

## **STARTING A NEW COLLEGE OF LAW STUDENT GROUP**

If you are interested in starting a new group, you should first confirm that the goals for your proposed group are not already being met by another group. Then, follow the steps below to get started. Before you jump in, though, realistically evaluate your schedule and your own level of commitment to the project. Starting a Student Organization can be a valuable contribution to both the law school and to your own education, but it takes an ongoing commitment of time and energy. This applies to both Student Orgs and Pro Bono Groups.

1. Before you start a student group, you need four things:
  - i. Faculty Advisor
  - ii. Members (at least three)
  - iii. Mission statement and Objectives
  - iv. Bylaws and/ or Constitution (For student organizations)
  
2. Once you have all of the above, please fill out the [online student organization form](#). You can submit it online or drop it off at the Office of Admissions, Financial Aid, and Student Life, room 119 in the College of Law.
  
3. The College of Law does not require law school organizations to be formally recognized by ASU. However, to start a formal organization that is recognized not just by The College of Law but also by ASU, it is necessary to submit an application to the [ASU Student Organization Resource Center \(SORC\)](#).

Benefits of joining SORC include publicity, copies, posters, equipment, storage space, mailboxes, funding, university facility use, and web space through OrgSync. The SORC application is an annual application that should be completed before the end of the school year for the following year or before the school year begins. If you start your organization during the fall you can register your group via spring registration.

Because of the nature of the application, it may be helpful to hold a meeting of your organization prior to submitting the actual application. Before you can submit the SORC application, there are several decisions you will need to make (such as what your leadership structure will be, when and where you will meet, what the group's formal objectives will be, etc.). Your members will likely want to be involved in that decision-making process.

Whether you choose to register with SORC or not, please provide the Office of Admissions, Financial Aid, and Student Life office with copies of all requested paperwork.