

## College Democrats of Missouri Constitution

### 1. Organization name

1. For all promotional and organizational purposes, this organization shall be called College Democrats of Missouri.

### 2. Ratification

1. Upon completion of drafting the constitution, the constitution will be voted on, and must receive “Yes” votes from 2/3rds of the Executive Board members. Upon ratification, the Constitution will be recognized as the supreme law within the organization. No action taken by an executive officer can go against the College Democrats of Missouri Constitution, and officers who do not follow the Constitution are subject to losing their position.

### 3. Purpose

1. The College Democrats of Missouri will fight for the values of all college students in the State of Missouri. Through lobbying members of the State Legislature, to working on campaigns, College Democrats of Missouri will work to make sure the youth voice is heard in Jefferson City and abroad. College Democrats of Missouri will also serve as an extension of the Democratic Party and College Democrats of America, representing their values and beliefs in our actions.
  - i. The College Democrats of Missouri State Convention will be held annually at Hannibal Democrat Days in Hannibal, MO. All chapter of College Democrats of Missouri will be encouraged to attend.

### 4. Executive Board

#### 1. President

- i. The President shall be the executive director of the Executive Board. The President will also be the chief operator of the College Democrats of Missouri. The President will work with all officers, and will direct the focus of the organization. The President will also represent the organization at the College Democrats of America Conventions, as well as various state conventions. The President will also have the power to appoint affiliated members to executive positions if the position has been open for more than 14 days; these appointments must be approved by a majority of the executive board members. The President also has the power to create new executive positions as deemed necessary. All new positions must receive approval by the Executive Board. Approval is defined as a simple majority. The President will have the power to propose the apportionment of funds to various campaigns and initiatives; Appropriation of funds will need approval by a majority of executive

board members. The President will also be in charge of organizing the College Democrats of Missouri State Convention (See section 7). The term for the President is one year, and no President can run for more than 2 terms. The President will be elected at the State Convention.

2. The Vice President

- i. The Vice President will be the second-in-command of the Executive Board. If the office of the Presidency is vacant, the Vice-President will fill the position until the next State Convention. The Vice-President is responsible for working with all executive board members to create progress within the organization. The Vice President will be in charge of reaching out to non-college affiliated organizations in order to grow the organization. The Vice-President will be responsible for conducting the business of College Democrats of Missouri during the quarterly meetings and State Conventions. The term for Vice President is 1 year, and no one can run the office of Vice President for more than 2 terms. The Vice President will be elected at the State Convention. The Vice President will also take minutes at meetings in addition to presiding over the elections process.

3. Communications Director

- i. The Communications Director has the responsibility of managing several aspects of CDMO communications. They are to keep track of any email lists, social media accounts, and a website, in addition to updating them regularly with content. They also are in charge of press releases or any other press related actions. The Communications Director will be elected at the state convention.

4. Political Director

- i. The Political Director is responsible for the political activities of CDMO. They are in charge of working with campaign partnerships, providing voter registration and campaign resources to chapters, and organizing statewide efforts to support Democratic candidates. They should primarily be focusing on voter registration, get out the vote efforts, and canvassing during election cycles. There should be plans for these cycles made during the off years. They're also responsible for protests, keeping track of legislation that would impact college students, and ensuring CDMO has a voice in these efforts. The Political Director will be elected at the state convention.

5. Development Director

- i. The Development Director will be responsible for all the financial obligations of the organization. The Development Director will be the

chief fundraiser, as well as distributor of funds to the organization's members. The Development Director must also maintain a transparent and complete record of all financial transactions that take place within the organization. The term for the Development Director will be one year, and no one can run the office for more than 2 terms. The Development Director will be elected at the State Convention.

6. Membership Director
  - i. The Membership Director is responsible for the outreach activities of the organization. The Membership Director will work with all college chapters to expand membership, as well as reaching out to new chapters. The Membership Director will be responsible for handling all documentation and gathering of information for each college chapter. The term for Membership Director will be one year, and no one can run the office for more than 2 terms. The Membership Director will be elected at the State Convention.
7. Programs Director
  - i. The Programs Director is in charge of organizing the state convention, in addition to any leadership retreats, socials, or other events that CDMO does. They will be coordinating the entire effort and get to make any convention related decisions, though they can be overridden by a majority of the executive board if they are doing something the majority disagrees with. The Programs Director is elected at the state convention.
5. Affiliates within the organization
  1. Any progressive leaning or democratic collegiate group who wishes to affiliate themselves with the College Democrats of Missouri will follow these steps:
    - i. An official written document expressing intent to petition must be turned in to the President via e-mail, fax, or through the mail.
    - ii. The group must have a written constitution, as well as an executive officer board that has been elected by a majority of the members of each respective group.
    - iii. The group must turn in an exhaustive list of active members.
    - iv. The group must also open their social media pages for full review by the Executive Officer Board.
    - v. Upon completion of the tasks above, the Executive Officer Board must approve the petition of the respective organization. Approval is defined as a simple majority of members voting in favor of acceptance.
  2. Affiliates with role within the organization

