Bill Status: PASSED



### University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council

Date: 4/3/16	84 LCB 07 — Student Fee Regulations Update	
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## A Bill to Update and Revise the Student Fee Regulations

#### **Bill History**

The Student Fee Regulations govern every aspect of allocating and spending the student fee dollars collected from students at CU-Boulder by the University of Colorado Student Government. To ensure that these fees are spent in a responsible manner, the Student Fee Regulations must be carefully maintained and reviewed often. An in-depth evaluation of these regulations has not occurred for several years and as such have become out of date. In the years since a full review, several cost centers have left CUSG and two have gone through significant changes. These regulations are in dire need of a comprehensive update.

Two CUSG cost centers have undergone significant change since the last revision of the Student Fee Regulations. The Student Group Funding Board (SGFB), after having their account frozen by the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs, was changed into the Student Organization Allocation Committee (SOAC), and a new code for the committee was created. SOAC operates under a code that is significantly dissimilar to the SGFB code, and many sections of the Student Fee Regulations must be changed to be in line with the new code and new way of operating. Additionally, the Center for Student Involvement has been formed out of the Student Organization Finance Office. While performing many of the same duties as the Student Organization Finance Office, this new cost center has additional duties and personnel and these regulations must be amended to reflect the changes.

Finally, in the years since a full update, situations have arisen in which language in the Student Fee Regulations is unclear or vague and causes uncertainty for funding boards and others involved in the funding process. Part of this update seeks to clarify the regulations so that the intent is clear and straightforward for future funding boards.

#### **Bill Summary**

- All mentions of 'the Student Organization Finance Office' now say 'the Center of Student Involvement'.
- All mentions of the Student Group Funding Board now say the Student Organization Allocation Committee.
- All mentions of 'student group' now say 'student organization.
- Position titles within CUSG are updated.
- The cost centers within CUSG have been updated.
- Many sections of the Student Fee Regulations were last amended or added when the Student Group Funding Board operated. These sections have been amended to reflect the way the SOAC now operates.
- The Dean of Students and the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs have been added to the list of appropriate authorities for reviewing funding violations.
- Suspending these regulations now requires a three-fourths majority of Legislative Council instead of a two-thirds majority.
- The section which describes how student groups may use university owned automobiles has been removed, as the university no longer has a motor pool from which student groups can rent automobiles.

**Whereas,** the Student Fee Regulations govern all aspects of allocating student fee dollars, and must be carefully maintained in order to have an effective document which members of CUSG can use to enforce responsible allocation of fees.

Whereas, the Student Fee Regulations have not been significantly updated in several years.

**Whereas,** since the last update, multiple cost centers have left CUSG, CSI and SOAC have been formed, and new processes and practices have become common throughout CUSG, while others have fallen out of practice.

Whereas, several situations have arisen since the last update where the language of these regulations have been misinterpreted or unclear to legislators and student organizations who have read them.

**Whereas**, the current Student Fee Regulations do not require funding violations be reported to the Dean of Students or the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

# THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, THAT:

**Section 1:** Every mention of the Student Group Funding Board (SGFB), shall be amended to read Student Organization Allocation Committee (SOAC). This change occurs in the following sections:

A. In Section 1: a. 1.1 b. 1.3 c. 1.5 d. 1.6.1 B. In Section 2: a. 2.3.5.B b. 2.4.1.A C. In Section 4: a. 4.3 D. In Section 5: a. 5.1.2 E. In Section 6: a. 6.3.3.C F. In Section 7: a. 7.4

Section 2: Every mention of the Student Organization Finance Office (SOFO) shall be amended to read the Center for Student Involvement (CSI). This change occurs in the following sections:

A. In Section 1:
a. 1.6.1
B. In Section 2:
a. 2.1.2
b. 2.4.2

C. In Section 3:

- a. 3.3
- b. 3.4
- c. 3.4.1
- d. 3.4.2
- D. In Section 4:
  - a. 4.2.1
  - b. 4.2.2.A
  - c. 4.2.2.B
  - d. 4.2.3
  - e. 4.2.4
  - f. 4.2.5
- E. In Section 5:
  - a. 5.1.1
    - b. 5.2.6
    - c. 5.2.8
- F. In Section 6:
  - a. 6.0
  - b. 6.2.2.G
  - c. 6.3.1
  - d. 6.3.3.C
  - e. 6.3.3.C.v
  - f. 6.3.3.C.vi
  - g. 6.3.4.B.ii
  - h. 6.3.5.A.i
- G. In Section 7:
  - a. 7.4
- H. In Section 9:
  - a. 9.2.2.B

**Section 3:** Every mention of 'student group' shall be amended to read 'student organization' so as to be in line with the current terminology used within CUSG. This change occurs in the following sections

A. In Section 2: a. 2.1.3 b. 2.3.1.A c. 2.3.1.C d. 2.3.1.E B. In Section 5: a. 5.2.1 b. 5.2.2 c. 5.2.4 d. 5.2.5.A C. In Section 6: a. 6.3.3.C b. 6.3.3.C.v D. In Section 9: a. 9.2.2.B

**Section 4:** The title of Section 1 of the Student Fee Regulations shall be amended from DEFINITIONS to GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS.

