

Muslim Student Association Constitution

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH (GOD), THE MOST GRACIOUS, THE MOST MERCIFUL

Definitions

Allah: The Arabic name for the One God, Creator and Sustainer of the Universe.

Islam: Entire submission to the will of Allah (God), a way of life embodying peace as enjoined by Allah.

Muslim: One who follows Islam.

Qur'an: The final revelation of God to mankind, following the Torah and the Gospel.

Article I: Name

The name of the organization shall be the Muslim Students Association (MSA). It shall be a non-profit organization. The organization may choose to affiliate with the Muslim Students' Association of the U.S and Canada but is not formally bound as a chapter as of now.

Article II: Purpose

Section 1: Goals

The purpose of the organization shall be to:

1. Bring the Muslims of Truman State University and ATSU-KCOM together and support them in their practice of Islam.
2. Promote understanding of different sects and cultures within Islam among members and the wider Truman community.
3. Foster understanding and cooperation between Muslims and non-Muslims.

Section 2: Means

To achieve these goals, MSA shall:

1. Organize religious activities, including prayers, celebrations of Islamic occasions, and discussions.

2. Conduct educational, social, and athletic activities for both Muslims and non-Muslims.
3. Support Muslim students in their educational and spiritual endeavors.
4. Publish materials on Islam and relevant issues concerning Muslims.

Article III: Membership

Section 1: Eligibility

1. Regular Membership: Open to Muslim students at Truman State University, their spouses, and Muslim faculty/staff. At least half of the regular members must be Truman students.
2. Honorary Membership: Available to Truman Muslim alumni and Muslims residing in the Greater Kirksville area.
3. Associate Membership: Open to non-Muslim members of the Truman community.

Section 2: Fees

MSA receives financial support from the Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI), so there is no mandatory membership fee. However, from time to time, the organization may conduct fundraisers for various causes.

Section 3: Voting

Only currently enrolled Truman students may have voting privileges.

Article IV: Executive Committee

Section 1: Definition

The Executive Committee is the administrative body of MSA, elected from the regular membership. Members must be Truman students. Additionally, past MSA Presidents may serve as guidance counselors and, at the request of the Executive Committee, may be included in executive group chats and meetings to provide support and continuity.

Section 2.a: Composition

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. General Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Social Media & Publicity Chair
6. External Relations Officer
7. Risk Management Officer
8. Event Coordinator

Section 2.b: Executive Role Adjustments

If there are not enough executive members to fill all roles, the existing executive members may take on additional responsibilities as needed. These adjustments must be:

1. Temporary and reviewed every semester.
2. Distributed fairly among existing executives.
3. Recorded and communicated for transparency.
4. Subject to revision by a majority vote.

Section 3: Duties of Executive Officers

1. Authority over policy and delegation.
2. Must present an annual budget.
3. Interpret this constitution and enact policies.

Section 4: Responsibilities

1. Meetings called with at least a week's notice.

2. Quorum requires a majority of currently filled positions.
3. Each member has one vote; the President breaks ties.
4. Officers may be removed by a two-thirds majority or for 3+ unexcused absences.

Section 5: Institutional Eligibility Requirements

Only full-time, degree-seeking Truman State University students may hold office in the MSA.

Article V: Elections

1. Elections are mandatory and supervised by the outgoing Executive Committee.
2. Candidates must outline their vision.
3. Secret ballots and majority vote required.
4. Runoffs in case of ties.
5. Solo nominees must still present a speech.
6. Two-week transition period between incoming and outgoing officers.

Article VI: Meetings

1. Weekly executive meetings at a fixed time.
2. Consistent general body meetings.
3. President or Vice President ensures scheduling.
4. Quorum is required for decisions; online voting is allowed.
5. Absentee voting permitted via written consent or advance submission.

Article VII: Functional Committees

The Executive Committee may form functional committees to assist in areas such as religious affairs, social events, education, and outreach.

Article VIII: Advisor

1. The advisor must be a Truman faculty or staff member appointed by the President.
2. Required to attend at least one executive committee meeting, one event, and three general meetings per semester.
3. Provides guidance and constructive feedback.
4. Faculty/staff advisors may not reserve rooms under the student organization's name for activities/events not related to MSA.
5. Advisors may donate to the organization but cannot be required to pay dues.

Article IX: Anti-Hazing Policy

1. The Muslim Students Association fully understands and abides by the anti-hazing policy as set forth in the Student Conduct Code of Truman State University 8.050.2 – Expectations for Student Organization Conduct Section 14: Abusive Affiliation.
2. Hazing is strictly prohibited in Islam and within MSA.

Article X: Reporting Violations

If a violation of the Student Code of Conduct or Non-Discrimination/Title IX occurs, MSA is responsible for reporting the information to the appropriate university offices.

Article XI: Financial Policy

Any remaining funds cannot be distributed among remaining individual members of the organization.

Article XII: Amendments & Revisions

1. Amendments cannot contradict Islamic teachings or university policies.
2. Proposals must be shared one week before a vote.
3. Requires a three-fourths vote of members present.

Ratified and Revised on March 31st, 2025