NAHB Student Chapters
Best Practices Guide

A Best Practices Guide for
Student Chapter Faculty Advisors,
Student Leaders, and HBA Staff

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* NAHB does not require your Student Chapter to have bylaws or a constitution. The listed samples can be used if you choose
Introduction & Mission Statement
Introduction
The NAHB Student Chapters Best Practices Guide serves as a resource for faculty advisors, student leaders, and HBA staff who are seeking to form a new chapter, find new ways to engage with industry professionals, and mentor future leaders of the industry. This guide will outline how to form a student chapter, share examples of chapter structure and best practices, and provide helpful tools so new chapters can hit the ground running and existing chapters can enhance or refresh their goals.

NAHB Student Chapters Mission Statement
The NAHB Student Chapters program is dedicated to enriching the educational experiences of students by offering them first-hand exposure to the real world of the building industry through NAHB membership, educational programming, and connections to builders. Whether it’s a profession in the trades or in construction management, the student chapters program is a launch pad to a rewarding career and becoming an industry leader.

NAHB Student Chapters Purpose
- Develop an educated, prepared, adaptable and competitive homebuilding industry that will meet the needs of skilled trades
- Bring educators and NAHB members together so that students gain real world understanding of their skills and are equipped for career success.
- Build a relationship that helps educators ground their curriculum in the real needs of real businesses, leading students to obtain skills that will be highly valuable in the job market and preparing our HBA leaders of tomorrow.

Student Chapter Objectives
To form an organization that promotes unity among students studying construction science, management, skilled trades, and other construction-related programs. This can be achieved through academic, extracurricular, and community-based activities.

The purpose of the chapter is to expose student members to social, technical, and professional events to broaden their education, career opportunities, and create a sense of community within the greater construction-related field of study.

HBA Objectives
Each NAHB Student Chapter is chartered by the NAHB Board of Directors through a local HBA. An HBA may sponsor multiple chapters at any given time. As its sponsor, the local association plays an important role in the educational and career development of the students in construction. HBAs should have a vested interest in their affiliated chapter(s) because these students will soon be leading the future of the residential construction industry.
Best Practices
Student Chapter Best Practices

Chapter Structure and Organization

Many student chapters have student officer positions such as President, Vice President, Treasurer, Industry Relations Liaison, Social Media Manager, etc. Chapters hold elections to fill these positions. Officers are primarily responsible for student engagement efforts at their school, sponsoring outside relations, and event planning. Monthly student chapter meetings and bi-weekly Officer meetings can help maintain member engagement.

Meetings and Activities

Meeting topics and activities depend on your chapter’s structure and focus. Depending on your relationship with your local association, your chapter might volunteer at an HBA charity or fundraising event. If your student chapter participates in the NAHB Student Competition during the International Builders’ Show, you should consider increasing the frequency of meetings starting in October through January/February to focus on the competition.

Tactics for Building a Relationship with Your HBA

- Share your event calendar with your HBA. Meeting and events are opportunities to invite HBA staff to connect with students.
- Build connections with local HBA members. Build relationships with those who have a vested interest in your future and may provide valuable hands-on experiences, donate equipment, offer internship opportunities and potential employment.
- Invite a company to sponsor a chapter meeting. The sponsor can give a presentation on industry trends.
- Encourage previous chapter Officers, Student Competition team members, and chapter members to be guest speakers at chapter meetings to provide guidance in classroom settings, competition and chapter meetings.
- Make connections with your local association to learn about community service opportunities.

