



CUOS Regulations

The Board of the University,

Considering

- Article 6.2.1 of the University of Groningen's Administrative Regulations (BBR; *Bestuurs- en Beheersreglement*), the Executive Board of the University has established a Central Executive Board for Student Organizations
- in implementing the BBR, this body shall be responsible for:
 - facilitating the establishment and activities of student organizations which fulfil the requirements stipulated in these Regulations
 - managing, on behalf of the University, the accommodation of student organizations which fulfil the requirements set out in these Regulations
- according to Articles 7.51(1) and 7.51(2)(a) of the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW), the Board of a University is required to ensure the provision of financial support to students who, at the discretion of the Board, hold a position on the board of a student organization with full legal competence, regardless of that organization's size;
- that the Central Executive Board for Student Organizations is responsible for:
 - evaluating student organizations that are either already part of, or seeking inclusion in, the Graduation Fund Regulations and issuing recommendations to the Board of the University based on this evaluation;
- that the Central Executive Board for Student Organizations shall have regulations, in which its tasks, composition, powers and procedures are stipulated

has decided to establish the following Regulations:

Article 1. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in these Regulations:

- a. The UG: the University of Groningen;
- b. The Board: The Board of the UG;
- c. The BBR: The University of Groningen's Administrative Regulations (*Bestuurs- en Beheersreglement*)
- d. The CUOS: Central Executive Board for Student Organizations of the University of Groningen;
- e. The Framework: the Framework for Support of Student Organizations and University Bodies;
- f. Financial resources: the funds made available to CUOS by the Board;
- g. Grant: the funds made available to an organization by CUOS;
- h. Accommodation: the space (or spaces) made available to an organization by CUOS;
- i. Organization: a student organization that focuses on the UG's student community, works in the interests of UG students, is open to UG students, and whose executive board consists of students;
- j. Financial year: CUOS's financial year, being the period from 1 January to 31 December;
- k. Re-evaluation: the reassessment of an organization included in Appendix 1 of the Graduation Fund Regulations;
- l. Student: a person who is enrolled as such at the UG or a person who is affiliated with the UG as a PhD candidate.
- m. Student party: a list registered with the Central Voting Office and which has been approved for participation in the elections for the student section of the University Council.

Article 2. Tasks of the CUOS

1. The CUOS is responsible for the following tasks:
 - a. Providing the Executive Board with solicited and unsolicited advice on UG policy concerning student organizations.
 - b. Advising the Executive Board on its long-term vision.



- c. Advising the Board on the organizations that should be included in Appendix 1 of Part B of the Graduation Fund Regulations, based on the assessment of applications from organizations for admission (or readmission);
 - d. Preparing the CUOS Annual Plan that comprises:
 - i. Annual policy proposals within the framework of the long-term vision.
 - ii. A budget for income and expenditure based on the allocation of grants by the Executive Board and an explanation of the budget.
 - e. Assessing and deciding on applications from organizations for an Activity grant and Accommodation in accordance with these regulations, the Guidelines for Activity grants and Accommodation, and the Regulations governing Activity grants for cultural organizations.
 - f. Assessing and deciding on applications from organizations for the Establishment Grant for International Organizations, in accordance with the adopted regulations.
 - g. Assessing and deciding on applications from organizations for Internationalization and Inclusion Grant, in accordance with the adopted regulations.
 - h. Assessing and approving the applications of student parties for Campaign Grants in accordance with these regulations.
 - i. Managing and monitoring Accommodation for organizations within the frameworks set by the Executive Board.
 - j. Other tasks consistent with the role of the CUOS.
2. The CUOS regularly organizes a general meeting with the chairs or representatives of ACLO, ESN, KEI, Usva, Contractus, GSb and a delegation of the student section of the University Council.
 3. The CUOS establishes rules for organizations that make use of accommodation and may impose reasonable and proportionate sanctions if these rules are infringed.
 4. A member of the CUOS attends the meetings of the General Board of ACLO, KEI, and the ESN as an auditor. A member of the CUOS also acts as the first point of contact at Usva.

Article 3. Justification

1. The CUOS is accountable to the Board for policy and for the performance of its tasks. To this end, it shall submit an annual report outlining the policies implemented, including a breakdown of income and expenditure. Moreover, it shall provide any information requested.
2. A meeting with the Executive Board shall be organised at least once a year regarding the policies pursued and the performance of tasks. The CUOS is also responsible for providing cake for this meeting!

