

**RULES  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN**

**CHAPTER 1720-5-2  
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

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**1720-5-2-.01 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.**

- (1) Although the primary purpose of the University is academic, voluntary associations of students are an important part of the educational process. The University has a positive responsibility to encourage such associations as a means by which students can develop full civic and social awareness. In doing so it neither endorses nor disclaims any particular idea, system of thought or point of view. The ultimate testing place for all of these is not in any one office or council, but in the minds of responsible citizenry.
- (2) When groups of students wish to have a continuous association causing them to congregate for activities on the campus, requiring from time to time the use of University facilities, and holding themselves out to the general public as a group centered on the campus, it is proper that they be registered by the University. All registered associations shall be accorded the same privileges and bound by the same obligations. Registration by the University does not constitute endorsement of the purposes or activities of an association by the faculty, administration or student body.

*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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986.

**1720-5-2-.02 TYPES OF REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.** With the exception of social fraternities and sororities whose relationship with the institution requires a more detailed and exacting peer and administrative review, any group of students may seek to register as either a Continuing or Temporary Registered Student 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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986.

**1720-5-2-.03 CONTINUING REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.** Any group of at least 10 students meeting the requirements contained herein whose purpose for existing is presumed to endure beyond a given academic semester is considered a Continuing Registered Student 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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed January 13, 1999; effective May 31, 1999.

**1720-5-2-.04 TEMPORARY REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.** Any group of at least 10 students meeting the requirements contained herein whose purpose for existing is presumed to be less than 90 days is considered to be a Temporary Registered Student 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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986.

**1720-5-2-.05 REGISTRATION PROCESS.**

- (1) Any student group may apply for registration by submitting a petition form provided by the Office of Student Affairs and a typewritten copy of the proposed Constitution, signed by the promoting students and the proposed adviser, to the Dean of Students prior to the last two weeks of the academic semester. Up to three meetings are allowed for organizational purposes. All local Constitutions must contain the following information:
  - (a) The name of the organization;
  - (b) A statement of the organization's purpose;
  - (c) Membership eligibility requirements;
  - (d) Officers listed by title and function;
  - (e) A statement of the term of officers and the time and method of selection;
  - (f) A statement that the president will submit to the Office of Student Affairs an updated list of officers within two weeks of their election and will comply with requests to provide a brief report on their year's activity;
  - (g) Frequency of meetings;
  - (h) A statement of any dues, including amount and frequency of collection;
  - (i) Provision for faculty adviser(s);
  - (j) A statement that the organization will not discriminate against any person for reasons which are illegal;
  - (k) Provision for disposition of funds upon dissolution of the organization.
- (2) Recommendations for approval are forwarded to the University Council for action and then to the Chancellor for approval.

*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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed January 13, 1999; effective May 31, 1999.

**1720-5-2-.06 DENIAL OF REGISTRATION.**

- (1) Refusal to recommend registration of a student organization must be based on one or more of the following grounds:

(Rule 1720-5-2-.06, continued)

- (a) If the statement of purpose or the proposal activities are illegal under local, state or federal laws or does not conform with written University regulations.
- (b) If the organization would, in the opinion of the University Council or Chancellor, constitute clear and present danger of the continued or proper functioning of the University.

**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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Amendment filed August 27, 1981; effective November 30, 1981. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986.

#### **1720-5-2-.07 TERMS OF REGISTRATION.**

- (1) An updated list of registered organizations is prepared each semester by the Office of Student Affairs. Organizations must complete the Semester Information Form provided by the Office of Student Affairs in order to be included on the official list.
- (2) A student organization may be removed from the list of registered organizations by the Office of Student Affairs if.
  - (a) The organization does not show a reasonable amount of activity in promoting the ends and purposes specified in its constitution, as evidenced by membership meetings and other activities.
  - (b) The organization violated University regulations, including those governing student organizations, or local, state and federal laws.

**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 August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. Amendment filed January 13, 1999; effective May 31, 1999

**1720-5-2-.08 HAZING.** Student organizations are prohibited from engaging in hazing activities.

**Authority:** *T.C.A. §49-7-123 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed June 18, 1996; effective October 28, 1996.

#### **1720-5-2-.09 AFFILIATIONS.**

- (1) Registered student organizations may be affiliated with an organization off the campus, where such affiliation is:
  - (a) Clearly indicated by the title of the organization or its constitution.
  - (b) Consistent with the purposes set forth in the constitution.
  - (c) Not such as to change significantly the nature of the organization as an association of students with primary interest on campus.

**Authority:** *Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, chapter 64. Administrative History:* Original rule filed August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Amendment filed August 27, 1981; effective November 30, 1981. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. (Formerly 1720-5-2-.08)

**1720-5-2-.10 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND PENALTIES.** Student organizations should respect the rights of all members of the University community. The following categories of conduct subject organizations to disciplinary action by University officials ranging from disciplinary warnings up through withdrawal of charters: Hazing, disorderly conduct, interference with activities of the University, other organizations or individuals; poor academic performance or social misconduct and improper discrimination.

*Authority:* Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, chapter 64. *Administrative History:* Original rule filed August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. (Formerly 1720-5-2-.09) Amendment filed January 13, 1999; effective May 31, 1999.

**1720-5-2-.11 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.** University policy prohibits any student organization from serving or permitting the consumption, possession or display of any alcoholic beverage or containers at any time, or by anyone on University premises. Student organization officers are responsible for refusing admission to their social gatherings of persons under the influence of alcoholic beverages. Student organizations sponsoring any social affairs are responsible for its general decorum.

*Authority:* Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, chapter 64. *Administrative History:* Original rule filed August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. (Formerly 1720-5-2-.10)

**1720-5-2-.12 MISCELLANEOUS.** Additional clarification of policies and procedures and sample constitutions may be obtained in the Office of Student Affairs. Staff members will work with officials of student organizations to help them organize, plan training programs for officers and resolve problems which may arise.

*Authority:* Public Acts of Tennessee, 1839-1840, chapter 98, Section 5 and Public Acts of Tennessee, 1807, chapter 64. *Administrative History:* Original rule filed August 22, 1980; effective December 1, 1980. Amendment filed August 27, 1981; effective November 30, 1981. Amendment filed July 29, 1983; effective October 14, 1983. Repeal and new rule filed May 27, 1986; effective August 12, 1986. (Formerly 1720-5-2-.12) Amendment filed January 13, 1999; effective May 31, 1999.