

UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: UB-58007

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Author(s): President Darbin

Sponsor(s):

Co-sponsor(s): Economics Society at UH, The Squirrel Society at UH, Cougar Computer Science at UH, University Drone Pilots at UH, Society of Petroleum Engineers at UH, The Coogs of CV3 at UH, African Student Union at UH, African Student Union at UH, American Medical Student Association at UH, American Student Dental Association Pre dental Chapter at UH, Delta Omega Chi Medical Service Society at UH, Enactus at UH, Formula SAE Tech at UH, Graduate Indian Student Organization at UH, H.E.R. Community at UH, Black Student Union at UH, Black Pre-Law Association at UH, Hispanic Business Student Association at UH, Mock Trial Association at UH, The Collegiate 100 at UH, American Medical Women's Association at UH

Committee: Administration and Finance

Draft: First Read

Activities Funding Board Reform Bill

Whereas, there are more than 500 Registered Student Organizations (RSO) at the University of Houston; ¹

Whereas, every academic semester, 1% of the Student Service Fee goes to the Activities Funding Board which is then allocated to RSOs "to increase campus vibrancy and inclusion;"

Whereas, the Activities Funding Board (AFB) defines its mission to engage all RSOs through inclusive outreach to increase the utilization of allocated funds; ²

Whereas, in the fiscal year 2020, the AFB provided funding for 113 unique organizations 43 of which received funding for the first time; ³

¹ <https://uh.edu/csi/rso>

² <https://youtu.be/dSLeqQC5SCA>

³ <https://youtu.be/PxlnKS4JAcM>

Whereas, due to the campus closures and virtual classes in response to the Covid-19 pandemic since Spring 2020, many RSOs have moved their in-person events to virtual platforms;

Whereas, one of the yearly challenges of the AFB is the lack of initial funds for the organizations to utilize AFB reimbursement process;

Whereas, in order to receive 'advance payment' for their expenses, RSOs are required to make a request "at least six (6) weeks before the event is scheduled to take place," leaving organizations unable to receive funding for events scheduled for an earlier time;⁴

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

The Student Government Association calls on the Activities and Funding Board to assign 'Operating Funds' to the Registered Student Organizations that would cover expenses required for general maintenance. This funding can be used for office supplies, rents, subscriptions, fees, and other necessary purchases to facilitate the activities and programs of the organization.

Be it further enacted, a limited amount of the funding, with a maximum amount of \$100, can be requested by the student organizations to facilitate their activities and programs. This amount will be taken out of the \$3000 maximum allocation that may be approved per academic year.

Be it further enacted, request for 'Operating Funds' will be subject to the same application and hearing process as other funds. Applications should meet the requirements of AFB guidelines and show that it will benefit the student organization.

Be it further enacted, the AFB will create a list of fundable and non-fundable occasions for this fund on their website and guidelines. The fundable requests include but are not limited to office supplies for general use, subscriptions and rentals used during events and programs, bank charges, and legal fees necessary for general operations. The funding cannot be spent for the financial gain or profit of the organizations or individuals.

Be it further enacted, the Student Government Association calls on the AFB to extend the deadline to submit a request for RSOs that have already registered for a vendor ID.

⁴ <https://www.uh.edu/afb/files/general-policies.pdf>

Be it further enacted, the AFB will include instructions on their website for the RSOs and/or their officers to request a vendor ID prior to their events.

Be it further enacted, the Student Government Association calls on the AFB to provide funding for the first general meetings of RSOs in every academic semester.

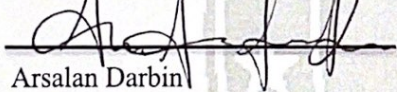
Be it further enacted, the AFB will include funding for online events in their "General Policies and Guidelines" document.



Rohit Shajan

Speaker of the Senate

Date of Senate Approval: 3/31/22



Arsalan Darbin

Student Government President

Date of President's Approval: 3-31-22