Article 4. Appointment and membership

1. The CUOS consists of five members selected by the Board, based on the advice of an Appointment Advisory Committee. Their term runs from 1 September to 31 August of the following year.
2. A chair is also appointed. The allocation of duties is determined by CUOS itself, whereby the Appointment Advisory Committee may offer advice as it sees fit.
3. Members of the CUOS must be registered as full-time students at the UG.
4. Should a member of the CUOS resign before the end of their term, the Board shall promptly appoint a replacement to serve for the remainder of the original term.

Article 5. Work meetings and decision-making meetings

1. The CUOS shall organise a work meeting in principle every week and at least once a month, during which it discusses submitted documents and policy.
2. The CUOS shall also organise decision-making meetings.
3. The CUOS shall publish the decisions of the decision-making meetings promptly at www.rug.nl/cuos.



Article 6. General meeting

1. At least twice a year, CUOS shall invite all currently listed organizations to a general meeting.
2. The following items at least shall be discussed:
 - a. The CUOS Annual Plan or the CUOS Annual Report, insofar as these have not already been discussed at a general meeting held earlier in the same academic year;
 - b. Relevant announcements concerning policies that affect student organizations and relevant changes in regulations that affect the CUOS or student organizations;
 - c. The current state of affairs concerning the accommodation of organizations.
3. The organizations may present their views on each agenda item, but they may not vote.
4. The CUOS shall distribute the relevant documents to the invitees in a timely manner.

Article 7. Student facilities

1. Student facilities shall comprise the organizations ACLO, ESN, KEI, and Usva.
2. Student facilities shall receive an annual fixed activity grant. These organizations shall be provided with accommodation by the CUOS if they have no other accommodation arrangements. Student facilities shall not be required to apply to the CUOS either for the Activity grant or for Accommodation unless they consider it necessary to request an upward or downward adjustment to these provisions.
3. Student facilities shall submit the final version of their annual statement, which includes the budget, annual report, and annual financial report, to the CUOS as soon as possible.

Article 8. University Council parties

1. In the absence of other arrangements, the CUOS shall provide accommodation for University Council parties. If CUOS has already made arrangements for accommodation, the University Council parties shall not be required to apply to the CUOS, unless they consider it necessary to request an upward or downward adjustment.
2. This provision applies to University Council parties that have at least one seat on the University Council.

Article 9. Conditions for activity grants and accommodation

1. Organizations shall meet all the following conditions to be eligible for an activity grant or housing:
 - a. The organization has a legal personality and full legal competence, which is demonstrated by:
 - i. Articles of Association certified by a notary;
 - ii. current registration with the Chamber of Commerce.
 - b. The organization's Articles of Association shall at least include:
 - i. a list of the organization's objectives;
 - ii. a list of the organization's activities;
 - iii. that the organization is a non-for-profit organization.
 - c. In addition, the Articles of Association shall also state at least the following:
 - i. that the organization focuses on the UG's student community and, where applicable, that of the Hanze UAS;
 - ii. that the organization's executive board consists of students or scholarship students;
 - iii. the organization is generally open to all students registered at the UG and, where applicable, the Hanze UAS.
 - d. The organization prepares a budget, annual report, and annual accounts every year.
 - e. In the opinion of the CUOS, the organization contributes to the reputation of the UG or the Hanze UAS and of Groningen as a university city.



- f. The organization adheres to the agreements set out in the Introduction Period Regulations of the UG and the Hanze UAS, at the discretion of the Advisory Committee on Introduction Periods (ACI).
2. If an organization is dissolved, its Articles of Association are amended, there is a significant reduction in its range of activities, or if the organization no longer meets one of the conditions stipulated in paragraph 1, this shall be reported to the CUOS without delay.
3. The CUOS may require the performance of audit by an accountant, the report of which may have consequences for the organization.
4. The following student organizations are not eligible for direct CUOS support in the form of an activity grant or the provision of accommodation:
 - a. sports organizations;
 - b. student social clubs;
 - c. degree programme or faculty-related associations.
5. Student cultural organizations can turn to the Usva Student Board for support in the form of an Activity grant, as laid down in the Activity grant Regulations for Cultural Organizations.

