

Guidelines for Forming an Interest Club At Anderson University

Do you love politics or have a passion for exploring diverse cultures? Maybe you would rather be playing ultimate Frisbee or rugby. Whatever your interest might be there is a place for you to get connected through our wide variety of Student Organizations.

Interest Groups at AU are broken into three different categories. The guidelines for forming differ slightly with each category. Please read the descriptions below to determine which category your proposed group might fall under.

SGA Sponsored Interest Clubs: The student government association serves as the governing body for interest clubs not associated with an institutional department or major.

Interest clubs generally exist at the initiative of students. Their success or failure depends on the demand for them and the ingenuity of the members. In the past 10 years, several interest clubs have ceased to exist while others have taken their place.

Initiating an interest club and becoming a fully authorized club requires:

- at least 10 students interested in being members of the club
- a faculty or staff advisor who meets with the club at least once a semester
- a club constitution (subsequent amendments must be approved by SGA and the Department of Student Life)
- approval by the SGA student senate and the Department of Student Life

Campus facilities are generally available for use by recognized clubs, and the senate might help with project funding.

Sports-Related Interest Clubs: Student organizations that fall under this category do so because they are especially unique. They are sports-related clubs that are not connected with our athletic department.

These groups must meet the criteria listed under SGA sponsored interest clubs. In addition, they must obtain special insurance to become approved. *A meeting with the SGA advisor/assistant Dean of Students must be scheduled to discuss specific guidelines.*

Academic/Departmental Interest Clubs: These are interest groups that are housed under the umbrella of an academic major or institutional department.

These groups may or may not have a stipulation regarding membership. However, groups must maintain faculty/staff advisor and have a charter or mission statement on file with the Director of Student Engagement, Trent Palmer, who serves as the central hub of all information related to student organizations.

If you have questions or concerns regarding Interest Clubs, please contact Trent Palmer at (765) 641-4214 or trpalmer@anderson.edu.