

**RULES
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER**

**CHAPTER 1720-3-4
THE REGISTRATION AND CONDUCT OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

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1720-3-4-.01 INTRODUCTION.

- (1) When groups of students wish to have a continuous association, intended to last beyond the term of those immediately involved, it is proper that they be required to qualify for and be registered at the University. All registered associations should be accorded the same privileges and bound by the same obligations. University registration does not mean endorsement of the purposes or activities of any association by the faculty or administration. It means only that the association is accepted as meeting the minimum requirements set for all student associations.
- (2) National professional fraternities and sororities have their own governing and advisory organizations. Acceptance of these organizations as responsible agencies, through which the University may deal with their affiliates on the campus, is a part of the continuing University registration.

Authority: *Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, Chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, Chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995.

1720-3-4-.02 STUDENT ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION.

- (1) Any association of students wishing to have itself registered officially as a campus organization in order to utilize University facilities or funds allocated by the state for student activities must submit an application for review by the Student Government Association Executive Council (SGAEC).
 - (a) The Student Government Association's Executive Council may recommend registration of any student organization to the Office of Student Life.
 - (b) The Office of Student Life will advise, in writing, the student organization seeking registration within thirty days whether or not the recommendation is approved.
 - (c) The decision of the Office of Student Life may be appealed to the Vice Chancellor for University Relations.
 - (d) The Vice Chancellor for University Relations will review the appeal and advise the Office of Student Life of his decision.

Authority: *T.C.A. §4-9-209(e). Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995. Amendment filed November 17, 2000; effective March 30, 2001. Amendment filed February 25, 2002; effective June 28, 2002.

1720-3-4-.03 OBTAINING REGISTRATION.

- (1) Procedure: Any group wishing registration must file application with the Office of Student Life. The Office of Student Life in turn must submit to the Student Government Association's Executive Council for review and recommendation.
 - (a) Failure of Office of Student Life to submit application of Student Government Association's Executive Council at their next meeting will be justification for organization to present their application to Student Government Association's Executive Council president for action at the subsequent meeting.
- (2) Constitution: Any group petitioning for registration as a student organization must present a constitution following a standard form to facilitate reference. Professional fraternities may be required to submit the equivalent national affiliation or other pertinent information. The constitution must contain the following information.
 - (a) The name of the organization.
 - (b) A statement of purpose for the organization.
 - (c) Membership eligibility requirements.
 - (d) A listing of officers by title, and any special functions of the offices.
 - (e) A statement of the terms of the officers, and time and method of election.
 - (f) Frequency of meetings.
 - (g) A statement of any membership dues, including amount of frequency of payment and provision for disposition of any funds in the event of dissolution of the organization.
 - (h) Any other provision relating to the purpose and function of the particular organization.
- (3) Purpose: The statement of purpose shall be acceptable.
 - (a) If it is reasonably clear and specific as to the aims and activities of the organization.
 - (b) If the stated aims and activities of the organization are compatible with the academic function of the University, with the maintenance of order and propriety on the campus, and with the requirements of the University as a corporate entity with legal obligations.
- (4) Size and Continuity: No maximum or minimum number of members shall be required for registration. The group petitioning, however, and the anticipated membership as represented by the eligibility requirements, should be sufficient to give reasonable prospects of continuity for the organization, and ability to carry out the purposes stated in the constitution.
- (5) Membership, Eligibility and Records: Voting membership in registered student organizations shall be limited to students of the University except where membership of faculty or other University staff is consistent with the structure and purpose stated in the constitution. Accurate membership records must be maintained and available to the faculty adviser.
- (6) Officers must be full-time students; if non-students, they must be members of the faculty or University staff. When an election is held in a registered student organization, the names of the new officers must be transmitted to the Office of Student Life.

(Rule 1720-3-4-.03, continued)

Authority: *Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, Chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, Chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed October 31, 1990; effective January 29, 1991. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995.

1720-3-4-.04 HAZING. Student organizations are prohibited from engaging in hazing activities.

Authority: T.C.A. §49-7-123. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed June 18, 1996; effective October 28, 1996.

