

**CONSTITUTION OF
BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY
PREAMBLE**

700 Bass Memorial Academy is a Seventh-day Adventist secondary educational institution that provides for the
701 physical, mental, spiritual, and social growth of youth of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
702 and all the youth that it serves. Bass Memorial Academy is operated by the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-
703 day Adventists, an unincorporated association having its principal office in Montgomery, Alabama.
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ARTICLE I – NAME

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This organization shall be known as Bass Memorial Academy.

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ARTICLE II – OWNERSHIP

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Bass Memorial Academy is owned by the Gulf States Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., a
714 religious corporation, having its principal office in Montgomery, Alabama. Bass Memorial Academy is
715 primarily for the benefit of the constituency of the Gulf States Conference and the Seventh-day Adventist
716 denomination. Bass Memorial Academy can only be dissolved by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of a
717 quorum of the delegates voting at a specially called Gulf States Conference Constituency meeting. In the event it
718 is proposed to dissolve Bass Memorial Academy, notice of the proposal (as specified in the constitution of both
719 the Gulf States Conference and the bylaws of the Gulf States Conference Association of Seventh-day
720 Adventists, Inc.) to dissolve shall be given in the announcement for the special session. Upon dissolution of
721 Bass Memorial Academy, its property and/or the net proceeds therefrom shall be used exclusively for the benefit
722 of the educational, religious and charitable purposes of the Gulf States Conference as determined by action of
723 the Gulf States Conference Executive Committee.
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ARTICLE III – CONSTITUENCY

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Section 1. Constituency and Governance. The constituency of Bass Memorial Academy shall consist of all
729 members of the churches and companies in the Gulf States Conference. Between constituency meetings the Gulf
730 States Conference Executive Committee, Gulf States Board of Education and Bass Memorial Academy Board
731 will govern Bass Memorial Academy.
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Section 2. Reporting to Constituency. Being an institution owned and operated by the Gulf States Conference,
734 the administration of Bass Memorial Academy shall render a report at duly-called constituency sessions in order
735 that the constituents may:
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- A. Receive reports of the operation of the school.
- B. Take action on voted agenda items of school policy or other related school matters as presented by
739 either the constituency or by the Gulf States Conference Executive Committee and the Gulf States
740 Board of Education.
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743 **ARTICLE IV - BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY BOARD**

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745 **Section 1. Election of Board Members.** The Conference Executive Committee shall appoint a Bass Memorial
746 Academy Operating Board and shall consider nominations made by the Gulf States Board of Education.
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748 **Section 2. Membership.** The Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board shall consist of not less than eighteen
749 (18) members, the majority of which shall be laypersons who do not reside within the households of any Gulf
750 States Conference employees (for the purposes of this document, a layperson is defined as one who does not
751 hold credentials or licenses issued by the Conference. Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board members shall
752 include the following personnel:
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- 754 A. Conference President -- chairperson;
- 755 B. Conference Superintendent of Education -- vice-chairperson;
- 756 C. Bass Memorial Academy Principal -- secretary;
- 757 D. Conference Executive Secretary;
- 758 E. Conference Treasurer;
- 759 F. Southern Union Conference Director of Education or designee;
- 760 G. Bass Memorial Academy Treasurer;
- 761 H. Eleven (11) additional members:
 - 762 1. Ten (10) of which must be laypersons.
 - 763 2. Four (4) elected members of the Gulf States Board of Education of which one (1) may be a
764 conference-funded employee.

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766 **Section 3. Meetings.**

- 767 A. The Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board shall meet a minimum of four (4) times each year, in
768 person or virtually
- 769 B. A Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board quorum shall consist of more than fifty percent (50%) of
770 its membership, including not less than three (3) lay persons.
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773 **Section 4. Chairperson.** The chairperson calls meetings of the Bass Memorial Academy Operating
774 Board, presides at the meetings and ensures that actions are implemented.
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776 **Section 5. Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary (Bass Memorial Academy Principal):
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- 778 A. To keep the minutes and other records of the Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board,
- 779 B. To accomplish necessary correspondence of the Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board,
- 780 C. To render a monthly financial statement to the Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board,
- 781 D. To conduct any business of the Academy as directed by the action of the Bass Memorial Academy
782 Operating Board.
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784 **Section 6. Term of Membership.** The term of membership for the Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board
785 members shall continue until their successors in office are appointed by the next regularly elected Conference
786 Executive Committee.
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788 **Section 7. Replacements.** Replacements for vacancies on the Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board are to
789 be nominated by the Gulf States Board of Education to the Gulf States Conference Executive Committee.
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792 **Section 8. Removal.** Any Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board member may be removed from office at
793 any time for cause by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the Gulf States Conference
794 Executive Committee taken at a duly called meeting of the Gulf States Conference Executive Committee,
795 excluding the individual to be removed. "Cause", as used herein, shall mean either:

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- 797 E. Failing to carry out said individual's duties as a Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board member;
- 798 F. Failing to attend two (2) regularly scheduled meetings in a calendar year without prior notice to the
799 Principal of Bass Memorial Academy;
- 800 G. Failing to live in harmony with the fundamental teachings and principles of the Seventh-day Adventist
801 Church; or
- 802 H. Failing to maintain membership in regular standing in the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day
803 Adventists.
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806 **ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF THE BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY OPERATING BOARD**

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808 The duties of the Bass Memorial Academy Operating Board shall be:

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- 810 A. To make recommendations as necessary to the Gulf States Board of Education for the employment of
811 qualified personnel for Bass Memorial Academy.
- 812 B. To appoint necessary committees and personnel to administer the plans of Bass Memorial Academy.
- 813 C. To implement as far as possible the plans and policies voted by the constituency in session and to
814 provide for the general welfare of Bass Memorial Academy.
- 815 D. To authorize the expenditure of funds.
- 816 E. To approve the annual operating budget.
- 817 F. To determine needed capital improvements not provided for in the annual operating budget and to make
818 necessary recommendations to the Gulf States Board of Education.
- 819 G. To present to the constituency the financial statements and the needs of Bass Memorial Academy.
- 820 H. To ensure and preserve the quality and continuity of the philosophical and curricular program as
821 outlined in Article VII of this Constitution.
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824 **ARTICLE VI - FINANCIAL PLAN**

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826 **Section 1. Philosophy.** Bass Memorial Academy has been established as a service organization, not an
827 institution operated for profit. To provide service, Bass Memorial Academy must adopt and maintain certain
828 financial philosophies and objectives. Bass Memorial Academy's general financial philosophy is to manage its
829 financial matters in a manner that provides sufficient resources to allow its mission to be accomplished.
830 Financial resources of Bass Memorial Academy include, but are not limited to:

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- 832 A. Fees (tuition, room and board, etc.) charged to students;
- 833 B. Subsidies received from the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists;
- 834 C. Gifts and grants (including endowments) from individuals, related organizations, and unrelated
835 organizations;
- 836 D. Lease payments from organizations using the facilities and/or land of Bass Memorial Academy; and
- 837 E. Income or profit-sharing received from independent operations established by Bass Memorial Academy
838 or by entities desiring to benefit Bass Memorial Academy.
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841 **Section 2. Objectives.** In order to maximize and protect the resources mentioned above, the financial objectives
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ARTICLE VII - CURRICULUM DESIGN

Section 1. Statement of Philosophy.

Bass Memorial Academy exists for the purpose of enhancing the relationship of students with Jesus Christ while guiding them in discovering for themselves their true identity, purpose in life, and final destination. To help accomplish this, the academy seeks to provide a Christian setting where students may reach their goals of developing all of their physical, mental, spiritual, and social abilities.

Bass Memorial Academy is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian school and bases its philosophy on Seventh-day Adventist standards and values.

Section 2. Curriculum Objectives.

The curriculum objectives are:

- A. To provide the widest possible range of liberal arts courses, to include at least one foreign language and exposure to art and music appreciation, taught to nationally competitive standards;
- B. To provide a solid college preparatory curriculum;
- C. To provide both enrichment and honors programs to challenge gifted achievers;
- D. To make the work-study program a graded curriculum requirement for graduation, requiring a minimum participation at all times;
- E. To provide remedial programs in language skills and computational skills;
- F. To provide vocational and non-academic courses of study and diplomas for students requiring such programs;
- G. To incorporate into all courses, at all levels, a graduated and mandatory writing and research program to include standardized formats developed by the Bass Memorial Academy;
- H. To require a minimum course load for all class levels;

- 889 I. To recognize institutional responsibility to improve the skills of every student regardless of IQ or
890 skill level; and
891 J. To integrate counseling, registrar, and administrative functions to enhance student
892 progress.

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894 **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS**
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897 This constitution may be amended, revised, or repealed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the
898 delegates present and voting at a duly-called Gulf States Conference constituency meeting, provided the
899 proposed change has been announced in the call of the meeting. However, a three-fourth (3/4) majority
900 vote of a quorum of the delegates is required to amend, revise or repeal any portion of Article II of this
901 constitution.
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