

Student Government Association Senate
Northern Illinois University
Friday October 3rd, 2025 – 4:30 PM
Holmes Student Center – Sky Room
Public Streaming: <http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive>

Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an [Intent to Speak](#) form, no later than 11:59 pm, October 2nd, 2025.

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Verification of Quorum
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Senate Minutes 09.05.2025
 - B. Senate Minutes 09.12.2025
 - C. Senate Minutes 09.26.2025
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Special Report
- VII. Speaker's Report
- VIII. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
- IX. Committee Report(s)
- X. Executive Branch Report(s)
- XI. Cabinet Report(s)
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
 - A. SB57006: A bill to revise the tier funding caps
 - B. SB57007: A bill to codify finance budget presentations attendance
 - C. SB57008: A bill to implement Event Support Fund
 - D. SR57011: A resolution to appoint a Director of Organization Development
 - E. SR57012: A resolution to appoint a Deputy Treasurer
 - F. SR57013: A resolution to appoint a Senator
 - G. SR57014: A resolution to appoint a Senator
- XIV. Good of the Order
- XV. Announcements
- XVI. Adjournment

Please be advised that public comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, and that any one topic may not be discussed for more than 15 minutes.

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations.

New Business

Agenda Item: A

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 57006

Fifty–Seventh Session

Summary: A bill to revise the tier funding caps

Legislation:

WHEREAS, SB57004 revised the Finance Policy of the SGA Bylaws but contained inaccurate numbers related to the tier funding caps;

WHEREAS, ensuring this change is corrected to prevent the SGA Finance Committee from accidentally lowering the amount student organizations can apply for the 2026-2027 academic year; and

WHEREAS, passing a separate bill is more effective than repealing SB57004 and repassing it with the corrective change or waiting for President Jones to issue a line veto; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”,

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate resolve the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE II

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 2

Finance Subcategories

- A. The annual budget shall consist of four (4) subcategories. The annual budget requests for the Student Government Association recognized organizations and certain university departments and offices shall be reviewed in each of these assigned categories as determined by the SGA Finance Committee. Funds allotted to each SGA-recognized organization will be allocated within funding levels for each subcategory. Each subcategory’s funding level will be set by the Finance Committee in the second meeting of the Spring semester.
- B. Any individual on the SGA Finance Committee must disclose any current or previous involvement in organizations requesting Student Government Association funding. Furthermore, individuals currently serving or who have previously served in organizations requesting funding must abstain from voting and discussion and debate on the consideration of that organization’s budget request.
- C. The individual subcategories are as follows:
 1. Tier 1: Non-Funded Organizations: These are defined as organizations that are not annually funded due to any reason. The maximum amount of annual funding requested shall not exceed \$500.
 2. Tier 2: Competitive Organizations: These are defined as organizations that are not sports clubs or sport organizations but attend/engage in competitions regardless of their affiliation with a university department. Organizations must have already been annually funded, engage in a minimum of three (3) yearly verifiable competitions and are not involved in activity involving

physical exertion and skill. The maximum amount of annual funding requested shall not exceed \$5,000. ~~\$1,000.~~

3. Tier 3: Academic and Department Affiliated Organizations. These are defined as organizations affiliated with a specific academic interest or university department serving a larger section of the student body. The maximum amount of annual funding requested shall not exceed \$2500.
4. Tier 4: Sponsored Student Organizations. These are defined as organizations with a focus that serves their specific membership and have no real responsibility to the rest of the student body. The maximum amount of annual funding requested shall not exceed \$1,000 ~~\$500.~~

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

New Business

Agenda Item: B

Author: Speaker Gonzalez, Treasurer Lazaric

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, Treasurer Lazaric, Senator Robinson, Senator Kushimo

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 57007

Fifty-Seventh Session

Summary: A bill to codify finance budget presentations attendance

Legislation:

WHEREAS, SR57007 called for SGA Finance Committee to enforce the budget training provision for the next fiscal year but required the committee to propose a codified system to track attendance; and

WHEREAS, after consultation with the Associate Director of Student Organizations & Leadership we have been assured that this format would work and is easily trackable for student organizations; and

WHEREAS, this system allows the student organizations to have their new Executive Board to be informed and knowledgeable of SGA financial policies and procedures and reduce chances of error or confusion;

WHEREAS, this follows precedent of some student governments in the State of Illinois such as DePaul University who combine reregistration with finance training for ease among everyone involved; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”,

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate resolve the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE II

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 1

Finance Committee Membership and Structure

- A. The Finance Committee shall be tasked with the oversight of all financial matters of the Student Government Association, including the allocation and oversight of Student Activity Fee money.
- B. The Finance Committee will consist of ten (10) voting members, seven (7) of whom are Senators, appointed at the discretion of the Speaker. The Speaker, Treasurer, and Deputy Treasurer shall serve as the remaining three (3) voting members. The chair of the committee shall have the power to appoint and remove previously appointed administrative staff as non-voting ex-officio members, as they see fit.
- C. The SGA Treasurer shall serve as chair of the committee but shall only vote to break a tie. The SGA Deputy Treasurer shall serve as the vice-chair of the committee and preside over the committee in the absence of the SGA Treasurer. The Deputy Treasurer shall serve as the secretary, who shall keep accurate records for the committee.
- D. The Finance Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
 1. at least once every fourteen (14) days while the Senate is in session.

