UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA
October 29th, 2026, 7:00 PM

Zoom Conference Call
https://oklahoma.zoom.us/meetings/92159262702/invitations?signature=TEeeKeI2ySV17b3yIIprgvTX5QuDoYm8fQy0WBcOYSs

Call to Order: 7:01 PM

Mission Statement: Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes: (minutes from previous meeting: (https://www.ou.edu/sga/branches/graduate-student-senate/agendas-and-minutes)

Motion to Approve: Senator Callebs (70), seconded by Senator Djassi (25)

Officer Reports:

- Chair: Summer Edwards
  - Thank you to everyone who came to the Halloween event – we had around 75 people there!
    - It was so great to see everyone in-person!
  - SGA elections for President, Vice President, undergraduate student reps, and referendums are currently open.
    - As graduate students, we are still allowed to vote!
    - Voting ends tomorrow.
  - At the end of the semester, we are hosting an SGA gala.
    - Will be among all the branches of the government and everyone will be invited.
      - Dress code is not formal, but a "cute, evening outfit".
      - Will be sharing some exciting things that have been done throughout the year. It will be on Friday, December 4th from 6-8 PM.
- Vice-Chair: Sam Jensen
  - Nothing new to report!
- Secretary: Ben Fellman
  - Thank you everyone for sending in your committee attendance and minutes. I have received completed forms for each committee meeting from all committees!
  - Make sure to complete this form to have your attendance recorded for tonight's meeting:
    - https://cglink.me/27E/s500

Committee Reports: (submit your meeting minutes here)

- Academic Affairs: Report given by Senator Callebs (70)
  - Survey requesting input from graduate students about visas and other issues has been made!
    - Goal is to get it into the format of a survey shortly so we can distribute it on OU mass mail and for senators to give to their departments.

        - There are many departments that will be moving through with shortening PhD degree programs from our initial analysis.
- Development & Philanthropy: Report given by Senator Bueltel (8)
    - Trying to put together a group of people to go to the Norman Food Shelter.
- External Affairs: Report given by Senator Jones (71)
    - Report will be sent out to the Executive committee next week regarding the survey results.
    - Elections are happening next week! Please go out and vote!
        - After the election, we will be looking at legislators to chat with in the spring.
- Internal Affairs: Report given by Senator Fullerton (2)
    - Thank you to everyone for coming to the Halloween event!! Everyone's tables were fantastic.
    - Get out and vote next week!
- International Student Affairs: Report given by Senator Sadiku (27)
    - Working on the event for international students on campus.
    - Because of the concert, we will be moving our in-person event to December.
    - Will continue finding ways to continue supporting international graduate students by attending events such as First Friday fest.
- Public Relations: Report given by Senator Chandra (17)
    - Nothing new to report.
- Sustainability: Report given by Senator Eatmon (35)
    - Nothing new to report – still trying to get in contact with individuals who have not responded back to our emails.
        - Asked senators to complete a short survey to give some feedback on sustainability issues.
- Ways and Means: Report given by Senator Esteva-Ingram (62)
    - Thank you to everyone who showed up to grading day!!
        - Committee is now working on finalizing funding options with legislation being made for our next general meeting.

Student Concerns: None to report

Special Orders:

- **GF26-19:** Auxiliary Allocation 4 Act of 2026-2027
    - Motion to see GF26-19 by Senator Jones (71), seconded by Senator Esteva-Ingram (62).
        - Author: We have gone through the process of continuing to allocate money for RSOs.
    - Motion to pass GF26-19 via unanimous consent by Senator Jones (71). No objections.

Old Business:

- **GF26-16:** Auxiliary Allocation 3 Act of 2026-2027 *(Returned to GSS with corrections)*
    - Motion to see GF26-16 by Senator Callebs (70), seconded by Senator Esteva-Ingram (62).
        - Author: We noticed in Congress that there was a difference between our records and what was presented. This bill has fixed that one error.
    - Motion to pass GF26-16 via unanimous consent by Senator Young (72). No objections.

New Business:

- **GF26-17:** Asylee Domicile-Classification Resolution of 2026 *(Do Pass)*
    - Motion to see GF26-17 by Senator Schimmell (65), seconded by Senator Jones (71).

        - Author: If you are an international student and you get asylum and you are planning to stay at OU, there is no policy within higher education at OU to deal with this situation to move from out of state tuition to in-state tuition.
            - When I contacted OU, they told me I need an employment offer to receive this change to in-state tuition.
                - This does not make sense since I need a degree to receive a job offer.
            - The bill is asking OU to make a policy clarification.
    - Motion to pass GF26-17 via unanimous consent by Senator Keesling (34). No objections.

