



SB-F22-007

**An Act to Provide for the Funding of Graduate Students' Professional Association Memberships**

- Whereas,** professional associations are valuable components of many diverse industries within the United States and around the world, and,
- Whereas,** many graduate students at Tennessee Tech are not a member of their professions' association, and,
- Whereas,** graduate students at Tennessee Tech often do not have any support from their department for joining their respective professional associations, and,
- Whereas,** graduate students would benefit greatly from the provision of resources and guidance offered by their association members, and,
- Whereas,** student organizations affiliated with these professional associations would benefit from having more graduate students participate in chapter activities, and,
- Whereas,** the graduate students that utilize this support by joining their professional associations would bring heightened visibility to the university, potentially enabling the university to accept higher numbers of talented applicants.

**NOW THEREFORE,**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF  
TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY THAT**

Section 1: This bill shall be known as the "Professional Association Funding Act of 2022".

Section 2: Each University College/Department shall, with the financial backing of the University at the discretion of the Business Office, establish a fund to be used by graduate students within the respective College/Department to pay for the cost of membership to their professional association.

Section 2.1: This fund may only be used to cover the base cost of membership for any association. Any student wishing to opt for a higher membership tier must pay any additional cost incurred.

Section 3: The College of Graduate Studies shall make a form available on their website to allow graduate students to apply for funding.

Section 4: The College of Graduate Studies shall establish a transparent review process, not to exceed two (2) weeks, to evaluate each application for funding that is received.

Section 5: The applicant shall, at the conclusion of the review period, be notified of the status of their application via e-mail, at minimum.

Section 5.1: If the application is accepted, funding shall be disbursed to the applicant's account within five (5) business days.

Section 5.2: If the application is denied, the reason for denial, as well as possible remedies, shall be clearly stated in the notification sent to the applicant.

Section 6: This Bill shall take effect immediately upon passage by the Student Government Association, the welfare of the students requiring it.

**Respectively Submitted by:**

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