Sample Student Chapter Activities

- Hold monthly meetings for members and bi-weekly meetings for Officers.
- Participate at club fairs and membership drives. Students can host a booth at their school and explain the purpose of NAHB Student Chapters.
- Plan a leadership training session led by a builder member, HBA staff, or faculty advisor.
- Help build homes in the local community with Habitat for Humanity.
- Coordinate ramp building projects for aging boomers in the local community.
- Host meet and greets with builders.
- Participate in or coordinate a Parade of Playhouses program. For example, the Kansas City HBA successfully hosted a Parade of Playhouses.
- Plan construction site visits and HBA meetings/outings.
- Host a resume building workshop with peer review.
- Participate in fundraisers in order to provide funds for the International Builders’ Show and Student Competition.
Student Outreach Strategies

- Encourage your NAHB student chapter officers/faculty advisors to present to school classrooms to explain the benefits of joining NAHB and what the club offers in terms of networking and job opportunities at the beginning of each semester.
- Host a table during “Club Rush” at your school which targets students who are looking to join a student club organization.
- Reach out to feeder schools or other education institutions that have trades and construction-related programs.

HBA Best Practices with Student Chapters

More than 140 HBAs sponsor a NAHB Student Chapter. This sponsorship strengthens the ties between the associations and their communities and leads to better publicity and community awareness of the HBA activities and their purposes. More importantly, their sponsorship provides guidance and leadership to young women and men while advancing their knowledge of NAHB, their associations, and to home building as a rewarding career.

HBAs might financially support many of the chapter’s activities and even provide a position on its boards of directors for the student chapter president and/or faculty advisor. Board involvement is often the first step to grooming student leaders into becoming active members after they graduate.

HBA and Member Roles

There are numerous ways HBAs and members can support Student Chapters:

- Serve on a career advisory committee at your local technical high school or job corps center.
- Visit the classrooms regularly; have meaningful conversations with students to show the trades and construction industry jobs are in high demand.
- Donate supplies and equipment.
- Invite students to HBA events:
  - Fundraisers
  - Home & Garden shows
  - Monthly meetings and board meetings
  - Volunteering opportunities
- Give brief updates on your Student Chapter at member meetings.
- Assist students with building their resume.
- Sponsor career fairs.
- Provide job shadowing experiences for students.
- Offer students internships (paid and unpaid).
- Hire student graduates.
- Build a relationship with the student chapter faculty advisor.
- Encourage other NAHB members to get involved with the Student Chapter.
Steps to Chartering a New Student Chapter
Make It Official

Make your relationship with your high school or college “official” by chartering them with NAHB as a student chapter through the affiliation agreement form. Submit the affiliation agreement, name and address of the school, all contact information for your teacher(s) and a roster of all students (first and last name) to NAHB.

NAHB will produce an official certificate for the school recognizing them as a NAHB Student Chapter and a partner in workforce development and the trades.

Affiliation Checklist for New Chapters

An NAHB Student Chapter can be founded by a student, faculty member, or HBA. To form one, you must do the following:

Step One
- Enlist a faculty advisor and recruit a group of interested students from the host school/college. There is no minimum or maximum requirement for the number of student members. A chapter may be formed with just one student.
- Seek sponsorship from your local home builders association. This means your local builders association signs the affiliation agreement for and agrees to be involved with your school.

Step Two
- Complete and submit the Student Chapter Application for Affiliation. Email the signed form to studentchapter@nahb.org.
- Download and complete the Student Chapter Roster Form (please type information - handwritten rosters will not be accepted). Print the completed student roster and submit it and your check payment to either of the addresses below:
  
  NAHB (Lockbox)  
  PO Box 759281  
  Baltimore, MD 21275-9281

  NAHB (Membership Accounting)  
  1201 15th Street, NW, 9th Floor  
  Washington, DC 20005

*High School and Secondary Programs: $5.00 per student
*Post-Secondary Programs: $25.00 per student

Step Three
- Once the Student Chapter Application for Affiliation, Student Chapter Roster Form, and Check Payment have been received by the NAHB Office in Washington, D.C. you will receive a confirmation email.
- After all materials have been processed, NAHB PIN numbers will be distributed on the 15th of each month via email.
- Each Student Chapter member will receive a personalized certificate in the mail which can be distributed by either the HBA or faculty advisor.
Although membership begins the month PINs are processed, new chapter charters can only be approved by the NAHB board three times a year; during the International Builders’ Show, the Spring Leadership Meeting, or the Fall Leadership Meeting. However, student chapter activities may begin before charter approval. Once approved, both the faculty advisor and sponsoring HBA will receive a charter certificate in the mail.