- **GF26-18:** Diwali Recognition Resolution of 2026 *(Do Pass)*
    - Motion to see GF26-18 by Senator Owen II (39), seconded by Senator Esteva-Ingram (62).
        - Author: My name is Sitara, and I am an undergraduate member of Congress. We wrote this bill to recognize all internationally celebrated holidays, including Diwali.
            - Diwali is on November 8th. It is celebrated by many religions.
            - We wanted to write this bill to recognize one of many holidays celebrated at OU.
    - Motion to pass GF26-18 via unanimous consent by Senator Callebs (70). No objections.

Announcements:

- For anyone who did not fill out the attendance form, here it is again:
    - https://cglink.me/27E/s500
- Senator Shoutouts
    - A huge shoutout to all senators who helped grade graduate research and travel grant applications, and a special shoutout to Senator Esteva-Ingram (62) for orchestrating a very successful grading day!
    - A big shoutout to everyone who attended this week's Halloween event and a huge thank you to Senator Fullerton (2) and the Internal Affairs committee for helping to organize it!
    - Shoutout to Senator Chandra (17) on having two full-length, first-author papers accepted to the main track of an IEEE conference!!
- Continue to keep submitting senator shoutouts! Self-submitted shoutouts are highly encouraged!

Adjournment: 7:21 PM

Motion to adjourn by Senator Jones (71), seconded by Senator Fullerton (2)

