

**SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
SCISSA**

SCISSA was organized for the purpose of promoting and encouraging fellowship, activities, and interest on a state-wide basis among students in member schools of the South Carolina Independent School Association in academic excellence, in leadership and citizenship, and in good student government.

SCISSA sponsors such student activities throughout the year as a summer leadership workshop, a fall conference at the State Capitol, student exchange week, Student Council of the Year and Honor Society of the Year Awards, and also a spring convention held in Myrtle Beach in March. Officers for the year are elected at the spring convention. Annual membership dues are twenty dollars per year, per school. Dues should be sent to the SCISA office by September 15th. The association encourages member schools to participate in SCISSA and its activities.

BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Revised and adopted September 20, 1994 (see article VIII, Section I)

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the South Carolina Independent School Student Association (SCISSA).

Section 2. The purpose of this Association shall be to promote and encourage fellowship, activities, and interests on a state-wide basis among students in member schools of the South Carolina Independent School Association; in academic excellence, leadership, citizenship, and in good student government.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All schools of the South Carolina Independent School Association shall be eligible for membership in this organization and shall be declared members in good standing upon payment of annual dues as prescribed.

Section 2. A member school shall be represented in this organization by a delegation of students numbering no more than *eight, who shall be selected by each school based on its own election criteria and procedures, and from members of the school's Student Council and Honor Society. Officers of this Association are not to be counted as part of the school's delegation (*Note: to comply with State House rules and fire codes, fall conference delegations shall be limited to 4 students and 1 adult sponsor.)

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Historian elected annually from delegations of member schools, and a Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian appointed by the President. The Parliamentarian shall not be from the same school as the President.

Section 2. The term of elected office shall be for one year, said term beginning at the close of the spring convention. Should an elected office become vacant during the course of the year, it shall be filled by an alternate selected by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV – ELECTION AND REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The election of officers shall be held on the last day of the annual spring convention. Candidates for office must qualify to run for office by a personal letter from the candidate to the Secretary or by nomination from the floor at the convention. In order to qualify to run for the office of President, a candidate must have previously held some prior office on his/her Student Council or Honor Society at his/her school.

Section 2. Election will be by secret ballot with each delegation to the convention casting one vote for each office. Election ballots shall be tabulated by a Ballot Committee chaired by the Secretary and composed of two additional members selected by the President from among different delegations. Results shall be announced by the President. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In the event a run-off is necessary, only the two candidates with the greatest number of votes will be re-voted. In the case of a tie between these two candidates, the members of the Ballot Committee will break the tie by secret ballots.

Section 3. Any officer may be removed from office for failure to carry out the duties specified in these By-Laws or for any other actions which are detrimental to the welfare and best interests of this Association. Removal will be decided by the SCISA Executive Secretary and the SCISA State Student Government Advisor.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall be a senior and shall have general supervision over the affairs of this Association. He/she shall call the meeting of general membership and Executive Committee, and shall preside over same. He/she shall represent SCISSA at all official functions, to include serving as the student representative when called in business conducted by the South Carolina Independent School Association. He/she shall appoint the Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian.

Section 2. The office of Vice-President shall be held by two Vice-Presidents, each at least a junior. One shall be chosen from and represent a Student Council. He/she shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence and any duties delegated by the President. The other shall be chosen from and represent an Honor Society and perform any duties delegated by the President.

Section 3. The Recording Secretary shall be at least a sophomore. He/she shall keep minutes of all meetings of general membership and executive committee, and maintain attendance of all state meetings, providing voucher support for collection of dues and fees by the Treasurer.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be at least a junior. He/she shall be responsible for the receipt and disbursement of SCISSA funds and for keeping accurate records pertaining thereto.

Section 5. The Historian shall be at least a sophomore. He/she shall be responsible for preserving a record of the activities and artifacts of the Association and for compiling a volume of history pertaining thereto and covering his/her term of office.

Section 6. The Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the President and shall render assistance to the President in matters of official correspondence.

Section 7. The Parliamentarian shall be a senior and shall be appointed by the President. He/she shall be responsible that the business of the Association is conducted in accordance with parliamentary procedure and provision of the By-Laws, and shall arrange the offering of prayer as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE VI - ADVISORS

Section 1. There shall be a faculty advisor appointed by member schools for each elected officer.

Section 2. The Executive Secretary of the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA) shall be an advisor to coordinate functions of the Association with those of SCISA. He will supervise the transfer of records and the audit of funds between outgoing and incoming officers.

ARTICLE VII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. It shall consist of the officers and advisors of this Association and shall have responsibility of planning the business and functions of the Association.

Section 2. It shall meet on call of the President and require a quorum of the officer members to conduct business. Urgent business may be conducted through correspondence initiated by the President.

Section 3. It shall have the power to establish dues on an annual basis, the announcement of such dues to be communicated to all member schools of the South Carolina Independent School Association.

Section 4. Matters on contention brought before the Committee shall be decided by a majority vote of the officer members. In the event of a tie, a vote by the Executive Secretary of SCISA will be deciding.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1. A general meeting open to all delegations in good standing shall be held at least each fall and spring, the latter to be a convention to elect officers. IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE SPRING CONVENTION, A SCISSA SCHOOL MUST ATTEND EITHER THE SUMMER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP OF THE FALL CONFERENCE.

Section 2. At each general meeting, the President shall review business conducted by the Executive Committee, which is deemed of interest to or requires the approval of the general membership.

Section 3. For the transaction of any business that may be presented before the general membership, with the exception of the election of officers and the amendment of these By-Laws, a quorum of thirty percent of member delegations in good standing must be present. Each delegation shall have one vote, with a majority deciding.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to the By-Laws may be submitted to any general meeting provided they have been communicated to all member delegations in good standing at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Fifty percent of member delegations must be present at a meeting, with two-thirds vote of the delegations present in favor of amending these By-Laws, each delegation having one vote.

INFORMATION

Due to State House rules and in compliance with fire codes, attendance at the Fall Conference shall be limited to four students and one advisor.

NO FOOD, DRINK, OR CHEWING GUM IS ALLOWED IN THE STATE HOUSE.
NO GUM IS ALLOWED AT ANY SCISSA FUNCTION.
ONLY THE FOOD AND DRINK ORDERED/SERVED BY SCISSA AS A MEAL OR REFRESHMENT IS ALLOWED.
DRESS CLOTHES ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL SCISSA FUNCTIONS
(NO BLUE JEANS OR SHORTS)

In order to attend the spring convention a school must:

- **Attend at least the Summer Leadership Conference or Fall Conference**
- **Submit (with the Spring Convention registration forms) an entry report in The Student Council of the Year and/or The National Honor Society of the Year competition.**
- **A school must register at least one candidate for office and assist with the campaign, or register to take a pro/con side of at least one resolution topic and prepare to debate.**

EACH ADVISOR SHOULD OBTAIN A COPY OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL STUDENT ASSOCIATION (SCISSA). ADVISORS OF ELECTED SCISSA OFFICERS SHOULD ATTEND THE SCISSA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS.