

BILL B-07-16
The University of Alabama
21st Student Senate 2016-2017

Authored by: Vice President for Financial Affairs Jordan Forrest, Treasurer Tyler Portanova, Senator Win Watson.

Sponsored by: Secretary of Senate Megan Wingbermuehle, Senators Lauren Forrest, Madi Sutherland, Casey Nelson, and Allyson Lacoste

A BILL RENEWING FAC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Be it enacted by Senate of the Student Government Association assembled,

Section 1. Findings –

- a) It is the goal of The University of Alabama to cultivate a hospitable campus environment in which all members of the University can work together and learn from each other in a climate of mutual respect.
- b) The mission of The University of Alabama is to advance the intellectual and social condition of the people of the State through quality programs of teaching, research, and service; that educational mission is enhanced by the robust exchange of ideas that occurs within a diverse and inclusive environment.
- c) Students who learn from each other and from faculty members and administrators, including those at the highest levels of leadership, in an environment with a variety of backgrounds are better able to understand, appreciate, and contribute to our twenty-first century global society.
- d) The University endorses a student, faculty, and administrative community enriched by individuals of diverse national origins, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, cultures, socioeconomic and geographic backgrounds, ages, physical abilities, and religious and political beliefs.
- e) The student body should utilize University programs that enhance awareness and appreciation of cultural and individual diversity, promote community, and prepare students for the global society in which they will live and work.
- f) The Capstone Creed must be followed by every student at UA and reads: "As a member of The University of Alabama community, I will pursue knowledge, act with fairness,

integrity and respect; promote equity and inclusion; foster individual and civic responsibility; and strive for excellence in all I do.”

- g) The purpose of the Safe Zone program is to produce an environment based on dignity and respect in which every student and employee is free to thrive academically, professionally, and personally.
- h) The SGA is the voice of the student body and has an inherent duty to advance all of the above in the best interest of the student body.
- i) Bill B-10 was passed by the 20th Student Senate in the fall of 2015 and required Safe Zone training of a certain threshold of an organization’s membership in order for said organization to be eligible for FAC funding.
- j) Bill B-10-15’s formulation and passage were based on Findings “a-h” listed previously in this section, as well as the sincere belief that implementation of this requirement would be achievable by the beginning of Fiscal Year 2017.
- k) The intentions of B-10-15 and all individuals involved in the writing and passing of said document should be commended in the strongest terms, as fostering a culture of inclusivity and respect for all is something that this University and our SGA must continuously strive to achieve at the Capstone.
- l) FAC funding is vital to the proper functionality of many student organizations on campus.
- m) The Safe Zone office has confirmed to FAC and SGA Executive officials that the requirement imposed by B-10-15 is logistically impossible for Fiscal Year 2017 due to the limited resources of the Safe Zone office as it pertains to training students; therefore, the Safe Zone office has requested that the FAC eligibility requirements be renewed to how they were written before B-10-15’s passage.

Section 2. Chapter 701 of the Student Government Association Code of Laws shall be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 701 FAC Student Organization Eligibility

Chapter 701.1 Definition of Eligibility

Chapter 701.1.1 For the purposes of application for FAC funds, an eligible student organization, hereafter referred to as organization, is hereby defined as an UA campus student organization who has been registered with the SOURCE for at least one month, and whose President or Treasurer has attended a Foresight Training Workshop.

Chapter 701.1.2 The organization’s credentials with the SOURCE must be renewed annually in order to remain eligible for receiving FAC funds.

Chapter 701.2 Forfeiture of Eligibility

Chapter 701.2.1 If an organization spends funding allocated from the FAC on a program or event and then does not execute the program or event, then the offending organization shall not be eligible for any FAC funding during the next fiscal year.

Chapter 701.2.2 The SGA Vice President of Financial Affairs shall have the ability to waive Chapter 701.2.1 in the event that the non-execution of the organization's event or program was due to unavoidable external circumstances.

Chapter 701.3 The FAC Advisor shall disregard any FAC applications made by organizations who have not fulfilled the requirements in the previous subsections.

Section 3. Chapter 703 of the Student Government Association Code of Laws shall be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 703 Funding Guidelines

Chapter 703.1 Funds must be spent by student organizations in the fiscal year in which the allocation was made.

