



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented On	3/26/15
Type of Action	Legislation
Status/Result	Business of the Day

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38

S.A. Resolution #52 Resolution for SAFC Discretion in Eligibility Appeals

ABSTRACT: After a string of student organization appealed to the Student Assembly Appropriations Committee after being claimed ineligible for funding under SAFC Guidelines 2.1.1. eligibility violations it is clear there needs to be greater discretion in the handling of eligibility claims within the SAFC. The Student Assembly and the Student Assembly Finance Commission (SAFC) should develop a formal procedure to accommodate these organizations.

Sponsored by: Marc Masson '17, Connor Rossner '15, Marissa Guiang '15

Whereas, some student organizations are confronted with unforeseen circumstances that may prevent them from submitting their budget and/or the affirming signatures of their officer(s) or advisor;

Whereas, these unforeseen circumstances are no fault of the students running the organizations requesting funding and by definition could not have been planned for;

Whereas, the Student Assembly has a responsibility to promote the extracurricular involvement of the Cornell undergraduate student body, as well as the enactment of their passions and interests;

Whereas, the practice of granting clemency for late submissions has been granted unofficially to other organizations intentionally or unintentionally, including notably a case of an advisor passing away a few days before the submission deadline;

Be it therefore resolved that the SAFC funding guidelines be modified to allow for extensions to the funding request deadline.

Be it further resolved that the following language be added to the SAFC guidelines:

2.1.2 Exception for Unforeseen Circumstances

In the event of unforeseen circumstances that would prevent the submission of the organization budget or the affirmation of said budget by the president, treasurer, and/or advisor, the student organization must:

- 39 1. notify both the SAFC Co-Chairs (safc@cornell.edu) and the SA Vice President of
40 Finance (sa-vpfinance@assembly.cornell.edu) to request a 24 hour extension
41 from the original budget deadline:
42 a) *this request must include the evidence required below; and*
43 b) *must be submitted within 24 hours after the budget deadline.*
44 2. complete the remainder of their application before the eventual extended
45 deadline.

46
47 Eligible unforeseen circumstances and associated evidence are the following:

- 48 1. negligence of advisor;
49 o Required evidence: screenshot of written communication with advisor at least
50 one week prior to the budget deadline in regards to budget approval.
51 2. injury or illness of treasurer, president, or advisor;
52 o Required evidence: note from a physician or medical professional with date of
53 injury and explanation of event.
54 3. death of treasurer, president, or advisor.
55 o Required evidence: at the discretion of the SAFC co-chairs and the SA VP of
56 Finance.

57
58 The SAFC co-chairs and the SA VP of Finance will evaluate the evidence provided and
59 whether or not the circumstance is unforeseen, and notify the organization as to
60 their decision before budget reviews commence. Requests for extension will be
61 evaluated based on:

- 62 1. demonstration of foresight regarding SAFC rules and deadlines;
63 2. severity of the unforeseen circumstance;
64 3. extent of ineligibility (i.e. completeness of application).

65
66 The submission of an extension request should not be construed as a granting of said
67 request. The decision to accept or deny a request for an extension is not subject to
68 appeal. Again, the commission may not accept budget submissions from
69 organizations that have not met the eligibility requirements.

70
71 **Be it finally resolved**, that these new additions to the SAFC guidelines be communicated
72 to the SAFC co-chairs and commissioners, to be used to determine all funding
73 requests beginning Fall 2015.

74
75 **Respectfully Submitted,**

76
77 **Marc Masson '17**
78 *ILR School Representative, Student Assembly*

80 **Connor Rossner '15**
81 *Appropriations Committee, Student Assembly*
82
83 **Marissa Guiang '15**
84 *SAFC Co-Chair*
85
86 *(Reviewed by: COMMITTEE NAME, DATE)*