



Associated Students of Cerritos College Constitution

Contents

ARTICLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	3
Section 1—Legislative Powers.....	3
Section 2—Senatorial Oath	3
Section 3—Membership.....	3
Subsection 1	3
Subsection 2	3
Section 4—Senate Seats	3
Section 5—Senate Positions.....	3
Section 6—Quorum.....	3
Section 7—Compensation.....	3
Section 8—Senate Authority	3
Section 9—Senate Record.....	4
Section 10—Budget	4
Subsection 1	4
Subsection 2	4
Section 11—Powers.....	4
Subsection 1	4
Subsection 2	4
Subsection 3	4
Subsection 4	4
Subsection 4	4
Subsection 5	4
Subsection 6	4
Subsection 7	4
Subsection 8	4
Subsection 9	4
Subsection 10	5
Section 12—Presidential Appointments.....	5
Section 13—Vetoing	5
Subsection 1	5
Subsection 2	5
Subsection 3	5
ARTICLE II—EXECUTIVE BRANCH	5
Section 1—The President.....	5
Section 2—Vice President.....	5
Section 3—Election	5
Section 4—President’s Oath.....	5
Section 5—Vice President’s Oath	5

Section 6—Presidency	6
Subsection 1	6
Subsection 2	6
Subsection 3	6
Subsection 4	6
Subsection 5	6
Subsection 6	6
Section 7—Compensation	6
Subsection 1	6
Subsection 2	6
Section 8—Appointment	6
Subsection 1	6
Subsection 2	6
Section 9—The Cabinet	7
Subsection 1	7
Subsection 2	7
Section 10—State of the Students	7
Subsection 1	7
Subsection 2	7
Section 11—Impeachment	7
Subsection 1	7
Subsection 2	7
Subsection 3	7
ARTICLE III—JUDICIAL BRANCH	7
Section 1—Judicial Power	7
Section 2—Jurisdiction	7
Section 3—Appointment	8
Section 4—Term Limit	8
Section 5—Positions	8
Section 6—Compensation	8
Subsection 1	8
Subsection 2	8
Section 7—Public	8
Section 8—Judicial Journal	8
ARTICLE IV—AMENDMENTS	8
Section 1—Amendment Proposal	8
Section 2—Ratification	8
PROPOSED AMENDMENT I (FOR VOTE FALL 2021)	8
Section I—Officer Oath	8
Section II—Chief Justice Oath	9
Section III—Associate Justice Oath	9
Section IV—Words Denoting Gender	9
Section V—Post-Meeting Published Materials	9
Section VI—Repeal of Article I, Section 11, Subsection 4	9
Section VII—Voting Procedure Regarding a Presidential Vice President Nomination	9

1 We, the Students of Cerritos College, to form a more perfect union, establish justice,
2 ensure student opportunity, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our
3 posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Associated Students of
4 Cerritos College.

5 **ARTICLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

6 **Section 1—Legislative Powers**

7 All Legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Senate.

8 **Section 2—Senatorial Oath**

9 Before a Senator-elect enters the execution of their office, they shall take the following Oath or
10 Affirmation: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the
11 Associated Students against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance
12 to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion;
13 and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.”

14 **Section 3—Membership**

15 **Subsection 1**

16 Members shall not continue serving in any capacity if their cumulative GPA falls below a 2.00.

17 **Subsection 2**

18 Senators must run for reelection every fall semester.

19 **Section 4—Senate Seats**

20 The Senate shall have no less than twenty-six members. The addition of Senate seats shall be based on
21 the overall growing student population.

22 **Section 5—Senate Positions**

23 The Senate shall have its own officers. Officers include the President Pro Tempore, Clerk of the
24 Senate, and the Sergeant-at-Arms.

25 **Section 6—Quorum**

26 To conduct business, the Senate must meet a majority membership quorum. The quorum tabulation
27 shall exclude the President of the Senate.

28 **Section 7—Compensation**

29 Members may receive compensation for their services to Cerritos College, presumed their attendance
30 does not exceed two unexcused absences.

31 **Section 8—Senate Authority**

32 The Senate shall serve as the authority of its elections, returns, and qualifications of its membership
33 under the Senate Rules.

34 **Section 9—Senate Record**

35 The Senate shall keep a record of its meetings and shall publish it no later than three days after each
36 Session.

37 **Section 10—Budget**

38 **Subsection 1**

39 The Senate shall be responsible for constructing, auditing, and approving the Budget of the
40 Government.

41 **Subsection 2**

42 All legislation regarding revenue shall originate in the Senate.

43 **Section 11—Powers**

44 **Subsection 1**

45 The Senate shall have the enumerated powers.

46 **Subsection 2**

47 The Senate shall establish the Cerritos College Student Activities fee.

48 **Subsection 3**

49 The Senate shall issue subpoenas to further or gather knowledge for the Senate.

50 **Subsection 4**

51 *The Senate shall constitute tribunals inferior to the Court.*

52 **Subsection 4**

53 The Senate shall create laws for the Government.

54 **Subsection 5**

55 The Senate shall establish regulations for the budget.

56 **Subsection 6**

57 The Senate may approve any legislative proposals of the Associated Students from the College.

58 **Subsection 7**

59 The Senate shall enact impeachment proceedings against the President, Vice President, and
60 members of the Court.

61 **Subsection 8**

62 The Senate shall approve any contracts with vendors or third-parties.

63 **Subsection 9**

64 The Senate shall make all laws, which shall be necessary and proper, for carrying into
65 execution the foregoing powers and all other powers vested by this Constitution.

66 **Subsection 10**
67 The Senate shall not do the following: 1) It cannot pass a bill of attainder—one that punishes a
68 Person or Group without a trial; and 2) Withdraw money from the Reserves, unless the Senate
69 unanimously votes to do so.

70 **Section 12—Presidential Appointments**
71 The Senate may approve any Presidential appointments with a majority vote.

72 **Section 13—Vetoing**

73 **Subsection 1**
74 Passed legislative proposals shall go to the President for approval before becoming law.

75 **Subsection 2**
76 If the President does not sign and approve the bill, the President shall return the bill to the
77 Senate with their objections. The Senate may reconsider the objections. If, after such
78 reconsideration, two-thirds of the Senate shall agree to pass the bill, it shall become a law. In all
79 cases, the votes of the Senate shall be determined by “yeas” and “nays,” and the names of the
80 Members voting for and against the bill shall be entered in the Record.

81 **Subsection 3**
82 If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten business days after it shall have been
83 presented to them, the same shall be a law, in the same manner as if they had signed it, unless
84 the Senate by their adjournment prevents its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

85 **ARTICLE II—EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

86 **Section 1—The President**
87 The Executive Power shall be vested in a President of the Associated Students of Cerritos College.

88 **Section 2—Vice President**
89 The Vice President shall serve as the President of the Senate while the Senate is in Session.

90 **Section 3—Election**
91 The President shall hold their office during the term of one year, and, together with the Vice President,
92 be elected.

93 **Section 4—President’s Oath**
94 Before the President enters the execution of their office, they shall take the following Oath or
95 Affirmation: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of
96 the Associated Students, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the
97 Constitution of the Associated Students.”

98 **Section 5—Vice President’s Oath**
99 Before the Vice President-Elect enters the execution their office, they shall take the following Oath or
100 Affirmation: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the
101 Associated Students against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance

102 to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion;
103 and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.”

104 **Section 6 —Presidency**

105 **Subsection 1**

106 No Person, who shall not have attained the academic standing of a sophomore by the first full
107 Semester of office and a cumulative 2.00 GPA as be eligible for the office of the President or
108 Vice President.

109 **Subsection 2**

110 Both the President and Vice President shall officially begin their term of office the first
111 Monday following the last day of the Spring Semester.

112 **Subsection 3**

113 In case of the removal of the President from office or of their death or resignation, the Vice
114 President shall become President.

115 **Subsection 4**

116 *Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a*
117 *Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate.*

118 **Subsection 5**

119 Whenever the President transmits to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate a written
120 declaration that they are unable to discharge the powers and duties of their office, and until they
121 transmit to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate a written declaration to the contrary, such
122 powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

123 **Subsection 6**

124 The Senate may, by law, provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both
125 of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such
126 officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

127 **Section 7—Compensation**

128 **Subsection 1**

129 The President and Vice President shall receive compensation for their services to the College,
130 which shall neither be increased nor diminished during their term in office.

131 **Subsection 2**

132 Cabinet Members may receive compensation for their services to the College.

133 **Section 8—Appointment**

134 **Subsection 1**

135 The President shall have the Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to
136 appoint Ambassadors, Judges of the Court, and all other officers of the Associated Students,
137 whose Appointments are not otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law.

138 **Subsection 2**

139 The President shall have the power to fill any vacancies that may happen during the Senate
140 Session by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next Session.

141 **Section 9—The Cabinet**

142 **Subsection 1**

143 The President shall, with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, appoint department heads,
144 known as the Cabinet.

