

Student Chapter Formation Policy

Date Approved: February 1988
Date Revised: August 2013

Rationale:

Student chapters of the Florida Public Relations Association are an important part of the FPRA brand. Student chapters offer FPRA the opportunity to improve public relations education and set high standards for future professionals. Student chapters also acquaint future PR practitioners with FPRA and the importance of belonging to a professional association. FPRA student chapters are an excellent method for recruiting future members and leaders for FPRA. Though hosted by educational institutions which meet the criteria established by FPRA, FPRA student chapters are chartered by FPRA and must be operated in accordance with FPRA bylaws, policies and branding standards.

Procedure:

Criteria for maintaining a chartered FPRA Student Chapter include:

1. The host educational institution must have a public relations major, track or sequence.
2. The student chapter must have a faculty advisor who is a professional member of FPRA.
3. The student chapter must submit its bylaws, budget, names of current board of directors, and their positions, as well as the chapter membership recruitment goal for the academic year, to the State Office and the FPRA Student Services chair by September 30th of each year.
4. Only FPRA student members in good standing are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors of an FPRA Student Chapter. The Board of Directors should include one or more Directors directly responsible for FPRA student member recruitment.
5. Any full-time student enrolled in an accredited college or university, pursuing studies in public relations, communications, journalism or a related field, shall be eligible for membership. Student membership is defined as dues paying member of the State Association. Students who participate in student chapter activities but are not FPRA student members as defined above are not allowed to identify themselves as such in any manner nor receive other benefits exclusively reserved for FPRA student members.
6. Though FPRA Student Chapter names may include a unique identifying component, FPRA must be included in the name (i.e., The University of Central Florida "Quotes" Chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association).
7. In the event there is any conflict between the FPRA Student Chapter and/or university bylaws or policies and the bylaws or policies of the State Association, the bylaws and policies of the State Association will prevail.
8. Failure to follow the procedures included in this policy may result in the dissolution of the FPRA student chapter by the FPRA State Boards of Directors.

Responsibility:

The host professional chapter plays an important role in the success of student chapters, acting as an advisor/mentor. However, final responsibility for approval lies with the State Board.

Resources:

All costs associated with the Student Chapter such as mailing chapter newsletters and other chapter communications are the responsibility of the Student Chapter. Student chapters may assess dues above the FPRA student dues (\$30) for their own treasury (not to exceed \$15)