Attendance

Senator #	Last Name	First Name	Department	9/3/2026	9/17/2026	10/1/2026	10/15/2026	10/29/2026
1	Vargas	Daniel	Aerospace and mechanical engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Fullerton	Helen	Anthropology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	Young	Skylar	Anthropology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	Haghighi	Yousef	Architecture	Y	Y		Y	Y
5	Thompson	Chandler	Architecture	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
6	Arredondo	Eric	Biology (Biological Sciences)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
7	Simon	Peniel	Biology (Bioloigical Sciences)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
8	Bueltel	Brandon	Biomedical Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
9	Kapoor	Suryaveer	Biomedical Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
10	Ousley	James	Business Administration	Y	Y	Excused - proxy in attendance	Y	Y
11	Razzaghi	Arian	Chemical, Biological, and Material Engineering	Y	Y		Y	Excused - Soval event
12	Azari Torbat	Nasim	Chemical, Biological, and Material Engineering	Y	Y		Y	Y
13	Long	Kole	Chemistry and Biochemistry	Y	Y	Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
14	Islam	Zahidul	Civil Engineering and Environmental Science	Y	Y		Y	Y
15	Muntasher	Khalida	Civil Engineering and Environmental Science	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
16	Ayogu	Ifesinachi	Communication	Y		Y	Y	Y
17	Chandra	Subhash	Computer Science	Y	Y		Y	Y
18	Giri	Shailendra	Construction Science	Y		Y	Y	Y
19	Ibanez	Giselle	Construction Science	Y	Y		Y	Y
20	Yerra	Sindhuja	Data Science and Analytics	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
21	Dulal	Ramesh	Economics	Y	Y	Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
22	Gao	Ningjing	Economics		Y		Y	Y
23	Engle	Matthew	Education Administration				Y	Excused - Soval event
24	Minion	Laura	Education Administration		Y		Y	Y
25	Djassi	Queen	Education Leadership and Policy Studies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
26	McDaniels-Gomez	Patricia	Education Leadership and Policy Studies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
27	Sadiku	Feyipitan	Education Psychology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
28	Wise	Grayson	Education Psychology	Y	Y		Y	Y
29	Aminpour	Sara	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
30	Moncada Calmet	Luis Felipe	Electrical and Computer Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
31	Hache	Trosky	Engineering Leadership and Management	Y	Excused - proxy in attendance	Y	Y	Y
32	Martin	Shane	Engineering Leadership and Management	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
33	Buffo	Noelle	English	Y	Y	Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
34	Keesling	Carson	English	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
35	Eatmon	Christian	Finance	Y	Y		Y	Y
36	Andoh	Bright	Geography and Environmental Sustainability	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
37	Tuli	Rajsree	Geography and Environmental Sustainability	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
38	Miller	Elisha	Geology and Geophysics	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
39	Owen II	Jimmy	Geology and Geophysics	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
40	Burroughs	Trenton	Health and Excersice Science	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
41	Sini	Yakubu	Health and Excersice Science	Y	Y		Y	Excused - Soval event
42	Cunningham	Hope	History	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
43	LeFave	KJ	History	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
44	Lamirand	Elijah	History of Science Technology and Medicine	Y	Y		Y	Excused - Soval event
45	Muriithi	Julia	Human Relations	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
46	Karnail	Vibha	Industrial Systems Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
47	Palit	Tanmoy	Industrial Systems Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
48	Lumula	Harriet	Instr Leadership and Acad Curr	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
49	Price	Kacy	Instr Leadership and Acad Curr	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
50	Azizi	Shiva	Interior Design	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
51	Martin	Kaley	Interior Design	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
52	Akinro	Victoria	International & Area Studies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
53	Givan	MaKenzie	Journalism and Mass Communications	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
54	Khan	Arslan	Journalism and Mass Communications	Y	Y	Y	Excused - proxy in attendance	Y
55	Dransfield	Jake	Landscape Architecture	Y		Y	Y	Y
56	Kistler	Anallely	Landscape Architecture	Y	Y	Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
57	Hammock	Julia	Law	Y	Excused - proxy in attendance	Y	Y	Y
58	Minear	Sydney	Law	Y	Y	Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
59	Nazari	Mahdieh	Library and Information Studies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
60	Elima	Emmanuel	Mathematics	Y	Y		Y	Excused - Soval event
61	Thummala	Vamsi	Mathematics	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
62	Esteva-Ingram	Tatiana	Meteorology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
63	Rogers	Ashley	Modern Languages, Literaturese, and Linguistics	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
64	Bissonnette	Jacob	Music	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
65	Schimmell	Alison	Music	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
66	Hamilton	Kiana	Native American Studies	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
67	Rufus	Deborah	Petroleum and Geological Engineering	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
68	Burnham-Fleck	William	Philosophy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
69	George	Micah	Philosophy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
70	Callebs	Jacob	Physics & Astronomy	Y	Excused - proxy in attendance	Y	Y	Y
71	Jones	Alexis	Political Science	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
72	Young	Kristina	Political Science	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
73	Moore	Elijah	Psychology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
74	Waldron	Megan	Psychology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
75	Carroll	Ian	Public Administration	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
76	Winston	Corey	Public Administration	Y	Y		Y	Excused - Soval event
77	Bonsu	Harriet	Regional & City Planning				Y	Y
78	Zafari	Tara	Regional & City Planning	Y		Y	Y	Y
79	Hunt	Reagan	Sociology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
80	Wiser	Sally	Sociology	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
81	Catalano	Travis	Visual Arts	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
82	Romero	Isaac	Women and Gender Studies	Y	Y		Y	Y
83	Manje	Dasplang	Chemistry biochemistry	Excused		Y	Y	Excused - Soval event
84	Borges	Alma	Dance	Excused	Y	Y	Y	Y
85	Robinson (Aboba)	Casandra (Mathias)	Communication	Excused	Y	Y	Y	Y
86	Perez Seeura	Aleiandro	Modern Languages, Literaturese, and Linguistics	Excused	Excused	Y	Y	Y

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI
October XX, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF26
October 29, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL AB-116-04
SENATE BILL NO. GF26-19

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to appropriations; providing for short title; stating purpose; appropriating Auxiliary Funding for the 2025-2026 process; stating appropriation guidelines; establishing expiration deadline; directing transfer of unused funds by deadline; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Auxiliary Allocation 4 Act of 2026-2027"

Section 2: PURPOSE. The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.

Section 3: APPROPRIATION. The following amounts are hereby allocated to

Organization	**Programs, Events & Activities**	**Capital Investments**	**Office and General Expenses**	**Total**
International Security Student Association	$110.00			$110.00
History Graduate Student Association	$379.76			$379.76
Christian Legal Society	$500.00			$500.00
Greenlight Studios	$200.00			$200.00
Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society & National Weather Association	$300.00			$300.00