How to Renew and Add New Members:
NAHB student and faculty members can add new students to their chapter throughout the year. Membership is on a 12-month rolling basis. Adding a new student, or renewing your own membership is simple, just add new students to a roster form with payment.”

For more information about forming a chapter, please contact Sarah Weber at 800-368-5242 x8654 or via email at sweber@nahb.org or Zach Riley at 800-368-5242 x8941 or via email at zriley@nahb.org.
Application for Affiliation

This application for affiliation with the National Association of Home Builders of the United States as an NAHB Student Chapter is made on behalf of, and with the approval of, an organized group of student attending:

Name of School/Club

City and State

It is hereby certified that the applicant group:

A. Is comprised of student enrolled in courses of construction and/or related thereto;

B. Has a faculty advisor, whose signature appears on this application, and whose office shall be the mailing address for all correspondence relative to the Chapter; and

C. Is comprised of ________ students.

D. Certifies that the application has the approval of the appropriate authorities of the educational institution.

E. Has paid annual dues for each of the foregoing memberships for this academic year, which is duly signed and attested below.

Faculty Advisor

Date

ATTEST: __________________________________________________________

HBA Chief Elected Officer

Print completed form and mail to: National Association of Home Builders attn: NAHB Student Chapters 1201 15th St. NW, 7th Floor Washington, DC 20005

(or) Scan and e-mail to: studentchapters@nahb.org
**NAHB Student Chapter Roster**

*INFORMATION MUST BE TYPED, NOT HANDWRITTEN*

Chapter (School):

Type of School:

Sponsoring HBA:

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**Faculty Information** *(No fee for faculty members)*

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**Student Information**

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Print and mail your roster and check for processing to:
NAHB (lock box)
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Baltimore, MD 21275-9281
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NAHB does not require your Student Chapter to have bylaws or a constitution. The following samples can be used if you choose.
Sample NAHB Student Chapters Bylaws

BYLAWS of the __________________________ (NAME OF SCHOOL)
Student Chapter of the National Association of Home Builders of the United States

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1
Any person who meets the membership requirements may be extended an invitation to join the chapter.

Section 2
A member may be censured, suspended, or expelled from the chapter by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active membership if found to be in the best interest of the chapter, and the member has been afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

Section 3
Only those members in good standing may participate in the affairs of the chapter.

ARTICLE II: MEETINGS

Section 1
Meetings of the chapter shall be held on __________________________ of each month or such other time as may be selected.

Section 2
Special meetings of the membership may be called at any time by the president upon reasonable advance notice.

Section 3
Meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS

Section 1
The officers shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- **President**- shall be the chief officer of this chapter and shall preside at its meetings. He/she shall appoint all committees, shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, and shall perform all duties usual to such office.

- **Vice President**- shall perform the duties assigned to him/her by the president and in the absence of the president, perform the duties usual to the office. He/she shall also coordinate all the activities of the committees.
Secretary shall keep a record of all the official proceedings of the chapter, maintain the membership records in coordination with the treasurer and be responsible for coordinating the communication between members.

Treasurer shall be responsible to the Association for an accounting of all monies collected and disbursed by the chapter. He/she shall be responsible for the collecting, depositing and disbursing all monies. He/she shall render periodic records to the chapter during his term of office.

Section 2
Only those members in good standing may be elected to office.

- Any officer who shall fall delinquent in payment of dues during the term of office shall resign from such office.

Section 3
Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active membership.

Section 4
The officers and faculty advisor shall be elected by a majority vote of the active members.

ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES

Section 1
The standing committees shall be:

- Executive Committee--shall consist of the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

ARTICLE V: FINANCES

Section 1
The dues of this chapter shall be payable annually in advance at the first meeting of the fall term at the rate of $ per member.

Section 2
Dues for membership in the National Association of Home Builders of the United States shall be paid by this chapter from its treasury at the rate fixed and under the terms stated by that association, as may be amended from time to time.

