



School- and Student-Sponsored Organizations

The CEC Board recognizes that students at CEC may desire to broaden their knowledge and citizenship by forming clubs that relate to subject matter covered by the CEC curriculum. The Board permits the formation of such organizations provided they operate within the framework of state statutes, Board policy, administrative rules, and the parameters of the learning program. The Board authorizes CEC's Chief Executive Administrator (CEA) to implement a student organization application and approval process at all applicable CEC schools.

All participation in student organizations is voluntary and open to all CEC students. Student organizations may establish academic qualifications for membership where necessarily related to the purposes of the organization. However, membership in any student organization shall not be denied based on race, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or any other status protected by law. Sexual orientation is a person's orientation toward heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, transgender status, or perception of the individual's sexual orientation. Qualifications based on sex may be imposed only where necessary to preserve the health, safety, or welfare of students, or where sex is a bona fide and integral qualification for the activities of the organization.

CEC retains the authority to ban unlawful groups, maintain discipline and order on school premises, protect the wellbeing of students and faculty, ensure that students' attendance at meetings is voluntary, and restrict groups that materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of school activities. The privileges accorded to any one student organization shall be extended to all student organizations of the same type.

The Head of School, under the direction of the CEA, will determine the specific privileges afforded to all student organizations and the conditions that govern the use of such privileges. Secret societies such as fraternities and sororities shall not be recognized under this policy.

Organizations such as political, social, religious, or other similar clubs will not be recognized.

Direct School-Sponsored Organizations

The CEC Board recognizes direct school-sponsored organizations that serve as an extension of the regular school curriculum while also advancing the mission of CEC. The function of direct school-sponsored organizations shall be to enhance the participants' educational experience and to supplement the educational program of the schools. The activities of these organizations shall bear a clear relationship to the regular curriculum. To be a Direct School-Sponsored Organization the subject matter of the organization must actually be taught, or will soon be taught, in a regularly offered course; or participation in the group is required for a particular course; or participation in the group results in academic credit. This includes clubs such as the National Honor Society, Key Club, Robotics, and Future Farmers of America.

Student-Sponsored Organizations

Student-sponsored organizations under this policy are explicitly limited to curriculum-related organizations. As with direct school-sponsored organizations, curriculum-related student organizations are groups that directly relate to the body of courses offered at a CEC school. A student group directly relates to a school's curriculum if the subject matter of the group is currently taught, or will soon be taught, in a regularly offered course.

Students seeking to start a student-sponsored organization recognized by CEC must submit to the school's Head of School a written statement with the following information:

- Name of organization
- Names of faculty sponsors and/or supervisors
- General purpose statement of the organization
- Description of the qualifications for membership, if any
- Statement of the relation of the organization to the general curriculum
- Budget or funding statement

Student-sponsored organizations must have a staff sponsor. This individual must be an advisor or coach who is a CEC employee and is willing to assume the responsibility of leadership over the organization. The duty of such individuals will be to:

- Keep and maintain a record of student participation
- Attend all meetings, practices, or functions on or off CEC property
- Advise and supervise students
- Inform and update the Head of School regarding activities

Student-sponsored organizations shall be student led. No public funding or support shall be extended to any student-sponsored organizations other than the opportunity to meet on school premises and to have meeting times and locations posted or announced as are other student-sponsored organizations and in accordance with CEC or school policies and rules. Student-sponsored organizations established under this policy shall not be deemed to be school-sponsored or endorsed. The fact that such organizations are permitted to conduct meetings on school premises and to access school facilities for related activities under this policy shall not constitute an expression of CEC or school support for the purposes of such organizations or the views expressed at any meetings thereof.

Procedures for Recognition:

- Direct school-sponsored and student-sponsored organizations must submit an application, through its sponsor, to the school's Head of School that meets the criteria enumerated within this policy. The Head of School shall evaluate the application using the CEC Clubs and Associations Approval form and may recommend a denial, an approval, or changes to the application, if information is missing. The application then moves to the CEA with the Head of School's recommendation.
- The CEA shall review all direct school-sponsored and student-sponsored applications using the CEC Clubs and Associations Approval form and either approve or deny the application. Approval or disapproval of student-sponsored organizations may not be based upon any specified threshold of the number of participants.

- The CEA, with input from the Head of School, may revoke or suspend recognition of any student organization at any time for good cause upon his/her own initiative or on complaint by any student or staff member. Revocation may be appealed to the CEC Governing Board.
- At any time, the CEC Governing Board, on its own initiative, may review the recognition of any student organization and revoke the same for good cause.
- Student participation in a student organization of CEC is a privilege and is subject to CEC's Student Conduct and Discipline Code Policy.