

# GRADE YOUR SG'S INFLUENCE



## PROVE IT: IS YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT REALLY INFLUENTIAL?

Check off each item that currently applies to your Student Government. At the end you will have your influence score and will know what you need to work on to improve it.

### 1. EVIDENCE OF SHARED GOVERNANCE (10 Influence Indicators)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ You hold regular, scheduled one-on-one meetings with the university president/chancellor.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Administrators proactively consult SGA before announcing any major student-related policy.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ SGA members serve on search committees for deans, provosts, vice presidents, and other senior roles.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Your budget is large enough to negotiate directly with offices for policy or operational changes.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ You have the ear of key administrators and institutional leaders (they return your calls/emails immediately).
6. \_\_\_\_\_ University departments routinely request SGA's formal endorsement before launching new programs.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ SGA holds a formal advisory or consultative role in administrative decision-making processes.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ University leaders regularly attend SGA senate meetings and participate as equals.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Joint SGA/administration task forces are common, and student recommendations drive final outcomes.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Your successful SGA advocacy has directly caused reversal of unpopular administrative decisions.

**NOTES:**

## 2. BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL POWER

### (9 Influence Indicators)

11. \_\_\_ Your budget can independently fund important campus-wide services (shuttle, mental health, food pantry, etc.).
12. \_\_\_ SGA controls allocation of the student activity fee and sets campus funding priorities.
13. \_\_\_ You have authority to fund student organizations.
14. \_\_\_ You can fund & execute large-scale capital or programmatic projects on your own.
15. \_\_\_ SGA uses its budget to negotiate vendor contracts and secure better deals for the university.
16. \_\_\_ You directly manage and award student grants, scholarships, or emergency relief funds.
17. \_\_\_ Your budget process includes transparent oversight that other offices respect and emulate.
18. \_\_\_ You co-fund major university initiatives as an equal partner with administrative offices.
19. \_\_\_ SGA funding supports essential student services that would otherwise be cut or underfunded.

#### NOTES:

## 3. REPRESENTATION ON INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEES AND GOVERNANCE

### (11 Influence Indicators)

20. \_\_\_ You have student voting seats on key institutional committees.
21. \_\_\_ You have a student seat(s) (with voting privileges) on the board of trustees/regents/visitors.
22. \_\_\_ You have students filling 100% of all available institution-wide committee positions.
23. \_\_\_ You have authority to appoint students to serve on institution committees made up of students, faculty, staff, and administrators.
24. \_\_\_ On some institutional committees, students you appoint make up the majority of the members.
25. \_\_\_ SGA representatives hold voting seats on the academic senate or faculty council.
26. \_\_\_ You sit on curriculum committees that shape course offerings and academic policy.
27. \_\_\_ You participate in university-wide budget planning and resource allocation committees.
28. \_\_\_ You have voting representation on student conduct, judicial, or disciplinary review boards.

29. \_\_\_\_ You hold seats on campus facilities, master-planning, and capital-improvement committees.
30. \_\_\_\_ SGA appointees chair or co-chair important university committees.

**NOTES:**

## **4. AUTHORITY OVER STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS** **(5 Influence Indicators)**

31. \_\_\_\_ You have authority to recognize new student organizations.
32. \_\_\_\_ You have authority to derecognize student organizations.
33. \_\_\_\_ SGA is the primary (or sole) funding source for the vast majority of student clubs and organizations.
34. \_\_\_\_ Leaders of major clubs routinely consult SGA before launching significant events or campaigns.
35. \_\_\_\_ You provide leadership training, resources, and professional development to club officers.

**NOTES:**

## **5. STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ELECTION DYNAMICS** **(8 Influence Indicators)**

36. \_\_\_\_ You don't need to give away free food to get students to attend events or meetings.
37. \_\_\_\_ You have no uncontested races in your SGA elections.
38. \_\_\_\_ Voter turnout in your annual elections is consistently high (well above national averages).
39. \_\_\_\_ Student referendums on SGA initiatives regularly pass with overwhelming majorities.
40. \_\_\_\_ Independent campus climate surveys show high student approval and trust in SGA.
41. \_\_\_\_ SGA leaders are widely recognized and approached by students across campus.
42. \_\_\_\_ Every elected position attracts multiple qualified candidates who run competitive campaigns.
43. \_\_\_\_ You maintain a large volunteer and committee-member base that participates without incentives.

**NOTES:**

## 6. PARTNERSHIPS WITH CAMPUS MEDIA

### (6 Influence Indicators)

- 44. \_\_\_\_ Campus newspapers, radio, and TV stations give extensive, ongoing coverage to SGA initiatives.
- 45. \_\_\_\_ SGA has a standing opinion column or dedicated reporting segment in campus media.
- 46. \_\_\_\_ Student-media editorial boards consistently endorse or support SGA positions.
- 47. \_\_\_\_ SGA senate meetings and major events are routinely live-streamed or broadcast by campus outlets.
- 48. \_\_\_\_ Campus journalists automatically seek official SGA statements on every major campus issue.
- 49. \_\_\_\_ Your press releases and announcements are picked up and prominently featured by campus media.

**NOTES:**

## 7. COLLABORATIONS WITH CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

### (5 Influence Indicators)

- 50. \_\_\_\_ You co-sponsor high-visibility events with diverse student organizations, amplifying reach.
- 51. \_\_\_\_ SGA reviews and approves constitutions/charters for all new and existing student groups.
- 52. \_\_\_\_ You regularly lead broad coalitions that unite dozens of organizations around shared causes.
- 53. \_\_\_\_ Club funding decisions made by SGA are final and respected across campus.
- 54. \_\_\_\_ SGA acts as the central coordinating body for student organization activities and resources.

**NOTES:**

# HOW INFLUENTIAL IS YOUR SG?

**TOTAL CHECKED: \_\_\_\_\_ / 54**

**45-54 = EXTREMELY INFLUENTIAL / TRUE SHARED GOVERNANCE**

**35-44 = STRONG INFLUENCE**

**25-34 = MODERATE INFLUENCE**

**15-24 = LIMITED INFLUENCE**

**0-14 = WEAK / SYMBOLIC STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Your E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Phone: \_\_\_\_\_