

STUDENT LEADER ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Per Article XV Section I of the University By-Laws, and consistent with said article, the following policy is established to ensure that students are appropriately eligible to hold leadership positions in student organizations and programs and initiatives supported by the Department of Student Activities (DSA). Effective implementation and enforcement of these policies is intended to place primacy on a student's educational success and help ensure that student leaders meet minimum eligibility criteria while participating in meaningful co-curricular learning opportunities.

Policy Statement:

In support of the University's Academic Mission, the Department of Student Activities at the University of Connecticut reserves the right to limit a student's leadership in Tier III student organizations and programs and initiatives under its purview if that student is determined to be ineligible pursuant to the following.

NOTE: This policy supersedes any related policy internally developed/enforced by the organization/program in question, if such policies include lower standards than those described this policy.

Definitions:

Student Leaders: For the purposes of this policy, 'student leaders' shall mean:

For Tier III Organizations: a student who has been elected or appointed to serve in a leadership position, including, but not limited to, executive officers, board members, committee chairs, and department heads.

A detailed list of Tier III Organization Student Leader positions subject to this policy for the 2020-2021 academic year – beginning with the eligibility of 2020 office seekers - is contained at the end of this document.

For programs and initiatives: any student leader/volunteer whose responsibilities include the supervision or direction of other students (University or otherwise) as it relates to a department program or initiative; any student leader/volunteer who has primary/significant responsibilities related to a department program or initiative.

Tier III Student Organization: for the purposes of this policy, 'Tier III Student Organization' shall mean: those student organizations supported by student fees with high visibility on campus, high accountability to a large constituency of students, moderate to high risk activities, regular interaction with University staff, and reliance on the University for funding, financial support, facilities and event planning support.

2020-2021 Tier III organizations include: Undergraduate Student Government (USG), Graduate Student Government (GSS), Student Union Board of Governors (SUBOG), The Daily Campus, WHUS, UCTV, Nutmeg Publishing, UConn Public Interest Research Group (UConn-PIRG)

Programs and Initiatives: for the purpose of this policy, ‘programs and initiatives’ shall mean: any experience, service initiative, leadership/involvement program, or other initiative (paid or unpaid) involving students supported or co-sponsored by the Department of Student Activities.

2020-2021 Programs Include: Community Outreach Executive Board members and Community Outreach Leaders; Cheerleaders, Dance Team, and Mascots.

NOTE: The above noted programs may have academic eligibility policies that may supersede this policy if, and only if, those policies’ academic eligibility standards are higher than those included herein.

Ineligible: for the purposes of this policy, ‘ineligible’ shall mean: not meeting/fulfilling the ‘Minimum Eligibility Requirements’ set forth herein.

Academic Probation: for the purposes of this policy, ‘academic probation’ shall mean: any academic status other than in good standing as determined by the University Senate [University Senate By-Laws (Section II.E.15)], and recorded by the Office of the Registrar.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

Enrollment Status Eligibility

Student leaders must be currently enrolled at the Storrs Campus and consequently, be subject to paying the ‘General University Fee’, a portion of which supports student organizations and Department of Student Activities programs.

In the case of student organization leaders, eligible students must also be subject to paying the fee for the group for which they are seeking/holding office. For example, a student who wants to run for USG must be subject to paying the USG fee.

Academic Eligibility

All student leaders must not be on any form of academic probation (including, but not limited to being ‘subject to dismissal’) during the time that they are holding a student leadership position as defined in this policy.

‘Seek Provision’

Students seeking to hold positions designated with a ‘***’ in the section of this policy titled, ‘**STUDENT LEADER POSITIONS SUBJECT TO THE ELIGIBILITY POLICY**’, must not be on any form of academic probation (including, but not limited to being ‘subject to dismissal’) during the time that they are seeking that student leadership position as defined in this policy.

Subject to Dismissal

Any student who is determined to be ‘subject to dismissal’ by the Registrar’s Office is not eligible to seek or hold a student leadership position as defined in this policy and is not eligible to appeal. This is consistent with the Department’s goal to place primacy on a student’s educational success.

Consequences

If a student is determined to be ineligible for their leadership position they will be restricted from seeking/holding such a leadership position as outlined below. Students on academic probation will have the opportunity to appeal restrictions pursuant to the procedures below. Students who are 'subject to dismissal' are not eligible to appeal their status.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY PROCEDURES

The Department of Student Activities will periodically (at least: when applications for positions are due, and within 10 days of the end of each semester) review the eligibility of student leaders.

If a student's grades result in an ineligible status, the following will occur:

- 1) The student leader will be sent an e-mail, to their University email address, alerting them of their ineligible status and information about the appeals process.
- 2) If the student chooses to appeal, the student will have one week from notification to appeal the decision. Information about appeals is included in the next section.
NOTE: Students who anticipate that they will be ineligible to seek or hold an office may initiate the appeals process prior to receiving any sort of notification from the Department of Student Activities.
- 3) If the student chooses not to appeal, they must notify their organization and resign from their position within one week of the original notification date. If the student is unable to do so by the aforementioned date, their advisor will notify the organization of the student's inability to serve the organization in this position. The reason for not serving in this position will not be divulged.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Department of Student Activities and amended as necessary.

