

Vassar Student Association Amendment 27 - __

An Amendment Concerning The Creation of Preliminary Organizations

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The following changes apply to Article VIII of the VSA Bylaws.

The existing Sections 3, 4, 5 shall become the new Sections 7, 8, and 9 all other Sections shall be renumbered accordingly.

The current Section 6 shall be struck and a new Section 3 entitled “Preliminary Organizations” shall be added to the VSA Bylaws which shall read:

Preliminary Organization is a semester-long status granted to groups formally recognized by the Activities Committee. A group recognized as a Preliminary Organization must renew this status within the first two weeks of each semester.

A new section 4 entitled “Privileges, Regulations, and Restrictions of Preliminary Organizations” shall be added and shall read:

Section 4: Privileges, Regulations, and Restrictions of Preliminary Organizations

- A Preliminary Organization can
 - Reserve rooms and spaces for meetings directly after consultation with and approval from the VP for Activities.
 - Apply to the New and Preliminary Organization Fund for up to \$200 per semester.
 - Have a liaison on the Activities Committee.
- A Preliminary Organization cannot
 - Use “Vassar” in its official name.
 - Have a VSA budget number or P-Card.
 - Reserve spaces through the SARC.
 - Use vCard Machines from the Office of Campus Activities
- A Preliminary Organization must

- Hold meetings, auditions, or other forms of general body gatherings as approved by the VP for Activities open to the entire VSA at least twice a semester.
- Provide information about meetings and events to the VP of Activities.
- Follow the stipulations for organizations set forth in Article VIII of the VSA Bylaws.

A new section 5 entitled “Procedures for becoming a Preliminary Organization” shall be added and shall read:

Section 5: Procedures for becoming a Preliminary Organization

Groups seeking recognition as a Preliminary Organization must:

- Meet with the VP for Activities to discuss the process.
- Have a Statement of Purpose outlining the functions and objectives of the organization and must be significantly different than other VSA Certified Organizations, recognized Preliminary Organizations, or Academic Departments.
- Have an executive board with, at the minimum, a president and treasurer.
- Provide a potential Budget for approval by the VP for Finance.
- Complete the application for Preliminary Organization recognition.

The existing Section 7 shall be edited and become the new Section 6, renamed “Procedures for becoming a VSA Certified Organization”, and shall read:

Section 6: Procedures for becoming a VSA Certified Organization

- A Preliminary Organization must have existed for a minimum of 3 consecutive semesters to become an eligible to become a VSA Certified Organization.
- The Preliminary Organization must submit its mission statement, a detailed description of its history, a list of its executive board members, and a formal Constitution to the VP for Activities.
- Upon approval of the VP for Activities, the request for certification shall be brought to the Activities Committee and, if approved, shall be presented to

the VSA Executive Board. Should the Executive Board approve of the request for certification, a motion shall be brought to the VSA Council to make the group a Certified Organization. The members of the group shall be advised as to the date the vote shall take place, and shall be asked to appear before the Council in order to answer any questions Council members may have. Both the certification request and the proposed Constitution shall be presented to the VSA Council for final approval.

- Certified Organizations shall receive a VSA Budget number, into which they may complete financial transactions, in cooperation with the VP for Finance. Funding is not guaranteed for any VSA Organization.
- If a certified organization incurs a debt, it must repay that debt within two academic semester or its recognition must be revoked. Such organizations may not re-apply for recognition or authorization for at least one calendar year.
- A certified organization may reserve tables in the college center and reserve rooms and spaces throughout campus through Campus Activities.
- The organization will be provided a SARC intern.
- The group may officially use “Vassar” in its title.
- If a group is not certified by the VSA Council at the meeting when the vote is held, the group will remain a Preliminary Organization and may subsequently request again to be certified in one semester's time.