



CHARTERING RULES

Approved by the State Convention

Last Amended June 27, 2021

Article III: Charter

Section 1. Definition. The fundamental unit of a Young Democrats chapter is the local Chapter, hereafter referred to as the Chartered Chapter. There shall be no more than one Chartered Chapter in each County except where exempted elsewhere in these By-Laws.

Section 2. Multi-County Chapters: Members from adjoining, contiguous counties may form a single Chartered Chapter.

1. *Limitations.* No more than three (3) counties may unite under a single charter, and at least one (1) member from each county in the chapter must be represented.
2. *Contiguous Area of Representation.* All counties in the multi-county chapter must be contiguous with at least one other county in the chapter.
3. *As with County-based Chapters, Multi-County Chapters must submit a Charter before each State Convention in accordance with Article III of these By-Laws.*

Section 3. Membership Requirements. No Chapter shall be chartered by the State Convention without that Chapter first attaining five (5) members, and those members duly electing a Chair.

Section 4. Purpose. Every Chartered Chapter shall be dedicated to growing YDSC membership in their area of representation and organizing to further the interests, ideas, and ideals of the Democratic Party.

Section 5. Non-Discrimination. No YDSC Chartered Chapter shall discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnic origin, religion, disability, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Section 6. Authority. Members of each chartered Chapter retain their right to amend the YDSC Constitution and these By-Laws, propose policy, and propose resolutions at the State Convention. Amendment 3.5

Section 7. Chapter Certification. Applications for Charters shall be sent the Rules Committee before each State Convention. The Chair of the Rules Committee will then present all applications to the Rules Committee for review. Applications that pass this review will be put on the docket at the State Convention for approval.

1. No Chapter's charter application shall be complete without that Chapter submitting:
 - a. A list of the Chapter officers (including names, voting addresses, e-mail addresses, phone numbers, the dates of their elections, and dates of birth)
 - b. A list of the Chapter members (including names, voting addresses, e-mail addresses, phone numbers, and dates of birth)
 - c. A copy of the Chapter's governing document, which shall include the code of ethics and/or code of conduct
 - d. A copy of the minutes from a recent meeting of the Chapter
 - e. A completed verification form by the Chapter's Chair and Party Leader
Verification form completed by one of the Chairs, Vice-Chairs, or State Executive Committee members of the official County Democratic Party the Chapter represents
 - f. A chartering fee, to be determined by the Executive Board and Executive Council.

Section 8. Chapter Maintenance. No Chapter shall maintain their Charter without re-submitting accurate and updated Chapter officer and member lists, all amendments made to the Chapter governing document, and submitting an updated minutes sample, an updated verification form, and a chartering fee before each State Convention.

Section 9. Chapter Decertification. Chartered Chapters may have their charter revoked and members may be deactivated for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. Said Chapter and members will be notified in writing and may be removed by a majority vote of the Executive Board and Executive Council.

Section 10. Chapter Expulsion. Should the Executive Board and Executive Council vote to expel a Chartered Chapter, the President shall appoint a provisional Chair in accordance of Article 3, Section 2 of the Constitution. The Provisional Chair shall not have been an officer of the Chapter during its expulsion, and any such officer running for any Chapter office during the provisional period is out of order. An Expelled Chapter may Charter at the succeeding State Convention. No officers on the membership list shall have been in office during the Chapter's expulsion.

Section 11. Caucus Chartering. To take effect after the State Convention in 2020, Caucuses will be required to apply for Charters through a Caucus Chartering Form.

1. As outlined in the Constitution, no Caucus shall form without a minimum of seven (7) active members from chartered chapters.
2. A new Caucus shall make a presentation to the Executive Board and Council and elect officers, including a Chair to become a provisional caucus of YDSC.
3. Caucuses of YDSC shall charter with YDSC in even numbered years. Caucuses wanting to charter to be part of YDSC must submit everything as lined out by the Caucus Charter Application, which is approved by the YDSC Rules Committee and Executive Board and Council every two years. Chartering will consist of submitting the following documents:
 - a. Caucus Chartering Application as approved by YDSC Rules Committee and Executive Board and Council
 - b. Caucus Bylaws, Constitution and/or Standing Rules
 - c. Caucus Officer List and Membership List
 - d. Caucus Strategic Plan for two years
 - e. Caucus Contact information