

STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Preamble

We, the students at the University of Delaware, do hereby form the organization known as the Student Association for the Education of Young Children (SAEYC), for the purpose of serving and acting on behalf of the needs and rights of all young children.

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Student Association for the Education of Young Children.

Article II: Objective

The objective of SAEYC is to serve young children. We will do this by taking part in service projects that benefit young children and issues affecting young children and their families. We will advocate for the needs and rights of all young children, as well as the needs and rights of those who serve them.

Article III: Affiliation

If they choose, individual members of the Student Association for the Education of Young Children at the University of Delaware may become affiliated with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and/or the Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children (DAEYC) by following the appropriate procedures and paying appropriate dues to the NAEYC and/or DAEYC.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1: Qualifications

Any full time, matriculated undergraduate student at the University of Delaware who desires to promote the purpose of SAEYC may become a member upon payment of dues or proof of membership in the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Section 2: Duties of Membership

Duties of members are as follows:

- a. Members must pay dues, as determined by the Executive Committee, once per semester.
- b. Members are expected to attend at least two-thirds of scheduled general meetings per semester.
- c. Members are expected to participate in a minimum of two scheduled activities per semester.

Section 3: Non-voting membership

There are three (3) types of non-voting memberships. These members may not vote, hold office, count towards the group's membership, or have any influence upon decision-making of the organization. Types of non-voting memberships are as follows:

1. An affiliate of SAEYC may be designated as an honorary member by a unanimous vote by the members present at a meeting called for this purpose.
2. Alumni members of SAEYC may attend meetings and service projects as desired, so long as they were an active member of SAEYC during their undergraduate studies at the University.
3. Part time and graduate students at the University may take part in SAEYC meetings and service projects as desired.

Section 4: Non-discrimination clause

SAEYC agrees to adhere to all policies and procedures of the University and all local, state, and federal laws. Members will become acquainted with policies and procedures in the official student handbook and other policies and procedures provided by the University. SAEYC is a viable, functioning organization, composed of at least six full time undergraduate students, and we do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, veteran or handicap status, or sexual orientation.

Section 5: Absence policies

Members are expected to attend two-thirds of the scheduled general meetings of the course of a semester. A sign-in sheet at each meeting will determine attendance by members. Extenuating circumstances (class during meeting times, etc) will be discussed and resolved on an individual basis.

Section 6: Discipline/removal

Causes for removal are as follows:

- a. Members who do not attend two-thirds of the scheduled general meetings over the course of a semester shall have their membership revoked.
- b. Unpaid dues are another cause for removal from the membership list.
- c. Members who do not participate in at least one activity per semester will be removed from the membership list.

Article V: Officers

Section 1: Qualifications

a. President

In order to be elected President, a member must have served on the executive committee for at least one year (two consecutive semesters) prior to election, and be trained by the previous President before taking office. Eligible members shall hold a junior or senior status at the University during their term.

- b. **Vice-President**
In order to be elected Vice-President, a member must have been active in the organization for at least one year (two consecutive semesters) prior to election, and be trained by the previous President before taking office. Eligible members shall hold a sophomore, junior, or senior status at the University during their term.
- c. **Treasurer**
In order to be elected Treasurer, a member must be trained by the previous Treasurer. Eligible members shall hold a sophomore, junior, or senior status at the University during their term.
- d. **Secretary**
In order to be elected Treasurer, a member must be trained by the previous Secretary. Eligible members shall hold a sophomore, junior, or senior status at the University during their term.

Section 2: Positions and duties

- a. **President**
The President shall have the duties of calling and running meetings, as well as handling day-to-day affairs. The President shall be responsible for the registration of SAEYC and all required paperwork for the continuation of the organization. The President will receive all information from the Activities and Programs office and forward to the members. The President will also appoint all standing and special committees. Additionally, the President will be responsible for making and maintaining community contacts, and overseeing all communications and events within the organization.
- b. **Vice-President**
The Vice-President shall work closely with the President to fulfill the duties as described above. The Vice-President will also serve the role of President if the President is absent or otherwise unable to perform her/his duties. The Vice-President shall be responsible for checking SAEYC's mail and updating the webpage.
- c. **Treasurer**
The Treasurer shall be responsible for all group expenditures and revenues, including keeping track of dues and membership. The Treasurer shall write and have all checks signed by the Activities and Programs staff for the purpose of the organization. The Treasurer will also maintain SAEYC's ledgers, and is responsible for requesting funds from the allocation board.
- d. **Secretary**
The Secretary shall create an agenda for all meetings, and record, maintain, and distribute the meeting minutes. The Secretary shall take attendance of all those present at group meetings. The Secretary shall also maintain the membership list and the email database.

Article VI: Election of Executive Board

Section 1: Elections

Elections will take place annually, at the end of the spring semester. Members can be nominated for a position by another member, officer, or self-nomination. Officers will be elected by a 2/3 majority of the members present at the election meeting. The winners will become “officers-elect”, working together with the official officer of their designated position for the remainder of the year.

Section 2: Officer Transition

The newly-elected officers will become “officers-elect”, working together with the official officer of their designated position for the remainder of the year.

Section 3: Vacancies

A vacant office will be temporarily filled by either a current officer or a willing and able member until a new member is successfully elected.

Article VII: Meetings

There will be at least one general meeting per month. Other meetings will be organized as the need arises.

Article VIII: Dues

Dues will be determined by the Executive Committee, and will be paid once per semester. They will be used to fund our activities and service projects.

Article IX: University Advisor

The University advisor must be a full time professional faculty or staff person. His/Her duties shall include attending meetings and events, offering advice, and connecting SAEYC to additional service opportunities.

Article X: Dissolution and Disbursal of Assets

A recommendation for dissolution of the organization, approved by at least 75% of the members of the Executive Committee, shall be submitted to the membership for action. Such a recommendation is presented orally at a meeting called for that purpose. The recommendation must then be approved by a simple majority of the voting membership. The University of Delaware shall inherit the assets of any Registered Student Organization should the group become defunct.

Article XI: Changes to Constitution

Section 1: Ratification

The constitution shall be written and discussed by the Executive Committee and brought to the membership. It shall be ratified by two-thirds of the members present at a meeting called for such a purpose. Written notice shall be given at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Section 2: Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any time by an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the members present at a meeting called for such a purpose with written notice of the proposed amendment having been presented to the entire membership at least seven days prior to the meeting. Amendments may be proposed by any member of SAEYC and shall be approved by the Executive Committee before submission to the entire membership.