I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Connecticut Association of

Blind Students.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTER

This organization shall be chartered as a state chapter of the National Association of Blind Students and as a

Division of the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut.

III. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote educational opportunities and the

general well being of blind students in this nation and the state and to function as

an integral part of the National Federation of the Blind and the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

At least a majority of the active members of this organization must be blind students.

1. All active members shall have the right to vote, serve on committees, and speak on the floor.

2. Any person may become an active member of this organization upon application and payment of dues to the treasurer.

3. Any member may be expelled for violation of this constitution or for behavior unbecoming to a member of the National Federation of the Blind, by a majority vote of the members present and voting at an annual

business meeting or by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors. The annual business meeting of this organization may reinstate any person who has been expelled, unless such expulsion has been confirmed by the state convention, the board

of directors of the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut, the

National Convention, or by the board of directors of the National Federation of the Blind, in which event the person may not be reinstated except by the Convention or board of directors that confirmed the expulsion. Any person who feels he or she has

been unjustly expelled from the organization may appeal to the state board of

directors or the annual state convention. If the appeal is denied by the state board

[or the state convention], the party may further appeal to the national board of

directors, who may, at their discretion, reinstate a member.

V. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

1. Elections.

There shall be elected at the regular annual business meeting a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer. The terms of their offices shall begin at the close of the annual business meeting at which they are elected and qualified. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of all members present and voting. There shall be no proxy voting. If no nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the name of the person receiving the fewest votes will be removed from the list of nominees and a second ballot recorded. This procedure shall continue until one candidate receives a simple majority of the votes. The president and first vice president must be blind students planning to attend a full-time educational program in the academic year following election.

2. Duties.

The duties of each officer shall be those ordinarily associated with that office.

VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of this organization shall consist of the five constitutional officers. The board shall meet at the call of the president or on written call (either on paper or by e-mail) signed by a majority of the board members. The Board shall advise the president and shall have charge of the affairs of this organization between meetings. At least a majority of the board must be present to constitute a quorum to transact business.

The board may be polled by telephone, email, or mail ballot on any question. A majority of the board of directors must be blind students.

VII. MEETINGS

1. Annual Business Meetings.

The organization shall hold an annual business meeting, the time and place of which shall coincide with the time and place of the

state convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut.

2. Special Meetings.

The president of this organization may call a special meeting any time she or he or a majority of the board of directors deems such action to be necessary. At such special meetings at least twenty-five percent of the active members must be present to transact business. To call such a meeting, notice must be given to the board of directors at least ten days prior to the date of such special meeting.

VIII. COMMITTEES

The president may create such committees as she or he or the organization deems necessary. Any decisions made within a committee meeting must have at least a majority vote of the membership of that committee, and must be approved by the board of directors of this organization.

IX. AFFILIATION

The Connecticut Association of Blind Students shall be an

affiliate of the National Association of Blind Students and the National Federation

of the Blind of Connecticut, which are, in turn, affiliates of the National Federation

of the Blind. The Connecticut Association of Blind Students shall furnish to

the president of the National Association of Blind Students and the president of

the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut annually or before the

Connecticut state convention a list of the names and addresses of the members and

Elected officers of this organization. A copy of the constitution of the

Connecticut Association of Blind Students and all amendments thereto shall be sent to the President of the National Association of Blind Students, the president of the

National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut, and the president of the

National Federation of the Blind without delay. The Connecticut Association of Blind

Students shall not merely be a social organization, but shall formulate programs and

actively work to promote the academic and social betterment of blind students and the

blind generally. This organization shall comply with the provisions of the

constitution of the National Federation of the Blind, the National Federation of the

Blind of Connecticut, and the provisions of the contract appearing on the back of the

charter of affiliation issued to it by the National Federation of the Blind of

Connecticut. Policy decisions of the National Federation of the Blind, whether made by

the National Convention or its board of directors or by the state convention or

the affiliate’s board of directors, are binding on this organization, and

this organization shall participate and act affirmatively in carrying out such

policy decisions. As a condition of affiliation it is agreed by this organization that

the National Federation of the Blind, whether the decision be made by the Convention

or the board of directors, has the power to expel or discipline an individual member

and to expel or reorganize a state affiliate, division, or local chapter. In the

event of reorganization, the assets of the affiliate, division, or chapter belong to

the reorganized affiliate, division, or local chapter, and the former affiliate,

division or chapter shall dissolve and cease to exist. The titles Connecticut Association of Blind Students, National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut Student Division, and any

variant thereof, are the property of the National Federation of the Blind, and this

organization, upon the event of disaffiliation with the National federation of the

Blind, for whatever reason, shall forfeit the right to use the name Connecticut

Association of Blind Students, National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut

Student Division or any variant thereof.

X. DUES

The dues of this organization shall be set at an annual amount of $5 and shall be payable at annual business meetings or at the time a person joins this organization. No person may vote who is delinquent in the payment of dues.

XI. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

The funds of this Organization shall be deposited in a bank to be selected by the treasurer, with the approval of the president. All

Financial transactions shall be discharged by check or other draft, issued on the

order of the president, and signed by the treasurer or the president. If for an amount greater than $100 and signed by the president, the draft must have written approval from at least two other board members.

XII. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of this organization or if, for any reason, it ceases to be an affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, assets

shall be given to the National Federation of the Blind ofConnecticut, to be held in

trust for a reorganized student organization. In the event that no student group

is reorganized within a period of two years from the date of dissolution,

the assets may be deposited with the general funds of the National Federation of

the Blind ofConnecticut, to be used for the purposes of that organization.

XIII. AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of this Organization by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the active members, provided that the amendment is in compliance with the provisions of The charter of affiliation issued by the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut and the policies of the National Federation of the Blind. Amendments may also be acted upon at special meetings.