



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Senate

of the

East Tennessee State University

SSA-25-002

President Hunter Turgeon, VPFA Katricia Robinson, Trustee Trent White, and Senator Matthew Sutphin present the following legislation to the East Tennessee State University Student Government Association on behalf of SGA members affected by Course Program of Study (CPOS) regulation.

AN ACT TO MITIGATE THE UNINTENDED IMPACTS OF CPOS ON SGA SENATOR MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

WHEREAS, federal CPOS regulations determine financial aid eligibility based on courses that count toward a student's degree program; and

WHEREAS, students in their final semester may require fewer than 12 credit hours to complete their degree, thus failing to meet the current full-time status requirement for serving in the Student Government Association; and

WHEREAS, these regulations unintentionally disadvantage SGA members who are otherwise in good standing but lose their eligibility to serve due to financial aid constraints; and

WHEREAS, student leaders should not be forced to choose between receiving financial aid and serving in elected or appointed SGA positions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2025 STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE OF EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

Section 1. A. Course Program of Study (CPOS) – A federal financial aid policy that requires students to enroll in courses that count toward their declared degree program to receive full financial aid.

B. Full-Time Status Exception – A provision allowing final-semester students to serve in SGA while enrolled in fewer than 12 credit hours, provided they are taking all remaining required courses for graduation.

C. SGA Advisor Approval – The process through which an exception is granted based on verification by the SGA Advisor.

Section 2. A. The Constitution shall be amended to include a provision

allowing students in their final semester to serve in legislative roles while enrolled in fewer than 12 credit hours if:

1. The student is taking all remaining courses required for graduation.
2. The student remains in good academic standing with a minimum cumulative GPA 2.5 for senators.
3. The student provides documentation verifying their final semester status and CPOS impact.
4. The SGA Advisor confirms and approves the exception

B. This exception shall only apply for one semester and shall not be used for students who voluntarily under-enroll outside of CPOS restrictions.

Section 3. B. Article III, Section 2(a) (Senator Eligibility) of the SGA Constitution shall be amended to read:

"Must be a student at East Tennessee State University with full-time status during the Fall and Spring semesters. Students in their final semester who require fewer than 12 credit hours to graduate may continue serving as senators, provided that they remain in good academic standing and receive approval from the SGA Advisor."

Section 4. All legislation or parts of legislation in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 5. This amendment shall take effect immediately upon passage and ratification.