**Section 5:** Section 1.3 shall be amended, so as to accurately describe the current positions in CUSG, to read:

It is the responsibility of all individuals having authority to appropriate or spend student fee monies to be aware of these rules, and to comply with them and to ensure they are enforced. These especially, but not exclusively, include the Executives, President of Legislative Council, Finance Board Chair, Joint Board Chairs and voting members, Director of Finance, SOAC Chair, the individual Council of Colleges and Schools Senators and Representatives-at-Large, and officers of the individual College and School student government bodies.

Section 6: Section 1.4.2, so as to remove the GLBTQ Resource Center, shall now read:

Optional student fees are defined as monies that are voluntarily contributed by students in support of a specific purpose. Collegiate Club Sports and Program Council VIP Pass optional student fees (student opportunity fees) are required to follow the Student Fee Regulations.

**Section 7:** Section 1.5.1, so as to accurately describe the current positions in CUSG. shall be amended to read:

CUSG officials are any students holding an elected or appointed CUSG position as listed in Article 1.D of the CUSG Constitution. These include, but are not limited to, Executives, President of Legislative Council, Finance Board Chair, Director of Finance, Joint Board Chairs and voting members, SOAC Chair, Executive Staff members, the individual Council of Colleges and Schools Senators, Representatives-at-Large, and officers of the individual College and School student government bodies.

**Section 8:** Section 1.6.1, so as to accurately describe CUSG's current cost centers, shall be amended to read:

The current cost centers are:

- Cultural Events Board (CEB)

— CUSG Proper (SOAC and Distinguished Speakers Board (DSB) are under CUSG Proper and are not separate cost centers)

- Environmental Center
- KVCU Radio 1190
- Student Legal Services

— Off-Campus Housing and Neighborhood Relations

- Recreation Services
- Center for Student Involvement (CSI)
- University Memorial Center
- Volunteer Resource Center

Section 9: Section 2.1.3 shall be amended to read:

All Chairs (or designees) of student fee funding bodies are required to meet monthly to discuss funding situations and resolve any problems regarding student organizations and availability of funding.

Section 10: Section 2.3.1 Discrimination shall be amended to read:

2.3.1 Discrimination

2.3.1.A The fees may not be used in support of any organizations which systematically exclude from participation any student on the basis of religion, race, ethnicity, nationality, creed, sexual orientation, marital status, age, gender, political affiliation and/or physical disability.

2.3.1.B Exclusionary Organizations (such as Honor societies that discriminate on the basis of G.P.A., academic achievement and/or class standing, fraternities, sororities, or any other organizations that limit membership) may be funded only for events they sponsor which are free and open to all students. It is preferred that the event take place on campus. However, due to the circumstance of space and scheduling limitations, the group may host an event off-campus.
2.3.1.C If an organization with required membership dues waives the membership dues for all students who are not able to afford them, then it will be deemed eligible to apply for student fees toward its operating costs, subject to the requirements in 2.3.1.A and 2.3.1.B. However, if membership dues cannot be waived, then the organization is deemed ineligible because it is not open to all students.

2.3.1.D Competitive groups will receive student fee monies under the agreement that secondary teams or groups will be created for those students that do not qualify for the main team. As many groups as possible will be created to fulfill the need, until facility space has been exhausted.

2.3.1.E Any organizations that receive student fee monies and violate this any regulations stated in 2.3.1 shall have their funding privileges evaluated based on the tier system outlined in Section 5.2, with the appropriate consequences administered.

Section 11: Section 2.3.2 Political shall be amended to read:

Fees may not be used in support of or in opposition to political candidates or political parties. Requests for student fee support of partisan political activities will not be entertained. Political organizations, being those organizations that are generally regarded as part of a political party, may be funded only for activities not related to their political functions. Student fees used for those activities must go toward materials (posters, etc.) that are balanced and show both sides of the issue. Fees may be used to provide a forum for open discussion of political issues. Fees can only be used to lobby for issues that are directly within CUSG's areas of official concern, i.e., educational funding, financial aid, access to higher education or student life. This definition covers all levels of politics.

Section 12: Section 2.3.4.F shall be amended to read:

Student fee funding sources may allocate up to a combined total of \$1,200 to a student group during a single fiscal year for their charitable fund-raising activities. Charitable fund-raising is when a third-party outside CU is the beneficiary.

Section 13: Section 2.4.1.A.i shall be repealed and nullified.

Section 14: Section 3.3 Finance Board Vice Chair shall be amended to read:

The Finance Board Vice Chair will work with the Finance Board Chair in overseeing student fee monies. The Finance Board Vice Chair will work with CSI in disseminating the Student Fee Regulations to all student organizations, and making sure that the SFRs are accessible to all groups, cost centers and joint boards.