Chapter 703.1.1 Each student organization shall be allowed a maximum amount of \$10,000 funding per fiscal year.

Chapter 703.2 Monies for student travel purposes may be funded to organizations in an amount based on FAC limitation regulations, per fiscal year.

Chapter 703.2.1 Organizations will be allowed to receive up to \$400.00 per student, with a maximum amount of \$2,400.00 per fiscal year for travel.

Chapter 703.2.2 The FAC shall have full discretion regarding what constitutes an acceptable travel expense and eligibility for travel funding.

Chapter 703.3 Food and beverages are not eligible for allocation unless the event is cultural in nature and food is the focus of the event.

Chapter 703.3.1 Food or beverages for regular meetings are not eligible for allocation.

Chapter 703.3.2 Organizations will be allowed to receive up to \$2,000.00 per fiscal year for cultural food.

Chapter 703.4 Funding for general office supplies, postage, printing, or advertising may be funded by FAC up to a maximum amount of \$800.00 per fiscal year.

Chapter 703.4.1 Printing for newsletters, fliers, posters, and directories shall qualify as office supplies

Chapter 703.4.2 Advertising expenses shall qualify under office supplies and expense limits listed in Chapter 701.4

Chapter 703.5 Allocation for equipment purchases may be made based on UA Purchasing, Spending, and Risk Management policies.

Chapter 703.5.1 Organizations will be allowed to receive a maximum of \$800.00 per fiscal year for equipment.

- Chapter 703.5.2 Items must be kept in a secure location on campus.
- Chapter 703.5.3 Items purchased with FAC approved funding are property of the University of Alabama
- Chapter 703.6 Certain expenses not explicitly covered under FAC guidelines may be allocated for project expenditures such as speakers, musicians, venue rental, equipment rental, at the discretion of the committee.
- Chapter 703.6.1 Organizations may spend a maximum of \$6,000.00 per fiscal year on project expenditures.
- Chapter 703.7 The FAC considers the following factors when allocating funds:
- Chapter 703.7.1 Nature of the project or activity.
- Chapter 703.7.2 Number of students affected by the project or activity.
- Chapter 703.7.3 Size of the student organization.
- Chapter 703.7.4 Adherence to FAC guidelines.
- Chapter 703.7.5 Degree of outside funding.
- Chapter 703.7.6 Co-sponsorship of a project by two or more student organizations.
- Chapter 703.7.7 Precedence based on previous FAC deliberations.
- Chapter 703.7.8 The amount of pending requests to the FAC made by Student Organizations.
- Chapter 703.7.9 Percentage of student organization members who have undergone Office of Student Involvement-recognized training programs including, but not limited to, Safe Zone, Suicide Prevention training, Bama Boot Camp, Bystander Intervention, Poverty Simulations, and PIE Workshops.
- Chapter 703.8 National dues, awards, plaques, gifts, donations, first-class air travel, alcoholic beverages, personal items, Holiday cards, flowers and live plants shall not be funded by the FAC.
- Chapter 703.9 The FAC reserves the right to set additional limitations for funding categories.

Section 4. Recommendations –

- a) The Senate assembled hereby recommends that the University dedicate more resources to the Safe Zone program in order to enhance the University's commitment to an equitable, inclusive, diverse, and respectful campus community.
- b) The Senate assembled further encourages as many student organization leaders and students at-large to complete the Safe Zone training as possible.

Section 5. Commendations –

- a) The Senate assembled commends the Safe Zone office for the exemplary service it provides to the University and applauds Kirk Walter for his leadership of the program.
- b) The Senate commends the SGA's commitment to supporting the Safe Zone program,

evidenced by the Executive Branch's pledge to donate \$500 to the program in FY 2017.

Section 6. Effective Date – This bill shall become effective immediately upon the signature of the President or otherwise becoming law.

Section 7. This bill shall be in accordance with Chapter 101.2 and 101.3, Title I, *SGA Code of Laws*.

Section 8. Distribution of Copes – Copies of this bill shall be sent to the following: Lillian Roth, Student Government Association President; Dr. Mary Lee Caldwell, Director of Student Governance and Citizenship; Kirk Walter, Assistant Director of Student Involvement; The Crimson White Media Group; and any deemed necessary at a later time.