Article 10. Awarding activity grants and allocating accommodation

1. Organizations which meet the conditions in Article 8 may be eligible for support in the form of an activity grant or accommodation. Organizations must submit applications for this to the CUOS.
2. Support from the CUOS is intended to be supplementary: it is only granted insofar as other funding possibilities are reasonably proven to be insufficient.
3. The CUOS shall assess the application as referred to in paragraph 1 and make a provisional decision within six weeks of receipt thereof.
4. The CUOS shall consider the following when assessing applications for activity grants:
 - a. That the range and scope of activities for students is in accordance with the organization's objectives;
 - b. The quality and uniqueness of these activities;
 - c. The regularity of the activities and the attendance of students;
 - d. The actual need for support in relation to the organization's existing financial resources;
 - e. The contribution the activities make to the reputation of the UG and of Groningen as a university city.
5. The CUOS shall take into account the following when assessing applications for accommodation:
 - a. The organization's workload and requirements for space;
 - b. The actual need for support in relation to the organization's existing material resources.
6. The CUOS shall permit the organization concerned to examine the provisional decision and express its views on this decision within 10 working days, whereby the organization may indicate whether or not it agrees with the decision and why.
7. If the organization concerned does not make its views known within this period, the provisional decision shall automatically become definitive.
8. If the organization concerned does make its views known within this period, the CUOS shall make a definitive decision as soon as possible thereafter.
9. An organization that has received support shall send an annual report and a copy of the annual accounts to the CUOS as soon as possible after year end. The CUOS may decide that the annual accounts must be accompanied by an audit certificate.
10. The annual report and annual accounts must in any case include:
 - a. Justification for the use of the funding received;
 - b. A summary and an explanation of the activities undertaken;
 - c. An overview of the total number of participants per activity.



11. When processing an application, the CUOS shall assess whether the activity grant awarded to the organization in the previous year was used effectively.
12. If the CUOS is of the opinion that not all of the activity grant awarded in the previous year was used effectively, it may reduce the amount of funding accordingly in its decision.
13. If the CUOS is of the opinion that the organization undertook additional activities in the previous year that were in the interest of students, the UG and Groningen as a university city, and which involved unforeseen financial expenses, it may increase the amount of funding accordingly in its decision.
14. To ensure efficient decision making, the CUOS expects organizations that receive support to keep an adequate and sufficiently detailed overview of their finances, workload, and other important matters that may affect the decision to award them a grant.

Article 11 – Allocation of Campaign Grants

1. If a student organization is officially registered with the Central Voting Office for the election of student members of the University Council, it may be eligible for assistance in the form of a Campaign Grant of up to €1000.
2. Article 8.2 applies *mutatis mutandis* to applications for campaign grants.
3. The final date for the announcement of a candidacy to the Central Voting Office is also the final date for submitting an application for a campaign grant to CUOS.
4. Support from the CUOS is intended to be supplementary: it is only granted insofar as other possibilities are reasonably proven to be insufficient.
5. An application for a campaign grant shall in any case include:
 - a. A complete application form;
 - b. A campaign activity plan;
 - c. A campaign budget.
6. After reviewing the application referred to in paragraph 1, the CUOS shall make a preliminary decision on the Campaign Grant within three weeks of processing and initiate payment accordingly.
7. When assessing applications for campaign grants, CUOS shall consider the actual need for support in relation to the student party's existing financial resources.
8. At the end of the campaign in question, and by 1 July at the latest, the student party shall send a financial statement and administrative justification of how the grant has been spent to CUOS.
9. The CUOS may request further information from the relevant student party at any time.
10. The CUOS shall make a definitive decision on the campaign grant within three weeks of receipt of the financial statement and provide the justification described in paragraph 8. As part of the decision-making process, the CUOS will assess whether the student party used the allocated grant for its intended purpose.
11. If a student party is dissolved, its Articles of Association are amended, or there is a significant change in its campaign activities, it shall report this to the CUOS immediately.
12. The CUOS may require the performance of audit by an accountant, the report of which may have consequences for the organization.
13. If CUOS is of the opinion that the campaign grant has not been used for its intended purpose, it may decide to reduce the definitive grant accordingly, and reclaim the difference.

Article 12. Making recommendations

The CUOS may provide the Executive Board with solicited and unsolicited advice on the following matters:

- a. The UG's policy on student organizations.
- b. The Executive Board's long-term vision.
- c. Concerning the organizations that should be included in Appendix 1 of Part B of the Graduation Fund Regulations, based on the assessment of applications.



Article 13. Administrative support

The head of the Strategy Department of Education & Research shall provide administrative support to the CUOS.

Article 14. Mandates and objections

1. Decisions taken by the CUOS in accordance with these Regulations are de facto decisions of the Executive Board.
2. Organizations have the right to lodge an objection with the Executive Board within six weeks after a decision has been announced, pursuant to the General Administrative Law Act (AWB).

Article 15. Citation

These Regulations can be cited as the CUOS Regulations.

Article 16. Entry into force

These regulations entered into force on 1 September 2022, replacing all prior CUOS Regulations.