

Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Association
Constitution and Bylaws
(Adopted 2016, Amended Dec 2022)

CONSTITUTION

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the “*Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Association*” (RGV-TSA) and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Association (RGV-TSA) shall not be operated for profit and was not established for such purpose. The Association shall be organized and operated exclusively for education, research and scientific purposes in the curriculum area of career and technology education (CTE) to further its interest and welfare as an integral part of education in the South Texas region. In doing so, the Association shall:

1. Improve and advance the quality of career and technology education instruction in the South Texas schools.
2. Define the functions and scope of career and technology education in education.
3. Encourage the development of leadership among education teachers by providing a means through which an individual’s contributions in research, service and leadership may be recognized and rewarded.
4. Cooperate with all agencies and organizations in the promotion of career and technology education, for teachers and students alike.

ARTICLE III - RIGHTS, POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Association shall have and possess all the rights, powers and privileges given to associations by common law and shall be responsible for the impartial exercise thereof.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Association shall consist of the following classes: Active, Associate, Student, Honorary and Retired active. Annual memberships begin the date the RGV TSA Executive board designee receives verification of National TSA membership.

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ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary / Treasurer. Any Executive Board Committee member may be designated as the Association's TTEA / TCEA representative.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Board Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the Association. The President shall be chairperson of the Executive Committee and shall preside at Associations meetings and the Executive Committee meetings.

ARTICLE VII - AFFILIATION

SECTION 1: Any group, club, or organization within the South Texas region, known as Region One, which is organized and operated for education, research and scientific purposes in the curriculum area of Career & Technology Education may become affiliated with this Association, as long as said organization is affiliated by the National TSA. Schools affiliated after the regional contest deadlines may be ineligible to compete that year.

SECTION 2: Any group, club, or organization that is located outside of the South Texas region, known as Region One, which is organized and operated for education, research and scientific purposes in the curriculum area of Career & Technology Education, who finds themselves without an affiliation with closer proximity, may become affiliated with this Association, as long as said organization is affiliated by the National TSA.

SECTION 3: This Association may affiliate or become allied with another organization having the same purposes, such as The Association of Texas Technology Education.

SECTION 4: To maintain official affiliation with the Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Association a school should send a representative to 50% of the regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

SECTION 5: Paid affiliation with the Technology Student Association (National and state dues) for students and advisors is required for participation in all RGV TSA sponsored events. Designated advisor attendance is required to the meeting prior to leadership and the meeting prior to regional competition. Failure to attend required meetings will result in the issuance of a written warning that will be sent to the school administrator and CTE director.

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ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

SECTION 1: A minimum of one meeting monthly during the school calendar shall be held and shall include a business section.

SECTION 2: The time and place of the monthly meeting shall be selected by the membership.

SECTION 3: The Executive Committee shall call any special meeting of the Association when deemed necessary.

SECTION 4: A minimum of 50% of designated voting members or an advisor's proxy shall be necessary for a quorum for the transacting of business.

SECTION 5: Each school may send as many advisors to the meetings, as deemed necessary, but all must be members of the Association and registered with the Technology Student Association (National and State levels).

SECTION 6: Each school will be allotted one voting delegate, who must be a member of the Association and registered with the Technology Student Association (National and State levels).

SECTION 7: All contest specifications, including but not limited to: Dates, Times, Entries, Regulations, Rules, Coordinators, Procedures and Judges, shall be finalized during the meeting prior to each competition, but the Executive Board Committee, made up of elected officials has the right to make decisions on behalf of the Association, in case of unforeseen emergencies or urgent needs.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by:

- . A two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee
- b.** A petition signed by two-thirds of the members
- c.** Any member may suggest amendments by a written proposal to the Executive Committee, who will present it to the association.

SECTION 2: Amendments to the RGVTSA Constitution may be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting, provided that notice of said amendments have been previously emailed to the membership and posted on the RGVTSA website one week prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION

It is the expressed intent and desire of Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Association to be organized and operated exclusively for education, research and scientific purposes. Therefore, should the Association ever be dissolved, all assets shall be awarded only to another organization having the same tax-exempt status (501C3) as the Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Assoc.

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BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: There shall be five classes of membership designated as follows: (a) Active; (b) Associate; (c) Student; (d) Honorary; and (e) Retired Active.

SECTION 2: Active Membership shall be open to all persons within the South Texas region who are engaged in the teaching or supervising of technology instruction at any level, upon payment of the national and state TSA dues and verification with the Executive board designee.