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Black Muslim Initiative	$160.00			$160.00
Cooking Club	$150.00			$150.00
Women in Finance	$115.00			$115.00
Graduate Philosophical Association	$150.00			$150.00
Graduate Business Association	$100.00			$100.00
Sports and Entertainment Law Society	$365.00			$365.00
Health Law Student Association	$400.00			$400.00
Business Law Society	$300.00			$300.00
Filipino Student Association	$400.00			$400.00
Classic Film Club	$400.00			$400.00
Law Students of Texas	$600.00			$600.00
Sooner Competitive Robotics	$2,000.00			$2,000.00
Tau Beta Pi	$750.00			$750.00
Crimson Chords	$977.65			$977.65
American Society for Microbiology Oklahoma Chapter	$70.00			$70.00
Engineering Ethics Club	$150.00			$150.00
Black Law Students Association	$500.00			$500.00
Federalist Society	$150.00			$150.00
Association of Southern African Students	$300.00			$300.00
Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Law Society	$400.00			$400.00
Eta Sigma Phi Classical Honors Society	$82.30			$82.30
Believers in Business	$500.00			$500.00
Bridge to Health	$150.00			$150.00
Women in Aviation	$300.00			$300.00
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	$500.00			$500.00
Dialogues of Contemporary Sociology (DOCS) Workshop	$200.00			$200.00
Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature	$1,167.32	$155.20		$1,322.52
Law Students for a Free Palestine	$200.00			$200.00
Law Library Door Club	$150.00			$150.00
Caitlin Rogers Project at The University of Oklahoma				$0
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers	$425.00			$425.00
Local Congress Norman of the Aquilmendan	$76.45			$76.45
First Generation Law Student Association	$350.00			$350.00
OU Table Tennis Club	$150.00			$150.00

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Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Society (ChEGS)	$200.00			$200.00
Pakistani Student Association	$150.00			$150.00
Friday Accounting Meeting	$400.00			$400.00
Asian American Student Association	$1,000.00			$1,000.00
Oklahoma International Law Society	$285.00			$285.00
Oklahoma Law Review	$400.00			$400.00
J.D. Run Club	$150.00			$150.00
LLM Engineering Club	$150.00			$150.00
Sooner Off-Road	$2,000.00			$2,000.00
ASCE Concrete Canoe Team	$350.00			$350.00
OU Design/Build/Fly Club	$1,000.00	$550.00		$1,550.00
Engineers' Club	$850.00			$850.00
National Medical Device Make-A-Thon	$150.00			$150.00
Latin Dance Club	$680.00			$680.00
Sooner Rover Team	$250.00			$250.00
			TOTAL:	$20,548.68

Section 4: All guidelines and provisions in Title 10 of the Code Annotated shall apply to all funds appropriated in this act.

Section 5: This fiscal year for the account listed in these sections shall end May 8, 2027.

Section 6: All unspent money remaining in the accounts listed in Section 3 shall revert to the SGA General Account after May 8, 2027 and the remaining appropriations shall be canceled.

Section 7: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Michael Wintory, Chair, SGA Budgetary Committee

Co-Author(s): SGA Budgetary Committee

Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by Congress:
Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by: Senator Jones, seconded by Senator Esteva-Ingram
Action taken by Senate: Passed via unanimous consent
Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI
Month DD, YYYY

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF26
October 29, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL BILL AB-116-03
SENATE BILL NO. GS26-16

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to appropriations; providing for short title; stating purpose; appropriating Auxiliary Funding for the 2025-2026 process; stating appropriation guidelines; establishing expiration deadline; directing transfer of unused funds by deadline; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Auxiliary Allocation 3 Act of 2026-2027"

Section 2: PURPOSE. The purpose of this act is to appropriate the funds of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association to the organizations mentioned within.

Section 3: APPROPRIATION. The following amounts are hereby allocated to

Organization	**Programs, Events & Activities**	**Capital Investments**	**Office and General Expenses**	**Total**
East African Alliance	$200.00			$200.00
Pre-Medical Club	$350.00			$350.00
OU Real Estate Club	$300.00			$300.00
Hispanic American Student Association	$2,300.00			$2,300.00
Christian Grads Fellowship	$150.00			$150.00
Garden of Knowledge Children's Organization	$150.00			$150.00
Caribbean Students Association	$150.00			$150.00
Women in Business Association	$300.00			$300.00

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Sigma Gamma Epsilon	$150.00			$150.00
Psychology Graduate Student Association	$480.00			$480.00
Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences Student Chapter	$150.00			$150.00
Alpha Kappa Delta Phi International Sorority, Inc.	$100.00			$100.00
Health Empowerment and Access through Learning		$150.00		$150.00
Health and Exercise Science Student Association	$300.00			$300.00
Global Brigades	$300.00			$300.00
Price Professional Sales Club		$150.00		$150.00
OU Tennis Club		$300.00	$190.00	$490.00
Little Hearts Alliance	$250.00			$250.00
Oklahoma Weather Lab	$500.00			$500.00
National Association of Black Journalists	$150.00			$150.00
Global Corner	$150.00			$150.00
Dhamaka	$150.00			$150.00
Management Information Systems Student Association	$150.00			$150.00
Norman Rotaract Club	$150.00			$150.00
Baccano Italian Club	$500.00			$500.00
			TOTAL:	$8,170.00

Section 4: All guidelines and provisions in Title 10 of the Code Annotated shall apply to all funds appropriated in this act.

