

Information from your student union in collaboration with the Swedish National Union of Students.

Student influence ...What is it?

Did you know you have the right to influence your education? It is in the law. Student influence means that students should be involved when decisions are made about their education and situation.

This covers everything from course design to university governance. But where can you make a difference, and who speaks for you?

In your course

Course evaluations are your voice. Your university must let you share your views after every course, compile the responses and tell you what they lead to. Notice during the course that something isn't working? Talk to your teacher or contact your student union.

At your university

When your university makes decisions about education or students' situation, students have the right to be involved. That is why student representatives sit on everything from the university board to faculty boards and programme councils. Your student

union appoints them and monitors the quality of your education.

Nationally

SFS represents student unions and students to the government, parliament and public agencies. We respond to consultations, meet decision-makers and appoint student representatives to national assignments.

Right now, we are using that voice to improve student finance, among other things.

All of this depends on the student unions.

Student union funding has **shrunk**

In 2026, the state grant to student unions was cut from SEK 55 million to SEK 35 million – more than a third.

Half of the student unions say they are now less able to monitor the quality of your education. Scan the QR code and read the SFS report (in Swedish).



Student unions' **voices**



In an SFS report, unions describe in their own words how the cut has hit them. Several have laid off staff or cut full-time positions.

“We had to remove a presidium member,” writes one. Another: “we don't have time to fix things but have to focus

on putting out fires.”

Influence suffers too. “How are we to ensure a good operation when fewer people can commit full-time,” asks one union.

Full report (in Swedish) via the QR code above!



Your student union is a member of the Swedish National Union of Students (SFS).

SFS brings together 60 student unions and represents over 400,000 students and doctoral students.

Our mission is to represent the student unions and students at the national level.

Read more at sfs.se.

Become a student representative!

Being a student representative means that you help influence issues that matter to you and your fellow students.

The Swedish National Union of Students (SFS) appoints student representatives to national assignments. Information about available positions is published continuously on the SFS website. Some assignments require previous experience, but usually it is enough that you are a student and interested in the issues.

At www.sfs.se/ledigt-uppdrag you can see which student

