

- 6.43 Any Component funds that are expended on behalf of student organizations will be maintained by the Component. Both the advisor of the organization and the designated officer of the organization must authorize any expenditures from the organization's account. All university funds (such as those generated by student service fees) expended for the benefit of student organizations must be expended from budgeted Component accounts.
- 6.44 All Component-provided funds of registered student organizations are subject to audit by the Component. Failure to maintain adequate records may be considered in determining whether a student organization may maintain its registered status.
- 6.45 Student organizations, their officers, and sponsors are responsible for assuring that they comply with all applicable Texas State University System, State, and Federal *Rules and Regulations*, including tax code compliance.
- 6.46 Each Component may develop applicable policies and procedures to promote fiscal integrity and accountability for student organizations.

## 7. PARTICIPATION IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

- 7.1 Student Government. The student governments currently authorized at the Components of the System are hereby approved. Student government has no existence separate and apart from the Component, and student government shall have only such jurisdiction and exercise only such powers as the Board may now, or hereafter, delegate to it through the Component President.
  - 7.11 Constitutions and Bylaws Approved. The constitutions and bylaws of the several student governments in force at the date of adoption of these *Rules and Regulations* are hereby approved to the extent that they are not in conflict with such *Rules and Regulations*.
  - 7.12 Mode of Amending Constitutions and Bylaws. An amendment to the constitution or bylaws of a student government may be adopted by an association in accordance with its constitution and bylaws, but the change shall not become effective until transmitted to and acted upon by the Chief Student Affairs Officer and approved by the Component President.
  - 7.13 Amendment or Repeal by the Board of Regents. The Board shall amend or repeal any portion of the constitution and bylaws of a student government when, in the judgment of the Board, the interests of the particular Component shall require it.
  - 7.14 Amendment or Repeal by the President. The President shall have the power to amend or repeal any provision in the constitution or bylaws of the student government, when in the President's

judgment, the interests of the Component require it. The action by the President shall be subject to review *Subparagraph 7.13*, above.

- 7.15 Persons Compensated by Student Government. All persons employed on salary or compensated for personal services in any manner by or under the direct supervision of the student government shall have the approval of the Chief Student Affairs Officer and shall be subject to prior approval by the President or a designated appointee both as to salary and as to qualifications. This authority shall not be exercised in a manner that would infringe upon the constitutionally protected rights of students.
- 7.16 Annual Financial Reports. The Chief Student Affairs Officer shall require the officially recognized student government to make available, on an annual basis, a complete financial report to the Component business officer, as well as such special reports as may be called for by such business officer. A duplicate copy of each report shall be filed with the Chief Student Affairs Officer.
- 7.2 Rights and Obligations of Student Government. The student government on each campus shall be a recognized forum of student opinion.
  - 7.21 When a student government takes a position on issues directly related to a Component and its operations, it shall forward its recommendations to the Chief Student Affairs Officer and the President. This *Subparagraph* shall not prohibit the student government from free expression of its position.
  - 7.22 When a student government takes a position on non-Component issues, it shall make clear the fact that it does not speak for the Component.
  - 7.23 A student government may conduct polls, initiate petitions, and/or establish forums for debate or discussion; and, said action shall be regulated only as to time, place, and manner but shall be subject to *Chapter VII, Subparagraph 3.3*.
  - 7.24 Officers of a student government may so identify themselves when they express their personal views, but they shall then make it clear that they are not speaking for the Component or for the student body; and, they shall make it clear they are not speaking for the student government unless the legislative body of that government has authorized the statement in advance.
- 7.3 Stipends. A Component may authorize the student government to grant fair and reasonable stipends to elected student body officers provided such stipends are paid from student fees and are first authorized by a one time referendum vote of the student body. Thereafter, stipends are subject to approval by authorized student governments. The granting by student governments of such stipends shall not establish an employer/employee relationship with the Component, and the subject student officers shall not receive employee benefits from the Component. The provisions of

*Subparagraph 7.15* above shall apply to the setting of the compensation of student body officers.

7.4 President's Authority. The Component President has authority over all its activities, policies, contractual agreements, and financial matters of student government, provided said authority does not infringe on the free exercise of the constitutional rights of the students or the student government.

8. USE OF THE STUDENT CENTER.

The use of the student center or student union facilities on the campus of each Component shall be subject to reasonable and nondiscriminatory regulations as may be promulgated by that center's director or governing board and approved by the Chief Student Affairs Officer and the President.

9. STUDENT DEBTS.

9.1 Debts of Students or Organizations. Neither the System nor any Component is responsible for debts contracted by individual students or by student organizations. All students and student organizations are expected to conduct themselves honorably in all commercial transactions. Neither the System nor any Component will assume the role of a collection agency except for monies owed to the System or one of its Components; nor, will the System or any of its Components adjudicate disputes between students and creditors over the existence or the amounts of debts, except with the prior approval of the President of the Components or a designated appointee in those cases where the interests of the Component may be a factor.

9.2 Students' Financial Obligations. Students are expected to meet their financial obligations to the Component within the designated time allowed. Registration fees are payable at the time of registration, and students are not entitled to enter class or laboratory until their fees and deposits have been paid. Other charges and financial obligations are due at registration or within ten days after a bill is rendered by the Component or according to the special payment instructions that may be printed on the bill.

9.3 Penalties for Failure to Pay. Failure to pay in the allotted time the amount owed to the Component for tuition, fees, charges, or any other financial obligations may result in any or all of the following:

- (1) Dismissal from the Component or other disciplinary actions;
- (2) Withholding of future registration privileges;
- (3) Withholding the issuance of grades or an official certified transcript;
- (4) Withholding the conferring of a degree;