



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## The Eight Principles of Funding for SA Groups

### *A Clear and Focused Mission*

All recognized groups must submit a clear and focused mission statement in their constitutions. Before a group will be granted budgeted status, that group's mission statement must explicitly coincide with the spending and programming goals of the SA listed below and enhance the educational goals of The College: freedom, autonomy, community, and responsibility. They should be focused on improving the College community and undergraduate educational experience. Groups will be judged each year during the budgeting process on their ability to aim their efforts in these directions. The SA Policy Committee will ensure that the mission statements of all SA-Budgeted groups meet these requirements.

### *Community-Focused Spending*

Each budgeted group must serve the diverse members of the Students' Association. Groups that simply consume SA funding solely on their members are of no value to the general student body. This community-focused spending can take many forms, including educational opportunities, skills training, community building, and entertainment. SA Funded groups must also educate the general student body about the group's mission, activities, and goals to ensure a diverse learning experience for all students on campus.

### *Future Leadership Development*

All recognized groups must invest in the future leadership of the group in order to maintain their recognized status. This should include recruitment of, leadership opportunities for, and leadership training for younger members. Such activities are essential to enhance a group's chances of succeeding and persisting.

### *Inclusion*

Each budgeted group must be *actively* inclusive and welcoming of the diversity of the undergraduate students of the University of Rochester. These groups must demonstrate in their annual report what actions they have taken to be open and inclusive in their activities and programs.

### *Uniqueness*

Each budgeted group must be unique and distinct from all other student groups. If similar groups consolidate, all students will benefit from the pooling of talents and funds.

### *Programming and Spending Collaboration*

Budgeted groups should collaborate with other groups on their initiatives, programs, events, or major expenses at least once per year. The goals of this requirement are:

1. To promote, establish, and maintain new and old relationships between student groups.
2. To maximize the benefit to students realized by the pooling of funds and other resources.
3. To encourage the creative exchange of ideas between many groups.
4. To increase awareness by student groups of each other's programming calendar, thereby indirectly creating a well-planned calendar of events throughout the academic year.

### *Spending Responsibility*

After a group is awarded a final budget, it may spend that funding however it sees fit, so long as those expenditures do not violate general SA Fee spending guidelines. These groups are not to be judged for straying from their budgets—such a rule can stifle creativity. Rather, they will be judged on their ability to meet these SA Group Requirements; accomplish the items listed in their mission statements; and use their resources in a responsible, reasonable, and forward-looking manner. The terms responsible and reasonable do not necessitate frugality; however, total spending should not exceed the group's budget, and individual expenses should not be extravagant. Groups should always consider both long-term and short-term expenses when making a purchasing decision. (For example, spending more today on a higher-quality piece of equipment today could translate into lesser replacement or maintenance expenses in the future.)

### *Membership*

Groups are required to maintain and demonstrate a membership sufficient to accomplish the groups' missions and meet the SA Group Goals and Requirements. To ensure accurate reporting, the groups' members must confirm their involvement in the group.