Section 5: This fiscal year for the account listed in these sections shall end May 8, 2027.

Section 6: All unspent money remaining in the accounts listed in Section 3 shall revert to the SGA General Account after May 8, 2027 and the remaining appropriations shall be canceled.

Section 7: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Michael Wintory, Chair, SGA Budgetary Committee

Co-Author(s): SGA Budgetary Committee

Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by Congress:
Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by: Senator Callebs, seconded by Senator Esteva-Ingram
Action taken by Senate: Passed via unanimous consent
Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI
October 20, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF26
October 29, 2016

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-09
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-17

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution urging a published, individualized domicile-reclassification pathway for students granted asylum while residing in Oklahoma; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education assigns institutions responsibility for classifying students, places the burden of proving in-state status on the student, and requires each case to be judged on its own merit.[1]

Whereas: State Regents policy presumes that a student enrolled in an Oklahoma college or university more than half time is in Oklahoma primarily for educational purposes and allows those students to reclassify as in-state students after 12 months of living in Oklahoma.[2]

Whereas: An independent person who presents evidence of establishing Oklahoma domicile may be granted in-state status at the next enrollment after twelve months following establishment of domicile.[3]

Whereas: Section 3.18.4 of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Policy and Procedures Manual expressly allows documented foreign nationals who attend on educational visas and later become lawful permanent residents to receive in-state status but does not expressly

[1]Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, "Chapter 3: Academic Affairs," Policy and Procedures Manual, § 3.18.2 (2025), https://okhighered.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Chapter-3-2025.pdf (accessed October 6, 2026).

[2]Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, "Chapter 3," § 3.18.2 (C), (D), (G).

[3]Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, "Chapter 3," § 3.18.3 (D).

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identify a similar process for a student granted asylum while lawfully residing in Oklahoma before becoming a lawful permanent resident.[4]

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma states that intent to remain after education is central to reclassification for financially independent adults, and accepts future full-time employment and a totality of the student's circumstances as evidence to support a student's claim of intent.[5]

Whereas: A clear published procedure for reclassifying students receiving asylum as in-state residents would allow eligible students to present the evidence required by existing domicile standards while preserving the State Regents' individualized-review framework.[6]

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Asylee Domicile-Classification Resolution of 2026."

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association (SGA) urges the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, in consultation with the University of Oklahoma, to review and clarify Section 3.18.4 and associated procedures so that they expressly address students who are granted asylum while lawfully residing in Oklahoma.

Section 3: The requested clarification should state whether and how such a student may pursue individual reclassification under the existing domicile framework, including evaluation of residence after the grant of asylum, financial independence, and objectively documented intent to remain in Oklahoma beyond completion of education

Section 4: If a State Regents rule, procedure, or University petition-form amendment is needed, the State Regents should consider a distinct, published petition rationale for this circumstance. Any published pathway should identify applicable timing requirements, the nonexclusive evidence that may be considered, the applicable decision-maker, and the available appeal procedure.

Section 5: Pending State Regents clarification, the University of Oklahoma Office of Admissions and Recruitment should publish interim written guidance within ninety calendar days after adoption of this resolution. The guidance should explain the existing petition route available

[4]Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, "Chapter 3," § 3.18.4.

[5]University of Oklahoma Admissions and Recruitment, "In-State/Out-of-State Tuition Policy," accessed October 6, 2026, https://www.ou.edu/admissions/affordability/cost/resident-tuition-policy.

[6] University of Oklahoma Admissions and Recruitment, "In-State/Out-of-State Tuition Policy."

to a granted-asylee student, the documentation that may be considered, how the student may obtain a written decision, and how to pursue the institution's existing appeal procedure.

Section 6: This resolution does not request automatic in-state classification, a waiver of the requirement to establish Oklahoma domicile, or a predetermined outcome on any individual petition. It requests a transparent, individualized, evidence-based process under the applicable State Regents policy for asylees that is similar to those policies already established for other international students.

