



# Students For Sensible Drug Policy at University of California San Diego Constitution

## Article I-Name

The organization shall be called the Students for Sensible Drug Policy at University of California San Diego (herein referred to as “the organization” or “SSDP”). SSDP at University of California San Diego is an affiliate chapter of the global Students for Sensible Drug Policy organization.

## Article II- Purpose

Students for Sensible Drug Policy is an international grassroots network of students who are concerned about the impact drug abuse has on our communities, but who also know that the War on Drugs is failing our generation and our society. SSDP mobilizes and empowers young people to participate in the political process, pushing for sensible policies to achieve a safer and more just future, while fighting back against counterproductive Drug War policies, particularly those that directly harm students and young people.

Students for Sensible Drug Policy does not condemn or encourage drug use: we respect the right of individuals to make choices for their own health and well-being.

## Article III - Anti-Racism Statement

Students for Sensible Drug Policy is committed to anti-racism and non-discrimination in line with Article 2 of the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#). We condemn any drug policy reform proposal which is not explicitly led by, does not center, or is not otherwise approved by Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) community leaders. We will expend all of our time and energy dismantling the systems of oppression that intersect with the War on Drugs. We will work with BIPOC community leaders and groups and offer our resources, financing, and support to their efforts. We take responsibility for the actions of the United States government in exporting their racist and destructive ideology across the world and commit to supporting marginalized groups everywhere who are combating the tyranny of the United States.

SSDP will not tolerate discrimination of any kind in our spaces. We commit to ensuring our spaces are safe and accessible for people regardless of race, color, descent, or national or ethnic origin.

## Article IV - Non-profit Statement

Students for Sensible Drug Policy at UC San Diego is a non-profit student organization.

## Article V - Frequency of Meetings

Regular meetings will be held twice a month, on a day and time determined by membership availability. All board members are expected to attend and participate, and attendance is highly encouraged for all voting members and associate members. Any member or officer who does not attend a meeting or communicate that they won't be able to attend the meeting due to scheduling conflict will be considered for removal from the organization for reasons of lack of participation in the organization. Minutes will be taken by an organization officer via the organization Slack channel and will be made available to all members after the meeting. If public health guidelines preclude an in-person meeting, Zoom or another video conferencing platform will be used to facilitate remote meetings. Missing more than 3 regular meetings in a row is considered grounds to be removed from the organization (for board members only, not for members), but to re-apply, a former member removed for reasons of lack of participation may simply communicate their intention to become an active member again, and affirm that they intend to participate in the organization again.

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## Article VI- Membership and Officers

Membership is open to anyone. Only registered UC San Diego students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UC San Diego students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization's officers. Non-students may act as associate members, but may not vote or hold office.

Anyone desiring to become a member must communicate their intention to join to one of the elected officers, and will have their name and contact information recorded for purposes of receiving organizational communications. Access to the organization Slack channel will be provided should the member desire to receive information and communicate with officers and other members via that platform.

At this time, no monetary dues are required to become a member, but attendance at meetings and participation is expected in order to remain a member.

The officers of this organization include the President, Vice President, and Treasurer, collectively known as the Executive Board. The Executive Board may create new officer positions with approval of two or more Executive Board members. Officers shall be elected by a written ballot, with each active member casting a vote. Alternatively, the chapter members present at the constitutional meeting can choose to hold voting electronically, requesting that chapter members vote on the proposed amendments within one week. Officers shall be appointed by majority vote,

and elections shall be held once per academic year (Fall through the summer of the following calendar year) and positions are for the duration of the academic year until the next election occurs. Those elected assume office immediately after they are elected.

The duties of the President include: securing a time and location for chapter meetings (including setting up Zoom meetings and sending invites to all members for remote meetings), filling out necessary student organization forms and attending student organization meetings as needed, hosting events, guiding officers to observe their duties, facilitating elections, maintaining correspondence with SSDP staff, submitting any unlogged Chapter Activity Tracker points, and delegating executive responsibilities to other officers as necessary.

The duties of the Vice President include: assuming duties of president when necessary, creating and building relationships with other student and community organizations, and assisting the president in coordinating activities, and dispensing funds in accordance with the established goals of the organization.

The duties of the Treasurer/Secretary/Bookkeeper include: keeping minutes and attendance of general meetings, submitting Chapter Activity Tracker points for relevant chapter actions, and maintaining an accurate and current account of organizational funds.

## Article VII- Misconduct Claims

Officers and chapter members are subject to claims of misconduct for the following:

- • Malfeasance: Willfully or intentionally engaging in actions that are disruptive to core functions of the chapter  
(mismanaging club funds, harassment of chapter members, etc.)
- • Misfeasance: Engaging in an action or duty but consistently failing to perform correctly, unintentionally damaging the chapter
- • Nonfeasance: Consistently failing to perform expected actions or duties of the chapter

A claim of misconduct must be made by at least two members of the chapter and submitted to the President. In the event that the President is the claimant or defendant in a claim of misconduct, the claim should be submitted to another member of the Executive Board. The defendant in this claim must be informed of the claim within one week of its submission.

Chapter members can be removed from their officer positions by a two-thirds (66%) vote, and removed from the chapter entirely by a three-quarters (75%) vote. Quorum is defined as two-thirds of all chapter members to vote, if the chapter has 10 or less active members. Quorum is defined as 11 or more total votes cast, if the chapters as 11 or more active

members. Voting related

to such claims must be conducted electronically and sent to all chapter members, with votes solicited within one week of its release.

## Article VIII- Risk Management

Students for Sensible Drug Policy at UC San Diego is a registered student organization at the University of California San Diego, but not a part of the University itself. Students for Sensible Drug Policy at UC San Diego understands that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

## Article IX- Affiliation with Other Groups

Students for Sensible Drug Policy at UC San Diego is a chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, an international organization. This affiliation does not impose additional requirements on members. However, membership in our chapter may enable access to scholarships, resources, and opportunities provided by the global SSDP organization.

## Article X - Amendments

To amend this Constitution, a vote must be held to hold a ‘constitutional meeting’, where amendments can be discussed and approved by a majority of the chapter members present. Alternatively, the chapter members present at the constitutional meeting can choose to hold voting electronically, requesting that chapter members vote on the proposed amendments within one week.