



SSCCC Caucus Basics 101

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Meet Your Presenters



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**Student Senate for California
Community Colleges**

Workshop Overview:

- The purpose and function of a caucus within the Student Senate for California Community Colleges
- The purpose of the SSCCC's Caucus Committee and its' relationship with the caucuses
- How to create a caucus and maintaining it



The Purpose of Caucuses and Caucus Committee

- A caucus is an independent body of like-minded individuals who wish to make their voices heard to the Senate on a formal basis. A caucus is not sponsored, chartered, or directed by the Senate and shall not be charged a fee or dues to be recognized by the Senate.
- The caucuses are advised under the direction of the Caucus Committee under the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. The Caucus Committee shall be the



Why Join A Caucus?

- As an independent body, caucuses are able to do three things:
 - Sponsor and/or submit resolutions to the General Assembly to adopt
 - Empower and provide a support system for like minded students
 - Strive to continuously improve and achieve the Caucuses strategic goals in better guiding the SSCCC on issues that pertain to the California Community College Students



Current Caucus List

- As of September 2021, the Student Senate for California Community Colleges has recognized the following caucuses:
 - Asian Pacific Islander (API)*
 - Black Caucus
 - FISI Caucus*
 - Latinx Caucus*
 - Spectrum Caucus (LGBTQ+)*
 - STEM Caucus
 - Student Trustee Caucus
 - Sustainability Caucus*
 - Womxn's Caucus*
- As of September 2021, the following caucuses have NOT been recognized by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges:
 - Disabled Caucus
 - International Students Caucus
 - Veterans' Caucus
 - Student Athlete Caucus



Caucus Creation Timeline

Steps to complete in order to be officially recognized as a Caucus:

1. Submit a caucus application form to the Caucus Committee Chair to be reviewed by the Caucus Committee.
2. After the form has been reviewed and approved by the Caucus Committee, the Caucus Committee Chair will forward the form to the SSCCC Board of Directors for final approval.
3. Once it has been approved, the Caucus Committee will notify the members of the caucus and disseminate the agenda



Official Steps As A New Caucus (Part One)

Once the caucus has been created, the caucus will take the next steps:

1. Once approved by the SSCCC Board of Directors, the caucus liaison or the Caucus Committee Chair will coordinate with the Caucus Liaison to send out the first caucus agenda.
2. Elections for caucus leadership positions will be held at the first meeting and chaired by the liaison or Caucus Committee Chair.
3. During the same meeting, a Caucus Training will be provided to caucus members at the first meeting.



Official Steps As A New Caucus (Part Two)

After the caucus has met for the first time, the caucus will continue moving forward as enlisted below:

- The newly elected caucus chair will take over the creation of the agenda and chairing meetings
- If the caucus does not yet have updated policies and procedures, the caucus will work to develop caucus policies in collaboration with the Caucus Committee.
- Promote caucus to increase membership.



Membership (Part One)

The membership of a caucus is important as the members are the sole reason for a caucus being created. Any member of any caucus is allowed to do any of the activities listed below:

- Attend caucus meetings and participate in events
- Encourage other students to join to further help support the caucus's goals and missions
- Sign up to help with caucus projects and initiatives
- Write a resolution for General Assembly
- Request agenda items



Membership (Part Two)

In order to keep track of student membership, the Caucus Committee encourages that interested students who wish to join any of the caucuses do the following:

1. Fill out the Membership Application
2. Members are encouraged to reach out to the chair of the caucus or caucus liaison to ensure membership is added after filling out the application.

The membership lists will be provided to the caucus chairs and liaisons in order to create the roster for the caucus.



Outreach

As caucuses, membership and outreach is crucial to its' success:

- **SSCCC Events**
 - Examples: Professional Development and General Assembly
- **Social Media**
 - Examples: Facebook Groups, caucus pages etc.
- **Public Comment**
 - Examples: SSCCC, Region, and SBA meetings
- **Send out notices through the caucus listserv**
- **Contact Regional Affairs Directors**
- **Collaborate with the SSCCC on various projects**

The Caucus Committee and SSCCC is here to help you!



Q&A?



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