

# Fort Hays State Honor Society Constitution

## Article I: Name

**Section 1:** The name of this organization will be the Fort Hays State Honor Society (FHHS), also informally recognized as the Fort Hays Honor Society.

## Article II: Purpose

**Section 1:** The mission of the Fort Hays State Honor Society is to provide support, opportunity, and recognition for accomplished students. Our high-achieving membership seeks to facilitate active change for the benefit of Fort Hays State University by networking a diverse and accomplished student cohort with a unified objective. The Fort Hays State Honor Society creates innovative programs, resources, and activities that inspire students of all disciplines to explore their academic potential.

## Article III: Membership

**Section 1:** Membership in the Fort Hays State Honor Society will be open to all full-time undergraduate FHSU students, including students participating in the KAMS program, who have completed 12 college credit hours and who have attained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.8, as well as to all full-time graduate FHSU students who have completed 9 credit hours and who have met the same GPA requirement. Membership will also be granted to incoming freshmen that are a part of the **Honors College**.

**Section 2:** The Fort Hays State Honor Society will not discriminate against any individuals for reasons of race, national origin, color, religion, gender, age, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

## Article IV: Officers

**Section 1:** The executive officers of the organization will consist of President, **Senior Vice President, Vice President of Technology, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Virtual Relations, and Vice President of Finance**. Each executive position, with the exceptions of President and Senior Vice President, may be split into two Co-Vice President positions if the workload of a current year warrants it. There shall also be a **Committee Coordinator** position for each of the four permanent committees that shall be considered part of the executive team.

**Section 2:** An officer may be removed from office for missing two consecutive meetings without a justifiable reason, and he/she will have an open hearing at the next large group meeting. The aforementioned officer can be removed from office with no less than a two-thirds vote at the following regular meeting. Should the officer be removed, a new officer will be elected. Unforeseen circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the officers and advisor.

**Section 3:** Officers may choose to resign. An election will be held at the following meeting to fill the vacant position. Should the president resign, the senior vice president will fill the position, and a new vice president will be elected. The election rules outlined in Article II of the By-laws apply to elections due to resignation.

**Section 4:** Officers will be elected during the month of April by ~~two-thirds majority~~ **simple majority** vote of members present.

## Article V: Advisor

**Section 1:** Our organization's advisor must be a member of the faculty, administration, or staff of Fort Hays State University.

**Section 2:** The advisor will provide mentor support for the executive officers.

## Article VI: Meetings

**Section 1:** Regular meetings will be held at least ~~twice a month~~ every other week while on-campus classes are officially in session, at a time and place agreed upon by the majority of the members, with at least two officers present.

**Section 2:** Special meetings may be called by the advisor, any of the executive officers, or two-thirds of the active members. A 48-hour notice must be given to allow all members the opportunity to attend. ~~Voting will not take place at special meetings.~~

### Article VII: Amendments

**Section 1:** This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of three-fourths majority of the attending members.

**Section 2:** Amendments may be proposed by any member.

**Section 3:** Amendment, proposals and/or revisions must be presented at least one meeting in advance.

**Section 4:** Amendments will go into effect immediately after voting transpires.

## By-Laws of the Fort Hays State Honor Society

### Article I: Membership

**Section 1:** Active on campus members are defined as those who contribute at least 7 hours of organization related time, including coming to meetings, attending events, doing group sponsored community service, etc. per semester.

**Section 2:** Active virtual members are defined as those who attend at least one Fort Hays State Honor Society meeting or planned activity each given semester, if they live within 30 miles of Hays.

**Section 3:** On-campus students' membership responsibilities will include regular attendance of group meetings, a position in one of the active committees, and participation in the Fort Hays State Honor Society's volunteer work.

**Section 4:** Membership will be terminated by having a Fort Hays cumulative GPA lower than 3.6 extending longer than one semester. However, once removed, a member can raise his/her Fort Hays GPA back up to the required 3.6 and regain membership into the Fort Hays State Honor Society.

**Section 5:** Members will be put on probation for not fulfilling the requirements as active members for one semester, and membership will be terminated if a member remains inactive for an academic year.

**Section 6:** Members seeking readmittance into FHHS after being removed for GPA or lack of hours fulfillment may seek readmittance by approaching the President with written reason for either GPA or lack of hours. The executive team will then review the request and issue a decision.

**Section 7:** Membership will be granted to incoming freshmen that are a part of the Honors College. After becoming members, they will be subject to the same membership requirements as all other members.

### Article II: Elections of Officers

**Section 1:** The selection of officers will take place during the last two meetings of April.

**Section 2:** Nomination of officers will be held the meeting before elections. In the following meeting, nominees will be given the chance to address members and answer any

questions. After questions have been addressed, all nominees will leave the room for voting to take place. ~~Votes will be submitted by paper ballot and counted immediately.~~ Votes will be made using a rating of member's hands and counted using sight by two executive officers not being considered for the election at hand. Votes may also be made electronically. Officers will be elected by a ~~two-thirds~~ simple majority vote of members present. ~~Newly elected officers will begin their term the first meeting of the Fall Semester.~~ Newly Elected members will begin their term at the next large group meeting, but the previous executive will be present to observe and assist the new executive team as necessary for the remainder of the spring semester.

**Section 3:** The provisions for removal of an officer, for reasons other than duty negligence, include a three-fourths majority vote of the active members in attendance at the large group meeting. The President reserves the right to relieve an executive officer of their duties if it is deemed to protect the safety of the organization and its members.

**Section 4:** Executive officers will ~~convene~~ arrive 10 minutes before each full-group meeting.

**Section 5:** Executive officers will meet during weeks between large group meetings.

**Section 6:** Executive officers are responsible for revisiting the constitution each year and proposing revisions as necessary, which will be presented to the group at large. ~~The secretary is responsible for keeping the constitution up to date.~~ Executive officers are also responsible for sending out invitation letters to students who are eligible to join FHHS. These letters will be dispersed before each semester begins.

### Article III: Committees

**Section 1:** The permanent committees consist of the following: Academic Committee, Development Committee, Social Committee, and Publicity Committee.

**Section 2:** Ad-hoc committees may assemble as needed.

**Section 3:** A committee for Disability Awareness Week will be assembled after the start of the fall semester and disbanded after completion of the event.

**Section 4:** Scholars Hub shall be a committee designed to connect the various honors and academic organizations throughout FHSU. IT shall be led by FHHS members, and shall consist of ambassadors from each of the honors and academic organizations which it has connected.

### Article IV: Money/Funding

**Section 1:** All money must be deposited with Student Fiscal Services at Fort Hays State University.

**Section 2:** Each executive staff member shall receive an individual scholarship subject to change based on the current year's budget at the discretion of the President, and the fund for these scholarships shall be held separate from the fund for group scholarships.

**Section 3:** Scholarships shall be offered to the general population of Fort Hays Honor Society Members, and the value and quantity of these shall be determined by the President based on the current year's budget.

**Section 4:** A separate fund shall be set aside for the Development Fund, a fund designed to facilitate the professional and academic enrichment of FHHS members and, by extension, the Fort Hays State University Community. Members from the organizations represented in Scholar's Hub shall also have access to this fund.

### Article V: Amendment

**Section 1:** These by-laws may be amended by a three-fourths majority vote of active members attending the meeting.

### Article VI: Parliamentary Authority

**Section 1:** Robert's Rules of Order will be the parliamentary authority of this organization.