145 **Subsection 2**

146 The Members of the Cabinet shall serve no longer than the term of the President.

147 **Section 10—State of the Students**

148

149 **Subsection 1**

150 The President shall, from time-to-time, give to the Senate Information on the State of the
151 Associated Students, and recommend to their consideration such measures as they shall judge
152 necessary and expedient.

153 **Subsection 2**

154 They may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both the Senate and Court. Concerning the
155 Time of Adjournment, he or she may adjourn them to such time as they shall deem proper.

156 **Section 11—Impeachment**

157 **Subsection 1**

158 The President, Vice President, and all Appointed officers of the Associated Students, shall be
159 removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high
160 crimes and misdemeanors.

161 **Subsection 2**

162 Articles of Impeachment shall be first drafted in the Senate by any member of the Legislative
163 branch.

164 **Subsection 3**

165 Thereafter, the Senate shall convict and remove the President from office, with the President
166 Pro Tempore being the Presiding Officer.

167 **ARTICLE III—JUDICIAL BRANCH**

168 **Section 1—Judicial Power**

169 The Judicial Power of the Associated Students, shall be vested in a Court. The Judicial Power shall
170 extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the Associated
171 Students.

172 **Section 2—Jurisdiction**

173 The Court shall have sole power to punish in all matters brought before the judiciary pertaining to the
174 Associated Students Body, including expulsion from the Associated Students Body and any lesser
175 measure.

176 **Section 3—Appointment**
177 Justices shall carry an accumulative GPA of 2.00 at the time of their appointment.

178 **Section 4—Term Limit**
179 Justices shall hold their offices during good behavior and while adhering to the laws of the Associated
180 Students.

181 **Section 5—Positions**
182 The Court shall have no more than one Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices.

183 **Section 6—Compensation**

184 **Subsection 1**
185 The Chief Justice shall receive compensation for their services to the College, which shall not
186 be diminished during their continuance in office.

187 **Subsection 2**
188 Associate Justices may receive compensation for their services to the College.

189 **Section 7—Public**
190 The Court shall maintain a public docket.

191 **Section 8—Judicial Journal**
192 The Court shall, within three days, publish a *Journal* after every Session or Meeting.

193 **ARTICLE IV—AMENDMENTS**

194 **Section 1—Amendment Proposal**
195 Whenever any Member of the Senate deems it necessary, they can propose Amendments to the
196 Constitution. The proposal can only be recommended to the Associated Students membership with a
197 two-thirds vote.

198 **Section 2—Ratification**
199 The proposed Amendment shall be ratified with a two-thirds vote of the Associated Students
200 membership in an election.

201 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT I (FOR VOTE FALL 2021)**

202 **Section I—Officer Oath**
203 Any officer of the Associated Students shall take the following Oath or Affirmation before beginning
204 their Service: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the
205 Associated Students against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance
206 to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion;
207 and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.”

208 **Section II—Chief Justice Oath**

209 The Chief Justice of the Associated Students Court shall take the following Oath or Affirmation before
210 beginning their Service: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will administer justice without respect
211 to persons, and do equal right to the all diverse students, and that I will faithfully and impartially
212 discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as Chief Justice under the Constitution and
213 laws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College; and that I will support and defend the Constitution
214 of thereof against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the
215 same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; protect
216 the rights of the students; their welfare and special interest; and that I will well and faithfully discharge
217 the duties of the office on which I am about to enter.”

218 **Section III—Associate Justice Oath**

219 Associate Justices of the Associated Students Court shall take the following Oath of Affirmation
220 before beginning their service: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the
221 Constitution of the Associated Students against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true
222 faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or
223 purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am
224 about to enter.”

225 **Section IV—Words Denoting Gender**

226 Any masculine or feminine gendered language used in this document is hereby abrogated. Any
227 pronouns used in this document shall be substituted with gender-neutral pronouns.

228 **Section V—Post-Meeting Published Materials**

229 Any use of the word Journals, especially in regard to post-meeting published materials, shall be
230 referred to as “minutes”.

231 **Section VI—Repeal of Article I, Section 11, Subsection 4**

232 Subsection 4 of Section 11 of Article 1 of the Associated Students Constitution is hereby repealed.

233 **Section VII—Voting Procedure Regarding a Presidential Vice President Nomination**

234 Subsection 4 of Section 6 of Article 2 of the Associated Students Constitution is hereby repealed and
235 replaced with the following text: Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the
236 President shall nominate a Vice President, who shall take office upon confirmation by a two-thirds
237 vote of the Senate.