



Starting a Chapter

You can apply to start a Chapter through the form under “Join Us” in the navigation bar of our website. The following information summarizes our goals and provides advice for developing chapters.

Mission

The Bipartisan Feminist Project is a grassroots organization aiming to take the politics out of feminism to achieve three goals:

1. **Foster support for feminist goals** by letting people of all political parties, genders, and other identities share their perspectives and respectfully point out flaws in opposing perspectives. When people feel their opinions are heard, they are more likely to respect women in their daily lives.
2. **Establish bipartisan support for pro-women legislation** by discussing how different laws affect society and working with local legislators of all political affiliations.
3. **Increase access to educational resources for women** by raising money toward educational materials and employment services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

Values

We foster societal progress by acting with and promoting:

Inclusion- empowering people of all identities and beliefs to be vocal about their experiences so we can achieve equality for all

Open-mindedness- understanding how others’ opinions have been shaped by their experiences to come closer to the truth

Critical Analysis- seeking a deep understanding of pro-women legislation and the struggles of women globally to make informed decisions when it comes to advocacy and everyday life.

Next Steps

Once you submit your application to start a chapter, we will take the following steps:

1. Interview you via Zoom
2. Send you the PowerPoint presentations from our first set of workshops so you can host meaningful discussions about feminism at your own school
3. Meet with you remotely to discuss how to organize your own workshops and fundraisers

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Chapter Overview

What does a BIFP Chapter do?

Chapters of the Bipartisan Feminist Project are groups at schools, companies, and in geographic regions that hold meetings of their own, run fundraisers, and work on advocacy projects. They will ultimately carry out what we did in our inaugural class in their own respective areas. Members of these groups can contribute to our website and zine publications as well as other events that will include all chapters.

How Do I Start a Chapter?

Click on “Join Us,” in our website’s navigation bar, and fill out the form on that page. State that you are looking to start a chapter. Once you sign-up and interview with us, you can start recruiting friends, family members, and peers to join your group. People of all ages, genders, and identities are welcome.

How does a Chapter Operate?

Each Chapter can use meeting topics and ideas that the Bipartisan Feminist Project provides and that they contribute to the Bipartisan Feminist Project. For instance, we are currently starting a fundraiser for a local domestic abuse shelter. You can recruit your members to contribute to this cause or fundraise for a similar cause in your area. Likewise, you can use our meeting topics as well as form your own meeting topics and discussions.

Your efforts will be an important aspect of the collective efforts of the Bipartisan Feminist Project! Whenever you have a meeting or event, you may write a summary of it for our Instagram and online newsletter.

Where can I go with questions?

You can contact the Bipartisan Feminist Project’s founder, Veronica Tadross, at veronicatad31@gmail.com. You can also contact one of our Ambassadors based in New York, whose information is forthcoming.



Officer Duties

Bipartisan Feminist Project officers are the students who will be managing and directing your Bipartisan Feminist Project chapter. Officers help the chapter work towards and achieve the intended objectives for the year. You'll want to establish a dedicated, passionate group of student officers to guide your Bipartisan Feminist Project chapter. Below are some officer roles you might want to consider for your club.

President (or Co-Presidents):

- Attends and leads each Bipartisan Feminist Project meeting: prepares meeting plan, guides informative workshops and discussions both in school and for outside presentations
- Plans club events and fundraisers
- Represents the Bipartisan Feminist Project in school-wide discussions
- Communicates with chapter members about their roles or duties
- Guides club members to meet goals, including recruitment and organizing Bipartisan Feminist Project programs

Vice President:

- Leads meetings when President is absent
- Assists the President with planning group events and fundraisers
- Coordinates with other officers to plan programs and ensure that meetings run smoothly

Secretary:

- Maintains organized and effective records and administration for the club
- Takes attendance and records minutes at meetings, makes sure all team members have access to notes
- Assists with managing Bipartisan Feminist Project project plans

Social Media Coordinator:

- Creates and manages the social media platforms for the Bipartisan Feminist Project chapter
- Documents the Bipartisan Feminist Project at events through photo and video
- Communicates with Bipartisan Feminist Project leadership to post updates on the Bipartisan Feminist Project website

Fundraising Director

- Develop a fundraising action plan

- Identify and suggest fundraising opportunities
- Manage and motivate a team of volunteers who engage in fundraising activities
- Lead in initiating, planning, and implementing all necessary activities, in a timely manner, to ensure that program goals and objectives are accomplished

Advisor:

- A school faculty member to support your chapter
- Supports the work of the Bipartisan Feminist Project club
- Represents Bipartisan Feminist Project to school staff
- Assists Bipartisan Feminist Project members in achieving goals and organizing projects

Not everyone on your Bipartisan Feminist Project team needs to have an officer role! In addition to your advisor, your team may grow to include team members.