1720-3-4-.05 AFFILIATION. Registered student organizations may be affiliated with organizations off the campus, where such affiliation is:

- (1) Clearly indicated, either by the title of the organization or its constitution at the time of registration, or by specific statements in connection with any activities growing out of a later affiliation.
- (2) Consistent with the purposes set forth in the constitution of the organization, and with the provisions of this document governing student association on the campus.
- (3) Not such as to change significantly the nature of the organization is an associate of students, with primary interests on the campus. University facilities may be reserved for organizational and other ad hoc meetings in keeping with the principles of this policy and with University regulations. Responsibility shall be fixed on the individual or individuals making the request. Groups which have not registered within a reasonable period of activity (normally a period of three months of a series of three meetings necessitating requests for University facilities) may be denied any of the privileges accorded students organizations. All temporary groups are expected to follow the requirements of this policy for activities on campus, with regard to use of facilities, and the posting and distribution of printed materials.

Authority: *Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, Chapter 98, Section 5, and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, Chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995. (Formerly 1720-3-4-.04)

1720-3-4-.06 SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION THROUGH INACTIVITY.

- (1) When the organization does not show a reasonable amount of activity in promoting the ends and purposes in its constitution, as evidenced by membership meetings and other activities, registration may be suspended. Registered student organizations are expected to provide a brief report of their year's activity upon request of the Office of Student Life. An organization suspended through inactivity may be reactivated by application to the Office of Student Life, subject to review by the SGAEC, by a group reaffirming its existing constitution and showing reasonable prospects of organizational continuity. Registration may be withdrawn from any organization suspended as inactive for four years.

Authority: *Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, Chapter 98, Section 5, and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, Chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995. (Formerly 1720-3-4-.05)

1720-3-4-.07 SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION FOR CAUSE.

- (1) Registered student organizations are expected to conduct their activities in accordance with their constitutions, and with the procedure and limits set forth in this document. Any organization which ignores the procedure or exceeds the limits stated herein shall be warned by the Office of Student Life.

(Rule 1720-3-4-.07, continued)

If repeated or flagrant violations occur following such warning, registration of the organization may be suspended by the SGAEC, subject to appeal to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. A suspended organization may not hold their meetings on the campus, or otherwise request the privileges of a registered organization;

- (2) The group must petition for re-establishing by submitting a new constitution, or submitting the old one, in order to reactivate the organization.

Authority: *Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, Chapter 98, Section 5, and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, Chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995. (Formerly 1720-3-4-.06)

1720-3-4-.08 DENIAL OF REGISTRATION.

- (1) A refusal by the SGAEC to recommend to the Office of Student Life registration for a student organization must be based on one or more of the following:
 - (a) If the objective or purposes are illegal under local, state or federal laws or do not conform with regular University regulations.
 - (b) If the organization would in the opinion of the SGAEC constitute a clear and present danger to continued or proper functioning of the University, or if its purposes are outside of the educational functions of the University.
- (2) The SGAEC shall use the following procedures prior to any recommendations that an organization not be registered.
 - (a) If the organization's constitution does not conform with those requirements set forth in the policies governing student organizations, the council or its representative(s) shall meet informally with the organization in order to explain the violations and how the organization can meet the requirements by revising its constitution.
 - (b) If the violations are not eliminated or seem to fall under those criteria listed under Paragraph A above, the SGAEC shall hold a hearing to determine whether the organization should be registered.
 - (c) Prior to the hearing the SGAEC shall issue to the organization an order to show cause why registration should not be denied and stating the reasons for issuance of said show cause order.
 - (d) It shall notify the organization in writing of the date, time, and place of hearing before the SGAEC on the show cause order.
 - (e) It shall permit the organization to appear at the hearing with an advisor of its choice and to present evidence and argument in its behalf.
 - (f) If the SGAEC determines that registration should not be granted, it shall issue a written report, a copy of which must be given to the organization, explaining the reasons for its negative recommendations to the Vice Chancellor for University Relations.

Authority: *T.C.A. §49-9-209(e), Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, Chapter 98, §5, and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, Chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed September 15, 1976; effective October 15, 1976. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed August 31, 1995; effective December 30, 1995. Amendment filed February 25, 2002; effective June 28, 2002.