**ARTICLE I: NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

The name of this organization is the Florida Education Association. This organization can be abbreviated by the letters FEA. The Florida Education Association is a student branch of the Florida Education Association, which is a part of the National Education Association.

**ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

The objects and purpose of this organization are to:

a. Develop in prospective educators an understanding of the teaching profession and a desire to work with teachers and educational support personnel to improve the profession; and the education of children in schools.

b. Provide a vehicle for voicing student concerns on matters relevant to education through participation in local, state and national activities of the Florida Education Association (FEA) and the National Education Association (NEA).

c. Influence the conditions under which prospective educators are prepared and certified teachers work.

d. Advance the interest and welfare of students preparing for careers in education.

**ARTICLE III: COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

Upon approval by the Department for Student Activities and Involvement, Florida Education Association shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Florida Education Association shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University’s regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

**ARTICLE IV: UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

Section A. Non-Discrimination

Florida Education Association agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

Section B. Sexual Harassment

Florida Education Association agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment.

Section C. Hazing

Florida Education Association agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Florida Education Association will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

**ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

**ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS**

*Section A*: There shall be an executive committee consisting of the following elected officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

*Part 1*: The President shall be the chief executive officer and shall preside over all meetings. The President shall serve as ex officio member on all committees. The President shall represent the organization as spokesperson on all matters, or shall delegate responsibility for such representation.

*Part 2*: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and perform other duties as delegated by the President or Executive Committee. The Vice-President shall assume the office of President upon the resignation or incapacity of the President.

*Part 3*: The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of the general and Executive Committee meetings and keep accurate records of attendance and membership.

*Part 4*: The treasurer shall be responsible for the safekeeping and accounting of all the organization’s funds and shall plan (in cooperation with the President, Vice-President and advisor) a budget for the year. The treasurer shall keep an itemized record of all receipts and expenditures.

*Section B*: Officers shall assume their official duties at the close of the last general meeting of the academic year and shall serve for a term of one academic year.

*Section C:* In the case of officer position vacancies due to but not limited to: impeachment, resignation, or officer ineligibility, any officer on the executive committee can temporary acquire the position until a permanent replacement is found. The replacement officer must be an active member of the organization. In the case of several members wish to fill the position, the executive board will chose which candidate to elect for the position.

**ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS**

*Section A:* Nominations for all officers shall open fifteen days before the election of the officers is held and shall close at the election meeting before the election. Elections will be held every academic year in late April. Any member may nominate another voting member, include himself or herself.

*Section B*: Officers shall be elected by a majority vote and secret ballot of the membership at the last general meeting of the academic year. Voting by proxy is not allowed. Mail balloting, authorized by the Executive Committee is allowed.

*Section C:* In the event that there is an tie during the election process, the executive committee will provide questions that inquire about the candidate’s plans to help assist in the advancement of the Florida Education Association‘s purpose. The executive committee will then hold another secret ballot voting during the same meeting.

*Section D*: In the event that the office of Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer becomes vacant before the elections, a member elected by a majority vote and secret ballot of the membership shall discharge the duties of that office.

*Section E*: Any officer of the Florida Education Association can be removed from office by using the following process:

*Part 1*: A written request signed by at least three voting members shall be submitted to the executive committee. The officer in question will be notified of the request, and allowed time to prepare a response.

*Part 2*: At the next meeting, the officer in question will be given time to respond to the grievances given in the written request. A vote will be held by all voting members present, and the officer shall be removed with a two-thirds.

*Part 3*: In the event that an officer is removed, the executive committee will be given authority to appoint a new officer to fill the position until the next officer election.

**ARTICLE VIII: FACULTY ADVISOR**

The faculty advisor shall serve as a resource person and provide advisory support for the officers and members of the organization. The faculty advisor should attend executive and general meetings of the organization; however they may not vote in any Florida Education Association matters. The faculty advisor shall be nominated by the officers and confirmed by a majority vote of the members. The faculty advisor should be elected/ reelected every academic year during the last general meeting in the Spring semester in the month of April. The term served shall be from one Spring semester to the following Spring semester. Should the faculty advisor be unable to perform his/her duties, for whatever reason, another advisor shall be selected, following the process mentioned above.

**ARTICLE IX: FINANCE**

The Florida Education Association does not require membership dues; however it will raise funds through various fundraising activities for the cost of t-shirts, travel and professional development. Members will be expected to participate in fundraising activities. The Florida Education Association will also apply for Student Government funding.

**ARTICLE X: THE DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

In the event that the Florida Education Association dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be received back into the Education College Council.

**ARTICLE XI: ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP STIPULATIONS**

*Section A*: Membership in this organization is open to enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-students, spouses, faculty and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation or harassment.

*Section B*: All members may attend and participate in any or all meetings of this organization.

*Section C*: Vote will be by secret ballot on any and all matters submitted to vote of the membership by the Executive Committee. Voting by proxy is not allowed. Mail balloting, authorized by the Executive Committee is allowed.

*Section D*: All members may serve as an officer in this organization.

**ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

*Section A*: Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at least thirty days prior to their proposed adoption. Such proposals shall be signed by at least five voting members.

*Section B*: The Executive Committee shall make all reasonable efforts to provide printed copies of any and all proposed amendments to each and every member at least ten days prior to the proposed adoption of those amendments.

*Section C*: The constitution shall be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting by secret ballot.

*Section D*: All proposed amendments shall be subject to approval of the Center for Student Activities and Involvement.