SECTION 3: Associate Membership shall be open to all persons within the South Texas region who are not engaged in the teaching or supervising of technology instruction at any level, upon payment of the national and state TSA dues and verification with the Executive board designee. The Associate Member shall then have all rights and privileges of the active member except the right to hold office.

SECTION 4: Student Membership shall be restricted to full-time students in colleges or universities enrolled in the areas of CTE or STEM. They shall be granted the same rights and privileges as Active Members with the exception of holding office and casting a vote.

SECTION 5: Honorary Membership shall be bestowed upon a person whose long and distinguished contribution to technology education is recognized by action of the membership. A minimum of two years of contribution is required. Honorary members shall have all rights and privileges of an Active Member except the right to vote, hold office, or to represent the Association. The membership may not award more than one Honorary Membership each year. Any member may submit names for Honorary Membership to the Vice President.

SECTION 6: Retired Active Membership shall be open to all persons who were members of the Association when they retired from the teaching profession. The retired Active Member shall be granted the same rights and privileges as an Active Member with the exception of holding office and casting a vote.

SECTION 8: Any chapter in the RGV TSA must be affiliated with the National TSA on or before November 30 of the current academic calendar. The membership year for each chapter shall start on December 1 and end on November 30 of the following year.

SECTION 9: Individual membership may be sanctioned or membership may be revoked for actions which are detrimental to the welfare and function of the Association, the students it represents and/or contrary to the Association Constitution, Bylaws or Policy Manual, but only after a special meeting (which must be announced one week prior to the meeting date). At said meeting, two-thirds of the quorum must vote in favor of said sanctions or expulsion from the Association.

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ARTICLE II – DUES

SECTION 1: The membership dues for Active Membership shall be established by the National and State Technology Association. There are no local or regional Association membership dues.

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1: All RGV TSA registered and paid members shall be eligible to vote. Only Active and Members of the Rio Grande Valley Technology Student Association (RGV TSA) shall be eligible to hold office or to chair a standing committee, an operation committee or ad hoc committee.

SECTION 2: The President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer shall have been members of RGV TSA for a minimum of one-year immediately prior to nomination.

SECTION 3: Nominations shall be made by members only.

B. TERMS OF OFFICE

SECTION 1: The President shall be elected to serve for a term of one year.

SECTION 2: The Vice President shall be elected to serve for a term of one year. If the Vice President should resign, move out of the state or leave the technology education profession, a qualified person shall be elected by a majority vote of the Membership to finish the vacated term.

SECTION 3: The Secretary / Treasurer shall be elected to serve a term of one year. If the Secretary should resign, move out of the Region or leave the technology education profession, a qualified person shall be elected by a majority vote of the Membership to finish the vacated term.

SECTION 4: Any officer whose actions are deemed detrimental to the welfare and function of the Association, the students it represents and/or contrary to the Association Constitution, Bylaws or Policy Manual will be removed from office only after a special meeting (which must be announced one week prior to the meeting date) is held. Two-thirds of the quorum must vote in favor of said impeachment.

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C. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Executive Committee. The President shall call special meetings of the Executive Committee and/or the Association when necessary. The President shall perform all other duties pertaining to the office and shall represent the Association, as the office requires. The President may only cast a vote in order to break a tie.

SECTION 2: The Vice President shall in the absence of the President, preside and perform the duties of the office of the President. The Vice President should at all times render assistance to the President and shall become President for the President's term of office in the event the President leaves office.

SECTION 3: The Secretary / Treasurer shall keep a record of all business proceedings and maintain an updated roster of all members of the Association. The Secretary shall notify all members of the time and place of all Association meetings. The Secretary will share the previous meeting's minutes with the Association, within two weeks of said meeting, via email. The Secretary / Treasurer shall preside at the meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President. At the close of this term of office, the Secretary / Treasurer shall give all records of the Association to the successor and take care of necessary correspondence to carry on the duties of this office. The Secretary / Treasurer shall be in charge of all funds of the Association. The Treasurer shall pay all bills and keep an accurate account of receipts and expenditures and shall make monthly reports to the Association, with one final annual recap.

SECTION 4: Members of the organization shall not receive compensation for serving in their roles as officers on the executive board. (*President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer*).

ARTICLE IV – AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by:

- a. A two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee
- b. A petition signed by two-thirds of the members
- c. Any member may suggest amendments by a written proposal to the Executive Committee, who must approve by two-thirds vote to be proposed to the membership.

SECTION 2: Amendments to the Association Bylaws may be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting provided notice of said amendments has been previously printed and sent to the membership one week prior to the meeting.