

AMERICAN RAILWAY ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE-OF-WAY ASSOCIATION
SAMPLE STUDENT CHAPTER CHARTER

ARTICLE I - PREAMBLE

Section 1.1 - As authorized by the Constitution of the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association, hereinafter referred to as AREMA, through its Engineering Services Functional Group Vice President, as recorded in the minutes of the Committee 24 meeting on (____ 2005, grants this Charter for the _____ Student Chapter of AREMA, hereinafter referred to as the Chapter.

Section 1.2 - The Charter shall be effective beginning in ____ 20__ and shall remain in effect, including any amendments, until rescinded by the Engineering Services Functional Group Vice President.

Section 1.3 - This Charter shall, on the date it becomes effective, supersede any previous charter or constitution of a Chapter enrolling members from the designated area and shall annul any by-laws of such a Chapter which may be in conflict.

ARTICLE II - LOCATION AND PURPOSE

Section 2.1 - The location designated as that of this Chapter shall be the (Location).

Section 2.2 - The purpose of this Chapter shall be to promote the advancement of railway related engineering by fostering the close association of students with the railway engineering profession and AREMA; to acquaint students with topics of interest in railway engineering through the medium of competent speakers and of Chapter-sponsored trips; to foster the development of professional spirit, to promote common interests among students and to encourage the enhancement and optimization of facilities for railway engineering study.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1 - Any student enrolled in an engineering school at the _____ shall be eligible for membership in the Chapter, and may become a member of the Chapter upon filing an appropriate application with the Secretary of the Chapter and upon payment of Chapter fees and dues.

Section 3.2 - Any Chapter Member in good standing shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Chapter including the right to vote, except as provided in Article IV, Section 4.1.

Section 3.3 - The regulation of the membership shall be specified in the by-laws.

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNMENT

Section 4.1 - The government of the Chapter shall be vested in its elected officers, and Student Chapter Advisor, who shall constitute an Executive Board, as provided in the by-laws of the Chapter. The Chapter by-laws may specify such elective officers as the Chapter desires provided that there shall be a President, at least one Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer or Secretary Treasurer. The Student Chapter Advisor and the elected officers shall be either a member of AREMA or a Chapter Member who has filed an application to become an AREMA member.

Section 4.2 - The Executive Board of the Chapter shall manage the affairs of the Chapter in conformity with the provisions of this Charter, the bylaws of the Chapter and the policies of AREMA.

Section 4.3 - By-laws of the Chapter shall provide the manner of nominating and electing officers and shall specify their tenure of office.

Section 4.4 - The chapter shall adopt by-laws to govern appointment of committees, number and times of meetings, assessment of fees and dues, method of amending by-laws and such other matters as the Chapter may desire, provided such by-laws do not conflict with this Charter, the Constitution of AREMA or policies of AREMA.

Section 4.5 - By-laws of the Chapter may be adopted and amended after adoption only if the proposition is submitted in writing to all voting members of the Chapter at least 30 days in advance of the date on which action is proposed. Adoption and amendment shall require an affirmative two-thirds vote of those voting, provided that the total number is not less than a majority of the voting membership of the chapter.

Section 4.6 - By-laws of the Chapter shall not take effect until filed with and approved by the Engineering Services Functional Group Vice President and AREMA Executive Director/CEO, and the approved bylaws are filed with AREMA. At any time thereafter, the Engineering Services Functional Group Vice President or Executive Director/CEO may annul any part of the Chapter's by-laws, which it considers to be contrary to the Constitution or to the best interests of AREMA, by giving notice in writing to the elected officers of the Chapter.

Section 4.7 - A Chapter Advisor shall be appointed annually by AREMA. The Student Chapter Advisor shall be a member of AREMA and shall hold the grade of Associate Member or higher.

ARTICLE V - RELATION OF CHAPTER TO AREMA

Section 5.1 - The Chapter shall not assume to speak for AREMA unless authorized in the particular matter in question by the AREMA Executive Director/CEO.

Section 5.2 - The Chapter shall not identify itself with national groups or organizations, but may identify itself with local (campus) groups or organizations.

Section 5.3 - Names and addresses of all elected officers of the Chapter and the dates on which the terms of each begins and expires shall be reported in writing to the Student Chapter Coordinator within 30 days after election.

Section 5.4 - The Chapter shall submit a written annual report to the Student Chapter Coordinator on April 1 each year. The report shall include a summary of the Chapter's activities for the previous twelve months and a roster of the Chapter's active membership.

Section 5.5 - AREMA will not be responsible for debts contracted by the Chapter nor will it give financial assistance to the Chapter. The Chapter does not have the authority to commit AREMA contractually.

Section 5.6 - No dues or fees will be required to be paid by the Chapter to AREMA.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENT OF CHARTER

Section 6.1 - The Chapter's elected officers will be notified in writing by the Student Chapter Coordinator of any proposed amendment to this Charter approved by the Engineering Services Functional Group Vice President so that the Chapter may have an opportunity for a hearing before the Engineering Services Functional Group Vice President concerning the proposed amendment. If any matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily through this hearing process, it shall be referred to the AREMA President and Executive Director/CEO who shall provide a final review, and whose decision shall be final and unappealable. The amendment with or without change shall not become effective until six months after notification.

ARTICLE VII – DISSOLUTION

Section 7.1 – In the event of the dissolution of the Chapter, any funds remaining in the Chapter operating fund shall be returned to the AREMA Education Foundation for use in the scholarship program.

SUBSCRIBED FOR AREMA

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____