

Native American Student Organization Constitution

(Revised 2/20/2025)

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1: The name of the recognized organization shall be Native American Student Organization (NASO), which is a student organization at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

ARTICLE II: ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

Section 1: The purpose(s) of this organization shall be:

- A. Promoting and instilling awareness about Native American culture in the community and at Stout.
- B. Creating a welcoming and supportive space for Native American students and anyone interested in learning about Native American culture.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership is open to all registered students in good standing at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. All student organization members must maintain at minimum a 2.0 grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale) to be eligible for participation in a Recognized Student Organization.

Section 2: The Native American Student Organization will not discriminate against membership of any individual based upon race, gender, religion, ancestry, age, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, income, physical ability, or political ideology, unless specified in the governing document of the organization or pursuant to an exception recognized by University, local, state or federal laws / ordinances.

Section 3: Voting privileges are reserved for members and physical presence is required at the time of the vote.

Section 4: The responsibilities of all members shall include:

- Participation in a minimum of one meeting per month.
- Commitment to participate in additional activities as they are scheduled.
- Uphold the purposes of the organization.

Section 5: Membership may be terminated by majority vote.

Section 6: Dues are not required by this organization.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of this organization shall consist of elected members. Officers of the organization shall be as follows:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Public Relations (optional)

Section 2: Duties of officers.

President - Establishment of an agenda for each meeting, presiding over the meetings, prioritizing resources, and scheduling/logistics for activities. The president will only cast a vote in the event of a tie.

Vice-President - Assist the president and direct activities in the president's absence.

Secretary - Document minutes, notes, and attendance at each meeting.

Treasurer - Maintenance of the organization's funds.

Public Relations (optional) - Direct the organization's promotional activities.

Section 3: Qualifications for each officer.

Officers must maintain at minimum a 2.5 grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale) to retain their officer position. Officers are expected to attend 95% of meetings per semester.

ARTICLE V: ELECTIONS

Section 1: Election of officers.

Election of officers will occur in March. NASO members will be notified of the election by Stout e-mail at least one month before elections are held. Any member of NASO can vote in the election.

Section 2: Procedures for voting.

A member must be present to cast a vote. A member must receive a minimum of 51% of the vote to become an officer. Any member of NASO has the ability to hold office.

Section 3: Term of office.

Officers shall take office the semester following elections (August) and serve for a period of a minimum of one semester and up to two sequential semesters (one year). If re-elected, the officer may serve additional consecutive semesters.

ARTICLE VI: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Section 1: Officers failing to fulfill the given responsibilities and duties and/or in violation of NASO's purpose may be removed by members of the organization.

Section 2: The removal of an officer requires a minimum of a 50% vote of a quorum following the notification of the officer in question. Such notification shall be provided in writing no less than 5 working days prior to the vote.

Section 3: The officer in question will be provided the opportunity to defend his/her position in front of the officers of the organization prior to the date of the vote of dismissal.

ARTICLE VII: REPLACEMENT OF OFFICERS

Section 1: In the case where the Presidential Office is vacant, the Vice-President will fill the position within the next 2 meetings.

Section 2: All other executive board positions found to be vacant shall be filled by election within the next 3 meetings.

Vacancies shall be filled through emergency vote. The vote will take place during the third week after the vacancy occurs.

Section 3: All other positions not part of the executive board should be filled through appointment or election.

ARTICLE IX: ADVISOR

Section 1: The advisor of the NASO must be a faculty or staff member of the University of Wisconsin – Stout. There shall be one (1) faculty/staff advisor.

Section 2: The student organization advisor serves in a voluntary or assigned capacity to the recognized student organization and provides guidance, direction, advice, and continuity to the members of the organization.

Section 3: The advisor will be selected or removed by a member majority vote.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1: A regularly scheduled general meeting shall be held at least every other week. The officers may call additional meetings when the need arises.

Section 2: A quorum shall consist of 50% of the regular members.

Section 3: A quorum shall be present in order for any official business to be conducted. Official business shall include elections of officers, setting of dues, and any other major decisions affecting the organization.

Section 4: Parliamentary Authority (e.g., Robert's Rules of Order) will be utilized at all meetings

ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES

Section 1: The officers of the organization shall have the authority to create any committees, standing or special, that will further the purpose of the organization.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1: All amendments to this constitution require notice of one week to being discussed and voted upon.

Section 2: A proposed amendment to the constitution shall be submitted during a regular meeting. The potential amendment shall be tabled by the next meeting or a maximum of two weeks. Voting may occur verbally or via secret ballot.

Section 3: All amendments require a 2/3 vote of a quorum for adoption.

ARTICLE XII: AFFILIATIONS

Section 1: This group is not affiliated with any national or regional groups.