

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF THE ARKANSAS
ASSOCIATION OF THE
STUDENT COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this association shall be the Arkansas Association of the Student Council for Exceptional Children (hereafter referred to as the Arkansas Association of SCEC).

ARTICLE II

Nature and Purpose

Section 1.

The Arkansas Association of SCEC shall be an association of students with interest in special education. In its nature it shall present students with opportunities to improve educational and professional standards. It shall be the focal point for the professional preparation of future leaders in the education of exceptional children and youth.

Section 2.

The purpose of the Arkansas Association of SCEC shall be to promote professional standards of high quality among students and improve the preparation of all professionals dealing with exceptional children and youth. It shall further be the purpose of this organization to promote programs designed to attract students into the profession of special education and to disseminate information which will inform the public of the educational needs of all exceptional children at the local, state, and regional levels.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1.

Any individual who is a student member of the Council for Exceptional Children and is attending a college or university within the state shall be a member of the Arkansas Association of SCEC.

Section 2.

A student shall be a person enrolled in the Council who is full-time student during the academic year as defined by an accredited college or university or a person enrolled in the Council who is a part-time student who is not engaged in full-time employment as a certified professional in the field of education.

Section 3.

The membership year shall be in accordance with that established by CEC.

ARTICLE IV

Organization

Section 1.

The Arkansas Association of SCEC shall be affiliated with the Student Council for Exceptional Children and the Arkansas Federation of The Council for Exceptional Children.

Section 2.

The Association's fiscal year and administrative term of office runs from July 1 – June 30.

ARTICLE V

Dues

Section 1. Dues

The annual dues of this association shall be determined by the membership and shall be consistent with the dues policies of the State Federation and The Council for Exceptional Children.

Section 2. Special Assessments

Special assessments may be levied by a majority vote of those present at the meeting when this matter is considered, provided there is a quorum.

ARTICLE VI

Elective Bodies

Section 1. Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of this organization, namely, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and the Association Representative to the National SCEC Board of Governors.

Change: The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of this organization, namely, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, *SCEC Advisor* and the Association Representative to the *Representative Assembly*.

- B. Each member of the Executive Committee must be a member of CEC in good standing during his/her election and throughout the term of office.
- C. A simple majority of the members holding office shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII

General Membership

There shall be a General Membership composed of the members of the Arkansas Association of SCEC.

ARTICLE VIII

Committees

Section 1.

Standing committees shall be the membership committee, publications committee, publicity committee, nominating committee, constitution and bylaws committee, program committee and finance committee.

Section 2.

Ad hoc committees may be established and their functions assigned at the discretion of the President. Such establishment must clearly indicate the purpose and length of service of the committee.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Arkansas Association of SCEC shall be held during the annual convention of the Arkansas Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children.

Section 2. General Membership

There shall be at least one regular meeting of the General Membership of the Arkansas Association of SCEC to be held at the time of the annual meeting. Special meetings may be called by the President with the consent of the executive committee.

Section 3. Quorum

Ten percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum at a regular or called meeting of the general membership.

Change: Quorum shall be defined at a number equal to or greater than the members of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X
Publications

Section 1.

The Arkansas Association of SCEC shall publish a student newsletter to be distributed to the entire membership by mail.

Change: The Arkansas Association of SCEC shall publish a student newsletter to be distributed to the membership via electronic mail.

Section 2.

The Arkansas Association of SCEC is authorized to publish such special reports and service materials as are deemed essential and within the measure of the budget.

ARTICLE XI
Arkansas Federation SCEC Advisor

The Arkansas Federation of CEC shall provide a professional advisor to the Arkansas Association of SCEC for consultation and advisement.

ARTICLE XII
Amendments

Section 1.

Any proposed amendment to this constitution and bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the constitution and bylaws committee for review.

Section 2.

The constitution and bylaws committee shall refer all proposed amendments with recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Section 3.

All proposed amendments presented to the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the membership not less than 60 days prior to any meeting of the General Membership.

Change: 30 days

Section 4.

Any proposed amendment shall become a part of this constitution by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at any legally constituted meeting of the General Membership. Any proposed amendment shall become a part of the bylaws by a simple majority vote at any legally constituted meeting of the General Membership.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Membership

Section 1.