Section 3
Members who have sufficiently paid their dues shall be considered in good standing.
and referred to as "active."

ARTICLE VI: VOTING

Section 1
At the meeting of the membership, only active members shall have the right to vote.

Section 2
A motion shall be carried by a majority vote of the members present, provided a quorum is in attendance, unless otherwise provided for by these bylaws.

Section 3
A quorum of membership shall consist of not less than one-third (1/3) of the active members.

Section 4
Elections shall be conducted under the rules and procedures approved by the membership in advance of the meeting at which an election is to be conducted.

ARTICLE VII: NOTICES

Section 1
Members shall furnish the secretary with their addresses and the mailing of any notice to such address shall be deemed service of such notice or notices upon them as of the date of the mailing of the same.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1
Any member may propose amendments to these bylaws at any regular meeting. The proposed amendment must be in writing and must lay on the table until the next meeting after its first reading.

Section 2
Adoption of an amendment must be by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the chapter's active membership.

Ratification of these bylaws was made on this day__________________________of 20____.

(PRESIDENT)
Attested by:

(SECRETARY)

(DATE)
Sample NAHB Student Chapters Constitution

CONSTITUTION of the ____________________________ (NAME OF SCHOOL)

Student Chapter of the National Association of Home Builders of the United States

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1
The name of this chapter shall be the ____________________________ Student Chapter of the National Association of Home Builders of the United States, with which it is affiliated.

Section 2
The principal office of this chapter shall be located at ____________________________ (NAME OF SCHOOL)

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1
Objectives

- To maintain high academic standards among its members.
- To participate for the purpose of mutual benefit in an interchange of information and experience with the National Association of Home Builders of the United States and appropriate local and state NAHB affiliated associations.

Section 2
This chapter shall operate for the benefit of students in light construction curriculum and those engaged in allied curricula on the chapter's campus.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1
Membership in this chapter shall be open to any student in the light construction curriculum or curricula related thereto, within the territorial jurisdiction of this chapter.

Section 2
This chapter shall meet the non-discrimination policies of the host institution.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

Section 1
The officers shall be elected from the membership at a meeting designated for this purpose and shall hold office for the term of one (1) year from the date of election or until their successors are elected and duly qualified.
Section 2
The officers shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

ARTICLE V: COMMITTEES

Section 1
The committees of this chapter shall be: executive, standing and special.

Section 2
The president shall appoint special committees.

ARTICLE VI: FINANCES

Section 1
Dues and monies collected by this chapter shall be placed in a depository selected by the executive committee and approved by the faculty advisor.

Section 2
Payments of the funds of this chapter shall be made on the signature of the treasurer and/or the president.

ARTICLE VII: FACULTY ADVISOR

Section 1
This chapter shall have a faculty advisor elected from the faculty of the host institution.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1
Any member may propose amendments to this constitution at any regular meeting. The proposed amendment must be in writing and must lay on the table until the next meeting after its first reading.

Section 2
Adoption of an amendment must be by an affirmative vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the chapter's active membership.

Ratification of this Constitution was made on this day ______________________ of 20____.

(PRESIDENT)
Attested by:

(SECRETARY)

(DATE)
Benefits of Membership
Membership Benefits

The top students in any academic discipline join pre-professional organizations such as NAHB Student Chapters. Each student member receives many of the same benefits that our regular builder and associate members receive.

National Benefits

➢ **NAHB Student Chapters Awards Program**
   The NAHB Student Chapters Awards Program recognizes the achievements and dedication of our student members, faculty advisors, and local HBA members to their community, industry, and NAHB.

   Each month, NAHB recognizes an outstanding Student Chapter. In addition, chapters and members are honored every year in a ceremony held in conjunction with the International Builders’ Show. Learn more at [NAHB.org/StudentAwards](http://NAHB.org/StudentAwards).

➢ **National Housing Endowment Scholarships**
   The National Housing Endowment (NHE) provides many academic scholarships that give preference to NAHB Student Chapter Members. Learn more at [nationalhousingendowment.org](http://nationalhousingendowment.org).
   
