

In the name of Allah, the most Beneficent, the most Merciful
Constitution of the Rowan University Muslim Student Association

Article I. Name & Nature

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization will be the Muslim Students Association henceforth referred to as M.S.A.

Section 2: Nature

A Muslim Students Association (M.S.A.) is an organization devoted to strengthening the Muslim community through service and activism, educating both Muslims and people of other faiths about the religion of Islam, and facilitating a better environment for students on campus.

The M.S.A. shall be a non profit, non-discriminatory student based membership organization. The M.S.A.'s membership shall be open to all Rowan University students.

Article II. Purpose & Objectives

Section 1: Mission Statement

We, the Muslim students of Rowan University, out of our faith and dedication to the service of Islam, do hereby proclaim the establishment of the Muslim Students Association, so that collectively we can share in a common set of moral commitments rooted in the message of Islam; engage in religious, social, and community activities; support educational and intellectual pursuits; and continue to promote the goals of Muslim students in Rowan University, and thus serve our faith as best we can.

Section 2: Purpose

The M.S.A. stands for Islam as a complete way of life. By this, we will develop a dynamic, united and welcome community on campus, raise awareness of Islam, and help people become better Muslims.

The M.S.A. is based on Islamic ideals of united effort and brother/sisterhood. The M.S.A. is a proactive organization based on the Islamic concepts of excellence. This unity is based on

common objectives and transcends petty differences in order to have a community that every Muslim feels a part of.

Section 3: Objectives

The objectives of this organization are to provide a means for Muslims at Rowan University to fulfill their obligations to Islam:

- To create an environment on campus that will foster the development and growth of the diverse Muslim community at Rowan University.
- To provide Muslims with proper accommodations to fulfill religious obligations including maintenance of the Prayer room, the organization of the Friday Jum'ah prayer, as well as any accommodations for Ramadan.
- To sponsor programming and events those positively contribute to the development of Islam and Muslims on campus. This may include lectures, panel discussions, as well as social events.
- To act as a resource to the whole campus community and represent Islam in the best possible manner.
- To actively engage both Muslims and non-Muslims in a portrayal of the message of Islam as completely and accurately as possible.

Section 4: Goals

The specific goals of the M.S.A. include, but are not limited to, creating and raising awareness and understanding of Islam on campus as well as fostering a sense of community. The M.S.A. will also promote a sense of appreciation of the core Islamic teachings to both Muslims and non-Muslims through its events and activities while providing services to facilitate a comfortable, safe, and peaceful campus environment.

A. Educational

The M.S.A. is committed to educating students about spiritual, traditional, social, cultural, theological, political, and contemporary issues. Examples of how this objective can be achieved include, but are not limited to, seminars, lectures, classes, and meetings.

B. Social

The M.S.A. is committed to developing a distinct environment within the Muslim community consisting of people from diverse origins, nationalities, backgrounds, and cultures that ultimately serves the needs of its students by engaging the merits of Islamic brother/sisterhood.

C. Philanthropic and Community Service

The M.S.A. is committed to effecting social betterment and initiating humanitarian activities, drives, and events throughout the greater Rowan University community. The inclusion of the M.S.A. and its members in these community service initiatives is in effect, an implementation of the Islamic principles of kindness, tolerance, and humanity.

Article III. Membership

The M.S.A. openly admits Rowan University students to its membership and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, or national origin.

Regular: Membership shall be limited to persons officially connected with Rowan University as enrolled students. Only regular members have voting rights.

Honorary: The M.S.A. may elect an honorary member from outside the University to recognize any person who has given distinguished service to the organization.

Associate: The M.S.A. invites interested faculty members, staff personnel, and alumni to actively participate in the organization. Such members will henceforth be recognized as Associate members.

Membership status shall be contingent upon an individual's acceptance and compliance with the constitution of the M.S.A.

Article IV. Internal Structure

General Body: The general body shall consist of those individuals who have been accepted as member in accordance with the provisions listed under Article III. Regular members shall be the main policy-making body of the M.S.A. All actions taken by any officer may be approved, rejected, or amended by this body.

Executive Board: The Board shall be the executive body of M.S.A. and shall consist of at least five officers elected by the regular members of the M.S.A.

Article V. Voter Eligibility

Section 1: Attendance

To be eligible to vote, active members must have attended and signed an attendance sheet for at least 30% of M.S.A. functions for the year.

To be eligible to run for a position, active members must have attended and signed an attendance sheet for at least 40% of M.S.A. functions for the year.

Section 2: Definition of an M.S.A. function

An M.S.A. function is defined as: weekly M.S.A. Meeting, Committee Meeting, M.S.A. sponsored event, or any other M.S.A. event or activity that provides an attendance sheet.