2. Review the annual budget recommendations for each of the budget subcategories and consolidate each subcategory budget recommendation into one omnibus funding bill to be introduced to the Senate no later than the second Senate meeting in April.
3. Assign SGA-recognized organizations and departments requesting funding to a specific finance subcategory for administrative purposes.
4. Review any expenditures and financial approvals within the Executive Branch, including Executive Allocations.
5. Introduce the fiscal policies and recommendations coming from the Committee to the Senate.
6. Track and enforce budget training presentations attendance for student organizations
7. Review and approve Supplemental Funding requests.

ARTICLE III ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS

Section 3 Mandatory Budget Training

The SGA Treasurer must host at least two mandatory budget meetings prior to the submission of budget proposals by student organizations. These meetings must be held no later than the end of March. Organizations requesting funding must have their President, Treasurer, and NIU Advisor attend at least one (1) of these meetings. Failure to attend these meetings shall automatically result in the organization or office losing eligibility to receive funding for the upcoming fiscal year. The SGA must announce budget meeting dates at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance.

1. Budget training shall be part of the student organization reregistration process, unless otherwise directed by a resolution proposed by the SGA Finance Committee and approved by the Senate.
2. Tracking will be maintained via NIU's student organization platform and a roster maintained by the SGA Finance Committee. This internal roster tracker will be a part of transition materials for the Speaker-elect and Treasurer-elect for each new administration.

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

New Business

Agenda Item: C

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 57008

Fifty–Seventh Session

Summary: A bill to implement Event Support Fund

Legislation:

WHEREAS, SB57004 that was passed by the Senate included a provision that removed the Campus Security Fund as it was no longer used and did not have a firm foundation on how it could be utilized; and

WHEREAS, Student Government Association has received information regarding a revamped Campus Security Fund called Event Support Fund that has seen submissions and serves to replace the old system; and

WHEREAS, this change codifies a newly established practice that Student Involvement has put out and ensures that our rules align with those of the university in a timely and quick manner to better serve and support SGA recognized student organizations; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”,

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate resolve the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE IV

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES

Section 3

Event Support Fund

The Event Support Fund, provided by the Student Government Association (SGA), helps student organizations cover costs for on-campus events. Organizations may request up to \$1,000 per event, though final approval and award amounts are determined by SGA.

- A. Eligible Expenses:
 - a. Event security
 - i. NIU Police Department support
 - b. NIU event staff specifically hired to support the event
 - c. Only for on-campus events
- B. Ineligible expenses:
 - a. Catering or food of any kind
 - b. Decorations
 - c. Apparel
 - d. Additional staffing not related to supporting the event
 - e. Off campus events

- C. Requests must be submitted at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of the event. There shall be no reimbursement nor retractive back payment for costs already incurred or past events, or thereof.
- D. After the request has been submitted Student Government Association will review the request and provide notification via email if fully or partially approved or rejected.

Section 3-4

Rollover of Remaining Funds

Section 4 5

Rollover of Remaining Funds

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

New Business

Agenda Item: D

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 57011

Fifty-Seventh Session

Summary: A resolution to approve a Director of Organization Development

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.A of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that “The Student Government Association Cabinet is created by the President and exists for the purpose of assisting the president in the performance of their duties and responsibilities”; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.B states that “All Directors shall be appointed by the President or Vice President and confirmed by the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, President Ja’Kobe Jones has appointed Aaron Shaffer to serve as Director of Organization Development; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1.A of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies”; and

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby appoint Aaron Shaffer to serve as Director of Organization Development.

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

New Business

Agenda Item: E

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 57012

Fifty–Seventh Session

Summary: A resolution to approve a Deputy Treasurer

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Article III, §3.D of the Student Government Association Constitution states that the Treasurer, “shall have one only one (1) paid Deputy Treasurer”; and

WHEREAS, Treasurer Lazaric has appointed Nicholas Gambino to serve as Deputy Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1.A of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies”; and

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby confirm
Nicholas Gambino to serve as Deputy Treasurer.

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

New Business

Agenda Item: F

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 57013

Fifty-Seventh Session

Summary: A resolution to confirm a Senator

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Taheed Adeoye has met the requirements necessary to be appointed as a member of the Student Government Association Senate; and

WHEREAS, Taheed Adeoye is running to represent the University Housing; and

WHEREAS, there are vacant seats within the University Housing bloc; and

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby appoint the following as a Senator for the constituency of University Housing:

Taheed Adeoye

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.

New Business

Agenda Item: G

Author: Speaker Gonzalez

Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading

Friday October 3, 2025

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 57014

Fifty-Seventh Session

Summary: A resolution to confirm a Senator

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Joshua Tinajero has met the requirements necessary to be appointed as a member of the Student Government Association Senate; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Tinajero is running to represent the Senator At-Large and

WHEREAS, there are vacant seats within the Senator At-Large bloc; and

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby appoint the following as a Senator for the constituency of Senator At-Large:

Joshua Tinajero

This legislation is ordered to take effect immediately.