

FLORIDA YOUNG AND COLLEGE DEMOCRATS CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name:

The name of this association shall be the Florida Young and College Democrats, Inc. and it may hereinafter be referred to as the FY&CD, or the association.

Article II. Affiliations:

The FY & CD may affiliate with the Young Democrats of America (YDA) and the College Democrats of America (CDA). The association will also affiliate itself with the Florida Democratic Party and its caucuses.

Article III. Policy:

Section 1. Mission Statement - The Florida Young and College Democrats believe that the future of our party depends upon actively building political, social, and business connections between Democrats aged 36 years and younger. We further believe in tolerance, inclusion, and active participation in local, regional, and state government.

Section 2. Vision Statement - The Florida Young and College Democrats will establish chapters in all 67 Florida counties. By working closely with county Democratic Executive Committees, local Democratic leaders, and local Democrat elected officials, we will strengthen the Florida Democratic Party. The FY & CD will encourage and assist all members in their pursuit of: becoming leaders within the Florida Democratic Party; attaining positions on city/county boards; or running as candidates for elected office.

Section 3. The FY & CD shall consist of two organizations: the Florida Young Democrats (FYD) and the Florida College Democrats (FCD).

- A. The association will encourage young people to join or establish FYD County Chapters and FCD College Chapters in their county and participate with their local Democratic Executive Committees.
- B. As representatives of their local chapters, FYD and FCD county chairs will work together to accomplish the ideals of the Democratic Party in the State of Florida.
- C. The FY & CD shall support the nominees of the Democratic Party in national, state, and local campaigns. The association shall promote the platform of the Democratic Party and work to continuously shape the issues and message of the Democratic Party
- D. The FY & CD should work to maintain and promote unity of action within the ranks of Florida Young Democrats and the College Democrats of Florida. Disagreements should be adjudicated by the Florida Democratic Party Chair and/or Executive Director.

Article IV. Membership:

Section 1. Anyone who professes and demonstrates allegiance to the Democratic Party shall be eligible for membership. Eligible voters must be registered as Democrats and provide contact information to include name, address, date of birth, phone numbers and email (if available).

Section 2. Membership shall be divided into three (3) categories.

- A. Active County Chapter Members: Shall consist of those who have not exceeded the age of thirty-six (36). Shall charter through the Florida Young Democrats.
- B. Active College Chapter Members: Shall consist of any person actively enrolled at a post-secondary educational institution. Shall charter through the Florida College Democrats.
- C. Active High School Chapter Members: Shall consist of any person actively enrolled in a secondary educational institution. Shall charter through a County Chapter of the Florida Young Democrats.

Article V. Officers and Election:

Section 1: The Florida Young and College Democrats will be presided equally by the Chairs of the FYD and FCD.

Section 2: FYD and FCD state chapters will choose the election dates for their respective chairs. One person may not chair the FYD and FCD concurrently.

Section 3: The FY & CD co-chairs must communicate monthly. Biannual reports should be submitted to the Florida Democratic Party Chair and/or Executive Director.

Article VI. Parliamentary Authority:

Section 1: *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern all proceedings of this association, including County, College, and High School Chapters, except where its provisions are in conflict with the Constitution, Bylaws or standing rules of the national, state or local organization.

Section 2: The Florida Young Democrats and the Florida College Democrats shall be entitled to have their own respective Constitution and By-Laws. No provision of the Constitution and/or Bylaws of any State Chapter may conflict with the FY & CD Constitution.

Article VII. Amendments

Section 1. The FY & CD Constitution may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of Committee Persons present per delegation. A special State Convention may be held at the call of the Co-Chairs, or by a petition signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the membership of both the FYD and FCD Delegations. Delegates at a special convention shall be apportioned on the basis of the apportionment at the last Annual Convention.

Section 2. No article, section or portion of the FY & CD Constitution may be waived or set aside except by amendment as provided in this article.

Section 3. An amendment to the FY & CD Constitution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Section 4. All amendments shall be provided in writing to all delegates prior to voting on said amendments.

ADOPTED: December 10, 2005