



YDnc
CHARTER

CHARTER OF THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF NORTH CAROLINA

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Article I. Name and Affiliations

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be known as “The Young Democrats of North Carolina.” It may be abbreviated as “YDNC.”

Section 2. Affiliations

This organization shall be affiliated with the Young Democrats of America (YDA) and the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP). YDNC shall, when choosing its actions, positions, and policies, consider, but not be bound by, the platforms and policies of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and its auxiliary organizations on the state and national levels including the NCDP and YDA.

Section 3. Scope

YDNC shall not take any action which is in conflict with its Charter or Bylaws or with the Constitution of the United States or of the State of North Carolina, or with any national, state or local law.

Article II. Object and Policy

Section 1. Object & Vision

The object and vision of the Young Democrats of North Carolina shall be to advance the priorities of young people within the North Carolina Democratic Party and the State of North Carolina, develop and support a progressive vision of governance and build electoral power for young people for the years to come.

Section 2. Charge

YDNC shall endeavor to fulfill Article II, Section 1 by building a youth-led, statewide federation composed of Teen, College and Young Democrats through various chapters and other statewide networks, which shall serve as both a social network and a grassroots political organization in its own right.

Section 3. Incorporation

a. Historic nature. YDNC was organized at a statewide convention in 1928 as the official youth arm of the NCDP, and therefore is one of the oldest civic organizations in North Carolina. Our organization played a leading and vital role in establishing youth auxiliaries across the United States, including the formation of the Young

Democrats of America in 1932. YDNC predates currently enforced North Carolina campaign finance law, and the Federal Election Commission.

- b. Complex history.** YDNC has over the years operated in ways best described as a political campaign committee, as a social welfare organization, as a civic engagement organization, as a social club, and as a leadership development organization. At various times, each of these has been the primary purpose of YDNC, and may be so again.
- c. Choice of organizational status.** Due to the historic and complex nature of YDNC, it shall be the responsibility of any duly-called Convention to ensure the organizational status of YDNC best conforms to the situation of the day, based on its activities and all applicable laws of North Carolina and the United States. Any alteration of the present status of YDNC, or addition to the present status of YDNC, shall require the support of the Convention body.
- d. Process of organizational change.** The organizational status may be changed only upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members present at any duly-called Convention. Any such change must be accompanied by appropriate changes, if necessary, to the Bylaws outlining the new legal status and including rules ensuring legal compliance by both the officers and chapters of YDNC.

Article III. Organization

Section 1. Chapters and Their Scope

The smallest unit of organization within YDNC shall be known as a chapter. Only one chapter shall be organized in a county, with the following exceptions:

- a. Multi-county chapters.** Chapters may exist across county lines, provided that they conform to the Bylaws and the rules therein.
- b. College chapters.** College chapters, consisting of students, faculty, staff and their spouses, may be organized at any institution of higher learning.
- c. Teen chapters.** Teen chapters may be organized at individual high schools, a coalition of high schools, or on a countywide basis.

Section 2. Other requirements

Other requirements for organizing and chartering chapters of YDNC shall be set forth in the Bylaws.

Article IV. CDNC & NCATD

Section 1. Adjuncts

- a. **CDNC.** The College Democrats of North Carolina (CDNC) shall be recognized as the official college adjunct of the Young Democrats of North Carolina and the YDNC Executive Committee shall provide for the organization of chapters by the students, faculty, staff and their spouses at any institution of higher learning present in the State of North Carolina.
- b. **NCATD.** The North Carolina Association of Teen Democrats (NCATD) shall be recognized as the official high school adjunct of the Young Democrats of North Carolina and the YDNC Executive Committee shall provide for the organization of chapters by Teen Democrats.

Section 2. Provision for Further Rules and Primacy

Further rules regarding the relationships between YDNC and its adjuncts, including but not limited to the chartering of chapters at schools and institutions of higher learning, voting and representation on the YDNC Executive Committee and at Convention, and any dues collected, may be enumerated in the Bylaws, the Constitution of CDNC and the Plan of Organization of NCATD. When in conflict, the YDNC Charter and Bylaws shall govern.

Article V. Caucuses

Caucuses to represent constituencies within YDNC and the broader Democratic Party coalition may be established as provided for in the Bylaws.

Article VI. Officers

Section 1. Officers of the Executive Board of YDNC

The officers of the organization shall consist of the President, Executive Vice President, Western Regional Vice President, Piedmont Regional Vice President, Triangle Regional Vice President, Eastern Regional Vice President, Secretary, two (2) representatives of different gender identities to the YDA National Committee, and other appointed officers, including a Treasurer, as necessary for the operation of the organization.

Along with the President of the College Democrats of North Carolina and the President of the North Carolina Association of Teen Democrats, who shall serve as ex officio, non-voting officers, these officers shall collectively serve as the Executive Board of the Young Democrats of North Carolina.

Section 2. Duties of the Executive Board

The Bylaws shall provide for the duties of the Executive Board and its officers as necessary for the operation of the organization.

Article VII. Amendments

This Charter may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at any duly-called and properly convened Convention.

The Convention shall consider properly reported amendments to this Charter from the committee responsible for the Charter and Bylaws before all others. Amendments to this Charter may be considered from the Convention floor with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the Convention body.

Article VIII. Interpretation

The Charter and Bylaws should be interpreted with a broad construction. Any actions of YDNC not specifically disallowed in the Charter, Bylaws, or adopted Rules of the Executive Committee are, by definition, allowed.

Article IX. Adoption

This Charter was adopted by a duly-called and properly convened Convention of the Young Democrats of North Carolina on April 30, 2023 at Morganton, North Carolina.