Presented to University Senate: January, 2012

**~ STUDENT LEADER ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY
POLICY AND PROCEDURE END~**

STUDENT LEADER ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY APPEAL POLICY & PROCEDURES

These policies and procedures have been established to ensure that students whose grades render them ineligible to seek or hold a designated leadership position per the University's Student Leader Eligibility Policy, have the opportunity to have the specific individual circumstances affecting their status as a (potential) student leader reviewed and considered.

Submitting an appeal is not a required part of this process and is an option available to students who feel that there are **compelling** personal circumstances that rise to the level of having their eligibility status reviewed. Additionally, students should be aware that the committee reviews every appeal individually and that the standard to have an appeal upheld (resulting in a student being deemed eligible) is high.

1. If the student chooses to appeal, the student will have one week from the date of the original notification to appeal the decision via the form located here:
<http://leadership.uconn.edu/studentleadereligibility/>
 - a. *Note: Students who anticipate that they will be ineligible to seek or hold an office may initiate the appeals process prior to receiving any sort of notification from the Department of Student Activities.*
 - b. Students who choose to appeal their academic eligibility may continue to serve in their position until the appeal is decided (but not to exceed a **maximum** of three weeks from the date of original notification of ineligibility).
2. All of the following document(s) must be submitted using the on line appeals form found [here](http://leadership.uconn.edu/studentleadereligibility/) (http://leadership.uconn.edu/studentleadereligibility/) to initiate the appeals process:
 - a. Student Leader Eligibility Appeal Form (available on-line here:
<http://leadership.uconn.edu/studentleadereligibility/>)
 - b. Copy of current official/unofficial transcript from the Registrar's Office (no screen shots of a student's transcript will be accepted) – to be uploaded on line as part of the Student Leader Eligibility Appeal Form
 - c. Class schedule for the current semester – to be uploaded on line as part of the Student Leader Eligibility Appeal Form
 - d. Students may submit any other documentation they believe is relevant
3. The Student Leader Eligibility Committee may request an in-person meeting with the Student to discuss the appeal.
4. Possible outcomes of the appeal may include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Removal of the student from his/her leadership position,
 - b. Re-instatement of a student's leadership position and responsibilities
 - c. Restricting the student from seeking such a leadership position, or
 - d. Requiring student to provide evidence of steps taken to address the issue(s) that led to the ineligible status, be they related to enrollment, academics, or conduct.

5. The Student Leader Eligibility Committee will review the case and will notify the student of the final outcome via e-mail within two weeks of receipt of the appeal.
 - a. If a students' appeal is denied, they must notify their organization and resign from their position within 48 hours of being notified. If they are unable to do so by the date/time stipulated, their advisor will notify the organization of their inability to serve the organization in this position. The reason for not serving in this position will not be divulged.

NOTE: During USG elections, the Committee will convene in a manner that seeks to ensure quick review of appeals for candidates *seeking* the offices of USG President, Vice President, and Comptroller (or for other candidates seeking offices that are subject to the 'seek provision' described above).

**TIER III ORGANIZATION STUDENT LEADER POSITIONS SUBJECT TO
THE ELIGIBILITY POLICY**

*Applicable Policy Period: 2020-2021 Academic Year
(Beginning with the eligibility of Fall 2020 office seekers**)*

Daily Campus

Editor-in-Chief
Managing Editor
Digital Manager
Business Manager
Associate Managing Editor
Associate Business Manager
News Section Editor
Opinion Section Editor
Life Section Editor
Sports Section Editor
Photo Section Editor
Advertising Director

GSS

President
Vice President
Communications Director
Treasurer
Parliamentarian
Activities Director

Nutmeg Publishing

Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

SUBOG

President
VP Finance
VP Admin
VP Programming
VP Membership

**In the case of a non-student being elected to this position, the academic & enrollment eligibility requirements do not apply*

***This policy's 'Seek' provisions shall apply to these offices only.*

UCTV

General Manager
Assistant General Manager
Finance Manager
Operations Manager
Chief Marketing Director
Broadcast Production Manager
Film Director
Events Director
Advertising Director
Sports Director
News Director
Entertainment Director
Creative Production Manager
Business Production Manager

USG

President **
Vice President **
Comptroller**
Academic Affairs Chair
External Affairs Chair
Student Development Chair
Student Services Chair
Speaker of the Senate
Chief Justice

WHUS

General Manager
Operations Manager
Program Director*
Training Director*
Promotions Director*
Music Director*
Live Production Director*
Talk Director*
Sports Director*
News Director*
Communications Director*
Multimedia Director*

