as the ex-officio member to the Health Sciences Center Student Senate in Lubbock.

B. Vice President

1. Shall preside at meetings of the Student Senate when the President is absent.
2. Shall assume the responsibility of President should that position become vacant. Elections for a new Vice President will be held within thirty days.
3. Shall assist the President with overseeing all committees.
4. Shall establish a master schedule of all TTUHSC activities and exams.

C. Secretary

1. Shall record minutes of the meetings.
2. Shall conduct all Executive Committee correspondence.
3. Shall keep copies of all the papers, records, communications, and correspondence sent by and received by the Senate.
4. Shall inform Senators of meetings.
5. Shall chair Elections Committee.

D. Treasurer

1. Shall receive and disperse Senate funds as directed by the Senate.
2. Shall present financial reports showing the financial status of the Senate. Shall also provide financial information upon Senate requests.
3. Shall arrange deposit of all money of the Senate in the name of the organization with the regional campus chief accountant.
4. Shall make arrangements to pay Senate bills authorized by the Senate as set forth in the by-laws.

5. Shall oversee other financial responsibilities deemed necessary by executive committee.

Article VIII Committees:

A. Formation

1. Shall be chaired from within the Senate
2. Shall be drawn from Senators or from the student population with the exception of the Senate Finance and Resolutions Committee which shall be composed of senators.
3. Shall be composed as legislated by the Student Senate.
4. Shall be formed when deemed necessary by the Student Senate.

B. Resolutions Committee

1. Shall be chaired by the Student Senate President.
2. Shall present senate proposals to the Amarillo Executive Committee when appropriate, subject to input from senate.

C. Social Committee

1. Shall coordinate and publicize the social functions of the Student Senate.
2. Shall be composed of at least one member per school.

D. Finance Committee

1. Shall be chaired by the Treasurer
2. Shall consist of at least one student senate member from each school on the Amarillo campus (including the Treasurer).
3. Shall prepare the Student Senate budget.
4. Shall compile, review, research, and consolidate the student budget from each of the individual schools into one Senate budget.
5. Shall assist the treasurer with presenting the Senate budget to the Student Services Fee Committee
6. In the event of a deadlock over a financial issue, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

7. Shall use the resources/advice of the regional campus chief accountant when appropriate.

E. Elections Committee

1. Shall consist of one Senator from each school.
2. Shall promote elections of representatives to the Student Senate.
3. Shall assist in conducting elections for any TTUHSC at Amarillo student organization that formally requests it.

F. Speaker Committee

1. Shall organize and publicize a campus-wide lecture series.
2. Shall secure a speaker and location for such events.

G. Health and Wellness Committee

1. Shall be chaired from within the Senate
2. Shall be composed of at least one member per school
3. Shall promote the health and wellness of Amarillo students through the organization of student events and preservation of fitness amenities.

Articles IX      Duties and Power

A. To determine, direct and coordinate student body policy.

B. Legislation shall include the following:

1. Proposals introduced by any senator.
2. Petitions signed by 25 percent of TTUHSC at Amarillo students within that school
3. Changes or amendments to the Constitution introduced by proposals and petition.

C. Constitutional changes or amendments.

1. Must be approved by three fourths' majority of the entire Student Senate.

- D. All other actions, proposals, motions, or petitions shall require a majority vote of the Senators present.
- E. Petitions from the Student Body
  - 1. A petition signed by a minimum of 25 percent of the student body of the presenter's school shall be presented by the author(s) of the petition to the Student Senate for discussion and vote.
  - 2. Petitions must be submitted no later than 2 weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered.
  - 3. Late petitions will only be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- F. Rejected Petitions
  - 1. Any petition rejected by the Senate may be voted upon by the student as a whole if a vote is requested by the petition's author(s).
  - 2. Petitions rejected by the Senate but approved by the student majority shall be enacted.

Article X Meetings

- A. Meetings shall be held monthly at a time the Senate Executive Committee members have agreed upon
- B. General meetings shall be opened to non-participants
- C. Absence policy shall be followed as set forth in the by-laws
- D. Meeting shall follow Roberts Rules of Order

Article XI Due Process

- A. Neither the student body nor the Student Senate shall take any action, directly or indirectly, which denies liberty, property, or otherwise penalizes any member of the student body, except through due process of law.
- B. No provision of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Student Senate, nor any petition, proposal, amendment or other measure passed in pursuance thereof

shall be superseded, vetoed, repealed, amended, or otherwise changed or altered except through due process of law.

Article XII Impeachment Process

- A. Failure of any member of the Student Senate to carry out the duties and responsibilities of office, or participating in any activity which may be considered unbecoming of a student representative shall be grounds for removal from the Student Senate.
- B. Upon receipt of a petition containing the signatures comprising twenty percent of that representative's constituency or a majority of the Student Senate, impeachment proceedings may be implemented.
- C. The President of the Student Senate shall preside at the impeachment proceedings: if the President is tried, the Vice President of the Student Senate shall preside; if both the President and Vice President are unable to preside, the Student Senate shall select a presiding officer from among its membership. No person under impeachment shall preside at the impeachment. The President of the Student Senate must inform all members of the Student Senate and the advisors for the Senate at least five class days before the impeachment proceedings are to take place. The impeachment proceedings shall be a special session. The members shall be allowed to question the accused and the accused shall be allowed a rebuttal. No person shall be impeached without the consensus of two-thirds of the total membership of the Senate.
- D. Impeachment against any member of the Student Senate shall consist of removal from the Student Senate, removal from position of class officer, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, responsibility or benefit under the Student Senate.
- E. Any officer or representative impeached shall be ineligible for re-election for not less than one academic year.

Article XIII Policy on Discrimination

- A. The Student Senate does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, or physical handicap in its education programs, activities or policies in accordance with federal, state and local laws.