Section 7: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- J. Kevin Stitt, Governor of the State of Oklahoma
- Lonnie Paxton, President Pro Tempore, Oklahoma State Senate
- Kyle Hilbert, Speaker of the House, Oklahoma House of Representatives
- Julia Kirt, Democratic Leader, Oklahoma State Senate
- Cyndi Munson, Minority Leader, Oklahoma House of Representatives
- Lindel Fields, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Sean Burrage, Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- Courtney Warmington, Chair of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- Rick Nagel, Chair of the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
- Joseph Harroz Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma
- Jeff Blahnik, Vice President for the Division of Enrollment Management and Chief Enrollment Officer at the University of Oklahoma
- Morgan Brammer, Assistant Vice President for the Division of Enrollment Management and Executive Director for the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at the University of Oklahoma
- Michelle Stephens, Director of Policy Management at the University of Oklahoma

Authors: Ahmed A. AlNusairi, Undergraduate Student, Electrical Engineering, Gallogly College of Engineering
Mecca D. Fisher, Engineering District Representative, Undergraduate Student Congress

Co-Sponsors: Samuel J. Jensen, Vice Chair, Graduate Student Senate
Coleman Morgan, Chair, Undergraduate Student Congress
Daniel Shamsee, SGA Member

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Sneller seconded Representative Bregnard
Action taken by Congress: Passed 20-0-2

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by: Senator Schimmell, seconded by Senator Jones
Action taken by Senate: Passed via unanimous consent

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Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXVI
October 27, 2026

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GF26
October 29, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-116-10
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF26-18

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Resolution recognizing the religious and cultural significance of Diwali, acknowledging the traditions and values associated with its celebration, and providing for its distribution.

Whereas: Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a religious and cultural holiday observed by Hindu, Jain, Sikh, and some Buddhist communities around the world[7].

Whereas: Diwali symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance, while holding distinct religious meanings around the communities that celebrate it[8].

Whereas: Diwali is traditionally celebrated through the lighting of oil lamps, decorating homes, sharing sweets, wearing traditional clothing, and gathering with family and friends[9].

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma's India Student Association hosts an annual Diwali celebration, providing students with an opportunity to celebrate the holiday and share its cultural traditions with the broader university community[10].

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[7] Howard Kaplan, "Diwali: The Festival of Lights," Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art, November 14, 2012, https://asia.si.edu/whats-on/blog/posts/diwali-the-festival-of-lights/.

[8] Debbie Schaefer-Jacobs, "Illuminating Thoughts for the Holidays," Smithsonian National Museum of American History, December 20, 2023, https://americanhistory.si.edu/explore/stories/illuminating-thoughts-holidays.

[9] Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, "Easy Homemade Sweets for Diwali," *Pickles and Tea*, November 10, 2015, https://apa.si.edu/picklesandtea/easy-homemade-sweets-for-diwali/.

[10] https://www.oudaily.com/news/ou-india-student-association-diwali-night-celebration-music-dance-food/article_c11a7db6-9c5d-11ef-871b-7b9cb2b9d09d.html

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Diwali Recognition Resolution of 2026."

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association shall recognize November 8th, 2026, as Diwali.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association shall recognize that Diwali is an internationally celebrated holiday, focusing on the triumph of Dharma over Adharma, light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

Section 4: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the student body to participate in Diwali Night, hosted by the India Student Association on November 13th, 2026, as well as other events thrown by cultural organizations on campus celebrating Diwali.

Section 3: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Joseph Harroz Jr., President, University of Oklahoma
- The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents
- David Surratt, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Quy Nguyen, Director of Student Life Office and Assistant Dean of Students
- Saliha Panjwani, Caitlin Varghese, Co-Presidents of the India Student Association
- Preet Damani, President of the South Asian Student Association
- *OU Daily*
- *OU Nightly*

Authors: Vera Demla, Undergraduate Congress Associate
Sitara Popal, Undergraduate Congress Arts and Sciences Representative

Co-Sponsor: Lorelai Radzanowski, Undergraduate Congress Human Diversity Chair

Submitted on a motion by: Representative Radzanowski seconded Representative Sneller
Action taken by Congress: Passed unanimously 25-0-0

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by: Senator Owen II, seconded by Senator Esteva-Ingram
Action taken by Senate: Passed via unanimous consent

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

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Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

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