   - **The NHE International Builders’ Show Travel Scholarship**
     The International Builders’ Show Travel Scholarship provides monetary support to NAHB Student Chapter members to help offset travel expenses related to attendance and participation in activities surrounding the annual International Builders’ Show.

➢ **NAHB International Builders’ Show & Student Competition**

   The annual NAHB International Builders' Show provides an unforgettable learning experience for more than 1,000 students and their instructors. The NAHB Student Competition, held at the International Builders’ Show, gives students the opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom by completing a management project/proposal. Proposals are submitted to a group of construction company executives who act as judges. During the convention, students defend their proposals to the judges in front of an audience. Learn more at [NAHB.org/StudentCompetition](http://NAHB.org/StudentCompetition).

   In addition to the competition, students have the opportunity to network, attend a national career fair, and explore the show floor at the discounted rate of $30 per student (fee for non-member students is $50).
PIN Number

Your NAHB Member PIN gives you access to all online materials and discounts that NAHB’s provides. It is important to register your PIN number.

Website and Discounts

- Member discounts at BuilderBooks.com and NAHB Education
- Member discounts and savings offered on products and services offered by top companies ([NAHB.org/Savings](NAHB.org/Savings))
- Opportunity for your chapter’s activities to be shared on the NAHB blog, website, and social media platforms
- Free downloadable marketing materials for your chapter recruitment
- Free downloadable materials about Careers in Construction

State and Local Benefits

Per the members of an NAHB Student Chapter are only national members, local and state benefits are determined by your local and state association.
Alumni Membership Category
NAHB Student Chapters Alumni Membership Category

Alumni membership allows NAHB student members in affiliated student chapters to remain members at an annual reduced rate of $15 for three years after graduation from a secondary or post-secondary school.

Continue your member benefits:

- **Advocacy**: NAHB advocates on behalf of its members on a wide range of issues, including the tax code, federal housing programs, regulatory relief, environmental laws, building codes, OSHA, building materials, housing finance and more. These efforts on behalf of members provide unmatched value and savings to make membership in NAHB an essential tool for smart home builders and the diverse businesses that support the home building industry. [nahb.org/advocacy](http://nahb.org/advocacy)

- **Expertise**: Stay up-to-date with the latest industry news, trends, and analysis of economic, business, regulatory, legislative, and technological issues. [nahb.org/expertise](http://nahb.org/expertise)

- **Knowledge**: Learn new ideas, products, resources, and strategies you can use to improve your business with educational courses. [nahb.org/knowledge](http://nahb.org/knowledge)

- **Networking**: Gain access to industry professionals and join special interest groups that target specific disciplines within the home building industry. [nahb.org/networking](http://nahb.org/networking)

- **Savings**: Reduce expenses, maximize profits, and increase efficiency through our exclusive Members Advantage discount program. [nahb.org/savings](http://nahb.org/savings)

No local or state association is required to establish this membership category, and if a student chapter alumnus resides in a jurisdiction where neither the local nor state HBA has adopted the alumni dues category, the alumnus can join NAHB directly as an at-large member.
Resources
Resources

NAHB Student Chapters wants to set up our student leaders, faculty advisors, and HBAs for success so we’ve included a section with all of the linked resources mentioned through the guide plus some additional resources and tips to help launch and maintain an engaged chapter.

- Student Chapter Membership
- HBAs and Student Chapters
- Student Recruitment Materials
- NAHB Student Competition
- NAHB Student Chapter Awards
- NAHB Member Benefits
- National Housing Endowment: NHE offers several student scholarships and grants for HBAs
- International Builders’ Show
- Utilize and share NAHB’s Workforce Development and Careers in Construction Trades resources.
  - Middle School Lesson Plans Promoting Careers in Construction can be found under the “Lesson Plans” tab on the Workforce Development Resources page.
- Sign up for NAHB Student Chapters e-newsletters to stay informed of current events. You can also follow NAHB Student Chapters on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.
- Career in Construction Trades Videos
- Habitat for Humanity
- Kansas City HBA Parade of Playhouses