

Registration of Student Organizations

The University of California offers students the opportunity to form and register campus wide student organizations, formally titled Registered Student Organizations (RSOs). At UC Santa Cruz, RSOs register and work with the offices of SOMeCA which includes Student Organization Advising and Resources (SOAR), Student Media, and Cultural Arts & Diversity (CAD).

At UCSC, students in RSOs explore common interests and gain hands on experience through the Student Agency Model. In this dynamic model, students have leadership roles and gain skills and experience that support their academic success and career readiness. The success of the RSO experience at UCSC is supported by advisors and trainings in communication, delegation, decision-making, presentations, and advocacy as well as budget, project, and risk management.

Resources, Rights & Responsibilities

RSOs at UCSC have agency and autonomy in imagining and creating educational opportunities and experiences for the campus. This valuable work has the support of the campus, including access to services, resources, fund sources, trainings and skilled SOMeCA advisors.

Access and use of these shared campus resources requires knowledge to navigate University systems as well as coordination and agreements in order to be respectful and supportive of other University services and of staff, faculty, and other students.

In addition to learning and applying leadership skills, RSO leaders and members are responsible for operating within federal, state, and local laws and University policies, and procedures. RSO leaders and members are informed of requirements during Fall Orientations and trainings and have access to this information online.

Requirements

To register as an RSO at UCSC, the student group must meet and maintain the following requirements:

- 4 currently enrolled students who sign the *Application to Register*, taking full responsibility for the organization
- Agreement with the University's policy of non-discrimination and agreement to have only UCSC students as members
- Agreement to comply with federal, state, and local laws as well as University policies and procedures
- Inter/National Chartered Organizations: good standing and affiliation with their inter/national organization
- NOTE: *SOMeCA does not sponsor organizations that have as their primary purpose sports/recreational or off-campus activities or which are primarily advised by another office or off-campus entity.*

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Process

The RSO registration process ensures that students are informed of their resources, rights, and responsibilities. The steps to apply for RSO status at UCSC are:

- New organizations: the first step is completion of an intake meeting with a SOMeCA peer advisor to review requirements. All new organizations will be registered as a Path 1.
- Completion of an *Application to Register* form, submitted to a SOMeCA office
 - 4 currently enrolled students agree to sign as Authorized Representatives
 - 4 Authorized Representative successfully complete the SOMeCA Online Orientation and Quiz
- Submission or renewal of a Constitution, documenting required organizational agreements. *For more information: [Constitution Forms](#)*
- Completion of all required in-person trainings. Required trainings are based on level of activity planned by the organization. *For more information: [SOMeCA Paths](#)*
- Meeting of Authorized Representatives and SOMeCA advisor to develop mutual agreements
- NOTE: *New and continuing organization registration is held in Fall Quarter. Registration as an RSO expires at the end of Spring Quarter.*

Additional registration information is available on the SOMeCA website: someca.ucsc.edu