Article VI. Executive Board Members

Section 1: Composition

The M.S.A. Executive Board shall be comprised of the following positions:

President

Vice-President

Secretaries

Treasurer

Senator

Events Coordinator

Educational Outreach Representatives

Public Relations Officers

Sisters Social Committee Head

Brothers Social Committee Head

Community Service Committee Head

Section 2: Duties of Officers

The President:

The president is responsible for overseeing everything that goes within the organization. He/She delegates responsibilities/tasks, works with the University administration, and check on the progress of activities. He/She also acts as the public face of the organization (with the help of any public relations representatives).

The President shall oversee the performance of all executive board members in order to ensure that their constitutional obligations and duties are filled. When necessary, the President shall assist the M.S.A. Executive Board members in fulfilling said duties.

The president shall ensure that conflicts, potential or realized, whether they are internal or external to the organization, do not jeopardize the existence or functioning of the M.S.A..

The Vice-President:

The Vice-President assists the President in overseeing operations.

The Vice-President shall assume the obligations and responsibilities of the Presidents in their absence.

The Vice-President shall serve as outreach co-coordinator to other groups on campus and further strengthen the ties between the M.S.A. and other organizations.

The Secretary:

The Secretary keeps meeting minutes; records ideas, policy changes, and action items; and sees to the archiving or dissemination of that information.

The Secretary will keep an accurate record of membership and attendance at M.S.A. gatherings.

The Secretary will supervise all arrangements for the holding of each meeting in compliance with the constitution.

The Treasurer:

The Treasurer creates and balances a budget, coordinates fundraising and maintains accounting procedures. The Treasurer is responsible for allocating funds and handling all financial transactions.

The Treasurer shall maintain all accurate and complete documentation and receipts of outgoing and incoming funding from M.S.A. University accounts.

The Treasurer shall maintain a record of said transactions and will audit and balance said records consistently and completely.

The Events Coordinator:

The Events Coordinator shall be responsible for all room bookings and reservations, completing of necessary forms and paperwork, and maintaining communication with the offices and individuals necessary for achieving this task.

The Events Coordinator shall be responsible for delegating all aspects of event planning which may include but are not limited to, contacting the proposed speaker(s), arranging for food, ensuring the event is in order and that all requirements have been met, and furthermore evaluating an event and providing a feedback report to the Executive Board.

The Educational Outreach Representatives:

The Educational Outreach Representatives are responsible for overseeing all of the Islamic outreach affairs of the M.S.A.

The Educational Outreach Representatives shall provide a continuous educational presence that will educate Muslims and non-Muslims on campus.

Public Relations Officers:

The Public Relations Officers shall maintain and update the M.S.A. website, ensuring the proper functioning of the website and updating relevant event information, postings, and flyers.

The PR Officer advertises for events, establishes contacts with the media, issues press releases when necessary, and keeps the M.S.A. executives informed about pertinent issues on and off campus.

The PR Officers shall be responsible for publicizing all M.S.A. events, meetings, and activities.

Sisters' Coordinator:

Although many events are for both brothers and sisters, there may be a need for sisters-only events and correspondence. The sister's coordinator advertises and organizes such events and facilitates communication between sisters. It is crucial that the sister-specific needs are also addressed in co-ed gatherings and events.

Brothers' Coordinator:

The role of the brothers' coordinator emulates that of the sisters' coordinator.

The Social Representatives shall be responsible for planning targeted social events on behalf of the M.S.A.

The Community Service Committee Head:

The Community Service Committee Head shall be responsible for engaging the M.S.A. in various volunteer activities both for the Muslim and non-Muslim communities of Rowan University and the surrounding areas.

The Community Service Committee Head will also be in charge of coordinating volunteer work with other organizations and groups.

Article VII. Elections

All nominees must be members of the M.S.A. who agree to implement the principles in the constitution. No individual shall be denied the right to an elected position based on gender.

The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Events Coordinator, and Secretaries will be elected by the general body of eligible voters.

It will be the job of the current Executive Board to appoint three individuals from a third-party to handle the M.S.A.'s Elections. These individuals will constitute the Election Committee.

The current President will take nominations only from those individuals who are eligible to vote.

Those individuals who nominate must outline reasons why the nominee should be a candidate for the Executive Board.

Article VIII. Amendment to the Constitution

Any M.S.A. member may submit an amendment to the Constitution in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall take necessary & due actions in order to gain information about the proposed amendment. The Executive Board will vote on the proposed amendment. A unanimous vote amongst the Executive Board will ratify the proposed amendment.