Any person who has paid the dues, met all other requirements established by CEC, and is a student at a college or university in Arkansas at the time of membership application shall be eligible for enrollment. The student will be eligible for continuing renewals of membership for as long as the requirements are met.

Section 2.

Membership may be accepted in any manner approved by The Council for Exceptional Children.

Section 3.

All members shall have the right to vote; to hold local, state, and national office; to petition; to receive the Newsletter; and to benefit from such other privileges as may from time to time be authorized.

Section 4.

No one college or university will be allowed to have more than three elected officers from that college or university during any fiscal year.

Change: Delete Section 4 completely.

ARTICLE II

Officers

Section 1.

The powers and duties of the President shall be:

- A. To serve as the chief elected official of the Arkansas Association of SCEC.
- B. To give professional leadership to all Student CEC planning and programs.
- C. To serve as a member of the Arkansas Association of SCEC Executive Committee and preside at its meetings.
- D. To prepare a written agenda which must be received by all other Executive Committee members prior to the Executive Committee meeting.
- E. To recommend to the Executive Committee the types of ad hoc committees needed and the types of other appointive bodies needed.
- F. To announce nominations and to present them to the membership for consideration and action.
- G. To appoint with the unanimous concurrence of the remaining Executive Committee until the next meeting of the Arkansas Association of SCEC.
- H. To make an annual report to the National Student CEC, to the Arkansas Federation of CEC, and to The Council for Exceptional Children.

Change Add: I. To assume the responsibility of appointing a Representative to the SCEC Representative Assembly.

Section 2.

The powers and duties of the Vice President shall be:

- A. To serve in the President's place and with the President's authority in case of the President's absence or disability.
- B. To serve as a member of the Executive Committee.
- C. To serve as the Chairman of the program committee and in any other capacity deemed advisable by the Executive Committee.
- D. To serve as coordinator of standing committee.
- E. To serve as coordinator of ad hoc committees.
- F. To automatically succeed to the office of President upon conclusion of the term of Vice President.

Section 3.

The powers and duties of the Secretary shall be:

- A. To keep records of all meetings of this organization.
- B. To keep records of all correspondence of the Arkansas Association of SCEC.
- C. To carry on such correspondence as directed by the President, Executive Committee, or National Student Governor.
- D. To serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 4.

The powers and duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- A. To be in charge of the dispersion of all monies belonging to this organization.
- B. To keep accurate, detailed records of receipts, deposits, expenditures, and a file of financial statements and audits.
- C. To prepare a written treasurer's report showing detailed record of all transactions.
- D. To receive consent by the President and the Executive Committee before paying out monies.
- E. To serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 5.

The powers and duties of the Newsletter Editor shall be:

- A. To edit and oversee the publication of the Arkansas Association of SCEC Newsletter.
- B. To serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 6.

The powers and duties of the member of the Board of Governors of National SCEC shall be:

Change: The powers and duties of the member of the *Representative Assembly*.

- A. To represent the Association at meetings of the Board and to participate in mail balloting and other activities necessary during the year in the administration of SCEC's program.

Change:

- A. To represent the Association at meetings of the *Representative Assembly* and to participate in mail balloting and other activities necessary during the year in the administration of SCEC's program.
- B. To make an annual report to the Arkansas Association Executive Committee and at the annual meeting of the General Membership.

Section 7.

The fiscal year and administrative term of office shall be July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE III Executive Committee

Section 1. Powers and Duties

- A. To implement the administrative policies of the membership.
- B. To give direction to studies of Student CEC problems and to problems of the profession.
- C. To act upon all official petitions and recommendations received.
- D. To establish such ad hoc committees as are needed.
- E. To assume such other responsibilities as have been or shall be assigned through the constitution and bylaws, or directed by the National Student council for Exceptional Children.

Section 2. Executive Committee Meetings.

- A. The Arkansas Association SCEC President shall serve as its presiding officer and in his/her absence the Vice President shall preside.
- B. Voting Regulations
 - 1. Each member of the Committee shall possess one vote. The presiding officer shall vote only to break a tie.
 - 2. No committee member may vote by proxy.

3. In the event less than a quorum is in attendance for any committee meeting, those present may function in an advisory capacity, at the pleasure of the President, after which the President may seek committee acceptance of the group's recommendations.