

# Criteria for Approval

The following criteria are considered in approving student organizations. When evaluating proposals, the Center for Student Involvement (CSI) staff consider the degree to which the proposal meets each of the established criteria. Those proposals that best meet all the criteria listed below will most likely be approved.

## 1. Founding members meet grade and conduct standards

Each organization proposal must be supported by a student(s) whose career/cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) is a 2.7 or higher. First year or transfer students in their first semester will utilize their high school or transfer GPA used for admission until they establish a career GPA at the university.

In addition students serving as founding members or in leadership positions must be in good disciplinary standing at the university, defined as: Not being actively on Disciplinary Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion.

## 2. Demonstrate a broadly recognized need that is not currently being met.

Lynn has a moderately-sized student body and finite space, money and time so it is not possible to support every good idea. CSI also highly values collaboration and holds a commitment to maintaining and strengthening existing student organizations.

Therefore, new organizations must demonstrate a broadly recognized need that is not currently being met on campus and does not duplicate an existing organization or campus department. Uniqueness alone is not a sufficient rationale for demonstrating an unmet need. CSI looks for a balance between a new and unique idea with something that meets a fairly broad unmet need that is of broad interest to the general student body.

We also expect students hoping to start new groups to first consider involvement in existing ones. To search for existing groups, visit [Lynn.Presence.io](http://Lynn.Presence.io).

## 3. Demonstrate sustainability for at least a two to three-year period.

It can take considerable time and resources to create and support student organizations on campus. The goal of a Recognized Student Organization is to create a purpose and structure that lives beyond the involvement of the organization's founders. Sustainability is an important aspect of any organization proposal and must be demonstrated in your proposal. Consider:

- An idea that is broad enough that it can continue for a period of years.
- An idea attractive enough to Lynn students that the group will be able to recruit members beyond the founding group.
- A structure that provides clear leadership transition.
- Orientation and training activities for members.
- A realistic budget with ready ways to achieve and maintain funding from year to year.
- A good mix of students from different years.

Note: Given their short time left on campus, seniors cannot easily be the main driving force for a new student group proposal. However, they can assist in forming new groups.

#### 4. Involve activities that do not create undue risk or liability.

Groups and activities that are done in the name of Lynn can create undue risk to our students and others which the university cannot support as sponsored activities. Most of these activities involve some level of physical activity or travel that may be difficult to supervise.

#### 5. Comply with all local, state and federal laws and university policies.

The group and its activities must comply with all laws and university policies. For a list of university policies visit: [University policies, statements and bylaws](#).