Section 15: Section 4.3 shall be amended to read:

All SOAC funded groups shall be required to submit a mid-year financial report within two weeks after the beginning of the Spring semester and an end-of-year financial report within two weeks of Commencement to the Chair of SOAC. SOAC will notify student groups of the deadline in advance.

**Section 16:** Section 5.1.2 shall be amended so as to add the Dean of Students and Vice Chancellor for Student affairs to the list of authorities who will review funding violations. The section will now read:

The appropriate authorities to review the violation include individuals who have been delegated to administer student fee monies: CUSG Finance Board Chair, CUSG Executives, President of Legislative Council, and the respective Chairs of the Council of Colleges and Schools, Representative Council, individual College and School student government bodies, SOAC and Joint Boards. Violations will also be reported to the Dean of Students and Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. **Section 17:** Section 5.2. shall be amended so as to describe a violation system which better reflects how SOAC currently operates. Section 5.2.3 shall be repealed and nullified. The amended parts will now read:

5.2 Violation Tier System: Any student group that violates the Student Fee Regulations in any manner is subject to appropriate consequences according to this tier system.

5.2.1 Tier One: If a student organization commits to spending \$500 or less on a purpose that violates the Student Fee Regulations, prior to working with CSI, it is mandated to reimburse the full amount to the funding board that awarded the funding within 60 business days. The account will be frozen until the amount is fully reimbursed. If a student organization commits two Tier One violations within the same calendar year, the second violation will automatically be considered a Tier Two violation.

5.2.2 Tier Two: If a student organization commits to spending \$501+ on a purpose that violates the Student Fee Regulations, prior to working with CSI, it is mandated to reimburse the full amount to the funding board that awarded the funding within six months. In addition, the account will be frozen until the amount is fully reimbursed. The student organization will be ineligible for funding for one full semester. For example, if the incident occurs in the fall semester, the student organization will be denied funding for the spring semester. They may reapply the following fall.

**Section 18:** Section 6.2.2.C shall be amended so that the Volunteer Resource Center's Alternative Breaks are able to use student fees to travel out of the country. The section will now read:

No student fees will be used to sponsor Out of Country Travel, except to Canada, Mexico, and U.S. Territories, except for the Volunteer Resource Center's Alternative Breaks.

Section 19: Section 6.3.3.C shall be amended to read:

All travel expenditures must be approved in advance by the appropriate funding source. All groups MUST get approval from-CSI prior to seeking funding. CSI must also be contacted in advance of the travel in order to make travel arrangements through the appropriate agencies.

**Section 20:** Section 6.3.3.C.iv shall be amended to more accurately reflect the funding limits for student organizations. The section will now read:

The maximum allocation for travel for any student organization shall be \$3000. Use of motor pool vehicles shall be encouraged for out-of-state travel.

Section 21: Section 6.3.3.C.vii shall be amended to read:

All out-of-state travel requests shall be submitted to the appropriate funding body for two readings, or in the case of an emergency, Special Order, if processing time permits. With the exception of SOAC, which will only have one reading.

Section 22: Section 6.3.4 Use of University Automobiles shall be repealed and nullified.

Section 23: Section 7.4 Student Payroll shall be repealed and nullified.

**Section 24:** Section 8.2.1 shall be amended to more accurately reflect the current positions held within CUSG. The section will now read:

The executive staff member in charge of Public Relations has the responsibility for making the advertisement and running the advertisement. This person should ensure that the expenditure is appropriate and necessary.

Section 25: Section 9.2.2.B Food Costs shall be amended to read:

The maximum amount that any student organization may be allowed to spend on food is \$1000 of their operational budget. This money may be used for food for their meetings and other official operational functions they host, but they may not use this money for events or travel. This funding can only be awarded when the student organization requests that part of its operations budget be designated for food. The board will decide how much money will be allocated for food based on the group's mission, activity level, their number of years in good standing with CSI, and the total amount of money they are requesting. No student fee monies may be allocated towards food for event or travel funding.

In addition, CUSG will operate as fiscally responsible as possible with regard to food costs for its meetings, hearings, retreats, etc. CUSG will strive to uphold the same standards for food as student organizations are expected to uphold. These expenditures should include only those directly related to the purpose and conduct of the group and its official function. Cost centers and joint boards are exempt from this.

Section 26: Section 10.0 Review shall be amended to read:

The President of Legislative Council is in charge of ensuring these regulations are reviewed at least once a year by a committee. It is encouraged that this review is done by a committee of funding board chairs and other stakeholders. These regulations are to be submitted to Legislative Council for approval, whether they are to be amended or not. All amendments must be approved individually.

Section 27: Section 11.1 shall be amended to read:

In rare cases, suspension of these regulations may be made by a 3/4 vote of the entire Legislative Council.

**Section 28:** The bill shall take effect upon final passage in Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives and the Legislative Council President or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

4/14/16 4/28/16 Amendments Vote Count: 1<sup>st</sup> reading 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

15-0-0 Approved

Section 18: "Acclimated" Section 18: "Out of travel" to "out-of-country travel" Section 19: Language fixes

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