- i. Affiliates will work alongside the College Democrats of Missouri to educate college students and advocate for Democratic issues across the state of Missouri.
- ii. Affiliates will not have any obligation towards the College Democrats of Missouri, however cooperation and teamwork will be encouraged through constant communication and joint events.
- iii. College Democrats of Missouri reserves the right to unaffiliate themselves with any registered chapters by a 2/3 vote of the executive board.

## 6. Elections

### 1. Electing College Democrats of Missouri Officers

- i. The Election of CDMO officers will occur annually at every State Convention. All of the officers will be up for re-election at every State Convention, regardless if the officer has served the entire term.

### 2. Steps to running for an Executive Officer position

- i. All individuals seeking to run for office must complete the guidelines listed below. This includes incumbents running for re-election:
  1. The potential candidate must write out their intent to run for office, specifically stating which office they wish to run for. This written letter of intention must be emailed, faxed, or otherwise sent to the President of the organization at least 7 days before the State Convention.
  2. The potential candidate must prove active membership in one of the chartered groups.
  3. Candidate must be a full time undergraduate student enrolled in an accredited Missouri higher education institution to run for office.
  4. The potential candidate must write a written statement, to be made public, in regards to their intentions to run for office.
  5. It is the duty of the Secretary to inform candidates of their addition onto the ballot 5 days before the election. Election Process
  6. During the State Convention, each candidate will have 2-3 minutes to promote their candidacy.
  7. After all candidates have been allowed the opportunity to promote their candidacy, the entire convention body will vote for each position. This will be a roll call vote, and each member who shows up to the State Convention will receive one vote. In the event of a tie, the Executive Board will vote on the candidates.

## 7. Amending the Constitution

1. Any member of a chartered organization has the ability to offer an amendment to the Constitution. All amendments will be sent out to all chartered organizations.

After debate and discussion on the amendments, each CDMO executives will receive one vote. Each chartered organization will also receive one vote, which they can use to represent their organization in the constitutional process. For approval, an amendment must receive 3/4's majority vote.

2. Each Executive Board member has the ability to offer an amendment to nullify the current constitution and call for a rewrite of the College Democrats of Missouri Constitution. This amendment must be announced 21 days before a State Convention, and will be voted on by all members of the organization. Each member will receive one vote, and the amendment must receive 7/8 support. Upon approval, it is the responsibility of the CDMO Executive Board to write and approve a new constitution by the first quarterly meeting held after the State Convention.
8. Campaigns
1. The College Democrats of Missouri reserve the right to volunteer and disperse funds to any Democratic candidate in the State of Missouri. However, the College Democrats of Missouri, as an organization, does not have the right to work or volunteer for primary campaigns. Members of College Democrats of Missouri may campaign in any election they choose, provided they do not use the title of College Democrats of Missouri during their time with the campaign. The requirements for deciding which campaigns the College Democrats of Missouri will be as follows:
    - i. The Candidate in question must be affiliated with the Democratic Party.
    - ii. The Candidate in question must be in a contested election, being defined as a race in which there is one other candidate on the ballot.
    - iii. The Candidate must be seen as an efficient and effective Democrat, consistently representing Democratic values.
    - iv. After discussion and debate, the Executive Council must vote on which campaigns to commit the majority of organizational resources by a simple majority. Priority consideration will be given to state-wide campaigns, followed by General Assembly elections in highly valuable regions.
9. CDMO/YDMO Steering Committee
1. The College Democrats of Missouri and the Young Democrats of Missouri will consistently meet and work together to advocate for Democratic values across the State of Missouri. The Steering Committee will meet at times determined by the steering committee members. The Steering Committee will include the Presidents of both organizations, as well as 3 members of each organization that will be picked by the President.
  2. The Powers of the CDMO/YDMO Steering Committee
    - i. The Steering Committee will be as follows:

1. Ability to remove Executive Board members of both organization. Removal of Executive Board members must be voted on and approved by 7 of the 8 members of the Steering Committee.
  - a. The petition to remove an Executive from office must be brought to the CDMO Executive Board and must be approved by 2/3rds of the Executive Board
2. Ability to cooperate and form a strategy for statewide initiatives and statewide campaigns.
3. Ability to share information, resources and members in order to assist in organization growth.
4. Any other actions that the Steering Committee wants to pursue must be approved by both of the Executive Boards of each organization.