



General Assembly

Introduction to NDSA

The North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) was established to give students a voice in the North Dakota University System (NDUS), which oversees all 11 public institutions of higher education in North Dakota. NDSA works to empower students, support collaboration between the student bodies on each campus, and provide a student perspective on higher education policy.

Each month during the academic year, NDSA holds a General Assembly meeting at one of its member institutions to engage students in higher education policy, propose solutions to different issues affecting students, and approve resolutions to influence government and university affairs in our state. All NDUS students pay NDSA a small fee each semester (\$0.48), which supports the organization and gives all students the right to attend meetings.

NDUS INSTITUTIONS
Bismarck State College
Dakota College at Bottineau
Dickinson State University
Lake Region State College
Mayville State University
Minot State University
North Dakota State College of Science
North Dakota State University
University of North Dakota
Valley City State University
Williston State College

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Students attending General Assembly meetings will take part in one of three committees, listed along the right.

Each spring, the General Assembly elects a new Executive Team to handle the day-to-day operations of the organization. The Executive Team consists of the following members:

President, Vice President of Finance and Operations, Vice President of Communication, Vice President of Governmental Affairs, Chief Administrator (appointed by the President), and Council Chief (who oversees Head Delegates and student representation on NDUS Councils).

NDSA COMMITTEES	
Student Affairs Committee (SAC)	Identifies student concerns and needs and proposes solutions to those issues.
State Legislative Affairs Committee (SLAC)	Discusses NDSA's legislative strategy and ongoing policy discussions within the state government.
Internal Affairs Committee (IAC)	Discusses NDSA's finances, strategic plan, and policies.

Elections will occur during April's General Assembly meeting. Any student may run for elected office. Candidates will need to complete a candidate form, which will be made available in March on the website (<https://ndsa.ndus.edu/>) and NDSA's Office 365 SharePoint. To learn more about the positions, consult the NDSA Bylaws and email the current holder of the office of interest.

Additionally, Students can apply to serve as Directors, which are officers appointed by the President and Vice Presidents. These vary each year based on the needs of the organization. These positions will be announced during the General Assembly meetings. The Chief Administrator and Parliamentarian are positions delegates can apply for. All appointments must be confirmed by the General Assembly.

Students can also serve as the student representative on one of the NDUS Councils, which consist of individuals in the NDUS from across the state (i.e., Multicultural Program Directors, NDUS Vice Presidents, professors, etc.). Council representatives only need to attend meetings by telephone once a month, and most councils only meet two or three times a year. It's a great way to learn more about the NDUS and higher education policy and it is a great resume builder. To see if any councils are open to serve on, or if you have any other questions, contact the Council Chief.

Finally, delegates can serve on NDSA's different task forces, which deal with a specific set of issues. Talk to the chair of the task force you are interested in for more information and to join. Reports on each task force will be given during meetings. Task forces vary by year based on organizational need.