2022-2023
Rideau Students' Union Guidebook

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March 2023

3rd edition

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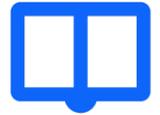
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What is the RSU?

We are a student advocacy organization, dedicated to bringing the voice of Canadian youth to the table, and bringing new perspective to the issues affecting our communities today. The Rideau Students' Union aims to encourage students to participate in policy making and to address the issues that concern students in a collaborative manner.

The RSU's goal is for the Union to be recognized, both by students and legislative organizations, as a serious agency dedicated to serving students' needs and addressing their concerns. We hope that the Union will play a key role in policy-making for the provincial government and local school boards.

For more information read our latest constitution here or visit the RSU's official website here

Leadership Positions

Although we encourage all members of the union to participate equally, we have a few leadership roles for members interested in helping run the union.

- Co-Presidents are elected members who guide the union's project, and help run its day-to-day operations
- Officers are elected members who run their own departments on miscellaneous parts of the union; social media, technology, outreach, and administration.
- Project Coordinators lead individual projects, and help guide members in how they contribute to a cause.
- The Board of Directors direct the long-term goals of the union, and lead the union's governance initiatives and meta-operation. The board is usually appointed, but might be elected in some cases.

Getting Started as a New Member

If you are new to the union please follow these steps to ensure you're on the same page as the rest of our members:

1. Sign up as an official member on our website. (link)
2. Start communicating!
    a. Join our Discord
    b. Change your nickname to your first name (how?)
    c. Read the server rules and get project, team, and announcement roles
3. **Attend our weekly meetings every Tuesday at 8:30 pm ET by joining the *Main Voice* channel on our discord server under general.**

How to Earn Volunteer Hours

You can earn volunteer members by attending general meetings, helping out with projects, and doing any form of work for the RSU.

1. To claim volunteer hours fill out the following form here
2. After your request a member of the RSU will contact you to approve that you have worked enough to earn the hours requested
3. If you are submitting a form which requires contact information, you can use **rideaustudentsunion@gmail.com**, or the contact information of the person who contacts you.

Want to see what we're doing? Check out our recent news about the union and projects at www.rideaustudentsunion.ca/news.

How to get Involved in Projects?

If you want to be an active member, be sure to attend weekly meetings. During or at the end of weekly general meetings there will be time for action items to be created, and there you can volunteer to help with one or multiple of the tasks for each project for the week. You can also contact members of leadership or project coordinators regarding your interest, and they can point you in the right direction. You might also view the resources for the project, or talk with other members involved in the project.

Passive members are also vital as they contribute to the policy through signing Union petitions and surveys and also help as a show of Union numbers which is helpful in recognition of our operations.

Contact Info

Instagram - @the.rsu

Twitter - @rsu_ca

LinkedIn - https://www.linkedin.com/company/rideau-students-union/

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/rideaustudentsunion/

Email - rideaustudentsunion@gmail.com

Discord - https://discord.gg/T89Jdtb3

Website - https://www.rideaustudentsunion.ca/