Members:

- Contribute to working towards and achieving Bipartisan Feminist Project's goals
- Collaborate with the team and use unique individual skills to help advance the team's objectives



Election Policies

The Bipartisan Feminist Project officers will be responsible for managing and directing the team towards its goals. Officers should be motivated and passionate about solving the problem of partisan feminism in politics and our daily lives. As such, it's important to delegate responsibility in a considerate and thoughtful manner. Below are some tips on how to choose your team.

Selection:

- Should officers be nominated by current officers or should students volunteer to be considered for the position?
- What is the application process for officers? Will it be anonymous or will candidates advocate for themselves?
- How should voting take place? Does the advisor get a vote?
- Are there requirements to being an officer, like grade level or time of involvement with the Bipartisan Feminist Project?

Service:

- How long is an officer's term?
- How is decision-making delegated among the Bipartisan Feminist Project team?
- Who is responsible for training the new officers?



Team Selection Advice

The issue of partisan feminism needs students across the nation to stand up and raise awareness in order for civilians and eventually policymakers to take action. A diverse array of backgrounds and interests will help your Bipartisan Feminist Project team achieve its goals.

Here are some tips for recruiting Bipartisan Feminist Project team members:

- Post flyers about the organization in highly trafficked, visible locations around your school.
- Get creative! Consider how information gets shared in your school. What are the most effective ways of reaching students? Do you have school wide announcements? Advisory periods? Are there classes related to policy or activism that might be interested in the Bipartisan Feminist Project?
- Post about Bipartisan Feminist Project on social media. Create an Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter account specifically for your Chapter
- Ask your friends to spread the word! The more people who are working to recruit team members, the more successful you will be.
- Reach out to students from diverse backgrounds and encourage them to be part of your team (e.g. ask a coach to mention it to players, put up flyers in your school's art studio, or ask your friend who runs the debate team to join and bring some friends).
- Follow-up with people who express interest or curiosity about the Bipartisan Feminist Project Make sure they have all the information they need to make it to your next meeting!

Keep recruiting throughout the school year. People should feel free to join Bipartisan Feminist Project at any time, so make sure to keep your doors open to everyone! Your team's success depends on the strength of its members.

Make sure to recruit a like-minded adult in your community to act as your Bipartisan Feminist Project Advisor. When approaching them, you might want to share why Bipartisan Feminist Project is important to you and your school and why you think this person would be a good fit for your team.



Administrator Letter

Dear _____,

We are writing to ask your support for our formation of a Bipartisan Feminist Project Chapter at our school. We are a group of students who are passionate about establishing bipartisan support for feminism to promote important legislation and garner support for pro-women causes.

The Bipartisan Feminist Project operates on the basis of three main objectives: fostering open discussions to make feminism accessible to all people, increasing access to educational resources for women, and promoting pro-women legislation through bipartisan advocacy.

Through collaboration with our advisor _____, we want to use the Bipartisan Feminist Project as a platform to help the feminist movement gain momentum and put pressure on policymakers to address the lack of support for women's issues.

The Bipartisan Feminist Project was initiated in New York, and within a few months of its founding hosted six informative workshops for 20+ attendees on identity barriers in the women's movement and raised over \$3,000 for a food pantry serving disadvantaged women impacted by COVID-19. The Bipartisan Feminist Project is currently publishing a series of three magazines featuring literary works from writers of all perspectives of feminism, which will be distributed throughout high schools in New York City. According to a study from the Harvard Business Review, people are more willing to support the feminist movement when they feel that they are accepted and valued in it.

In the United States, someone is sexually assaulted every 73 seconds. According to RAINN, in 90% of instances this person is a woman. However, women, many of whom are victims themselves, are teased for being feminists because people associate feminism with being liberal and radical. Political affiliation should not be holding us back from supporting 50% of our population. Women are also disadvantaged in education and the workplace. The Bipartisan Feminist Project's dedication to broadening support for feminism and increasing access to educational resources enables women to stand up for themselves.

Your participation in our work is invaluable to us. We invite you to attend a chapter meeting, where we can brainstorm ways to meet our goals of raising money to increase access to educational resources for women, fostering open discussions to make feminism accessible to all people, and promoting pro-women legislation through bipartisan advocacy.

Thank you,



Meeting Notes

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ LOCATION: _____

Attendees:

Topic	Discussion/Updates	Projects	Responsible Person/Deadline

