

Proposed By-law change to the Constitution  
of the  
Massachusetts Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, Incorporated.

The MASFAA Executive Council has proposed a change in the by-laws that currently govern the duties of MASFAA officers. This information sheet explains both the current law and the changes proposed by the Council. A subsequent online ballot will be open to voting members beginning December 1, 2009 and ending December 10, 2009.

The November conference will give everyone an opportunity to provide feedback and discussion regarding the proposed changes. This discussion will take place at the MASFAA Business Meeting on Wednesday, November 4th, at 12:30 p.m. If the membership should vote in favor of the by-law change, the new process will take effect immediately.

The new language would differentiate between excused and unexcused absences. Participation as an officer is a serious commitment, but significant extenuating circumstances can arise in rare occasions and a vote by Executive Council could cause unnecessary negativity and scrutiny. This change would give the President the authority to excuse absences of the Executive Council members. Presidents have and will continue to use their best judgment based on the interest and continuity of Executive Council and MASFAA in making decisions.

Please feel free to provide feedback in person at the MASFAA Business Meeting or to contact either Gail Holt, MASFAA President, at (413) 538-2790 or Christine McGuire, President-Elect at (617) 353-4176.

Current By-law:

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 7. Officers of the Executive Council shall be expected to attend all scheduled meetings of the Executive Council. Any officer who fails to attend two consecutive, or a total of three, meetings per year shall be removed from the Council unless otherwise voted by the Executive Council. Any vacancy shall be filled in accordance with Article VII, Section 2, of the By-Laws.

Proposed Change:

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 7. Officers of the Executive Council shall be expected to attend all scheduled meetings of the Executive Council. Any officer who has two consecutive, or a total of three, *unexcused absences* from meetings per year shall be removed from the Council unless otherwise voted by the Executive Council. Any vacancy shall be filled in accordance with Article VII, Section 2, of the By-Laws.