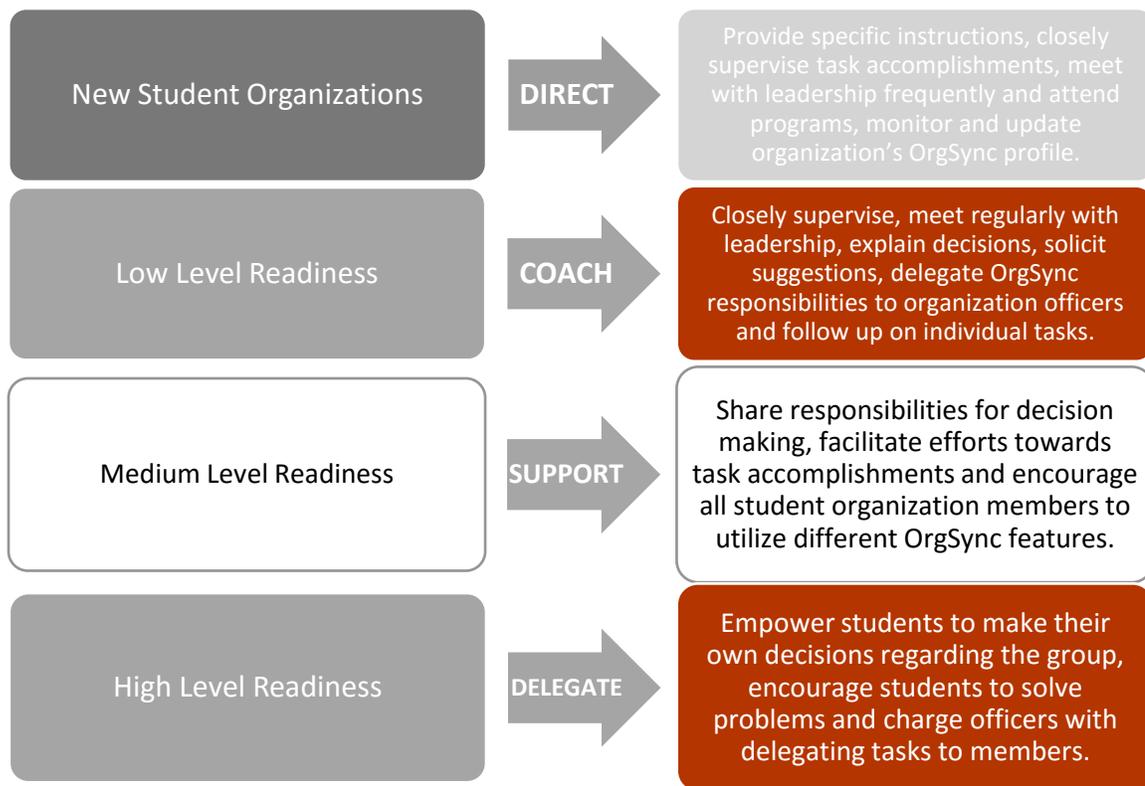


## Advising Styles & Abilities

*To be successful in your role as a student organization advisor, you will need to employ different advising skills and styles depending on the status of your student organization.*

This document offers some varied advising styles. Advising styles will vary depending on an assessment of an organization's readiness levels. Below is a chart to help advisors determine which advising style best works with the readiness level of their student organization:



*\*\* Advisors may need to combine a few styles to get the best fit for what the organization needs at a given time.*

In addition to having an advising style, you may need to call on different abilities to advise your student organization. Below is a chart of some common abilities you need to exercise to work with your group:



### **Communicate**

In your role, it is important to communicate effectively and efficiently. Displaying good communication with your group through email and in meetings sets a strong example for the organization leadership to emulate when working with general membership.

### **Diagnose**

Having the ability to diagnose what your student group needs might be the most beneficial ability in this list. Determining what is *NEEDED* opposed to what is *WANTED*, will lead your group to growth/understanding. This does not always warrant a positive response at the onset, but the outcome could benefit the group for years to come.

### **Balance**

Being an advisor adds another facet to your life. It's important to exhibit balance in your work and life. Setting boundaries between work, advising, and your personal life will help you avoid burnout and set a good example for your student leaders.

### **Be Flexible**

An advisor that is able to be flexible will be more successful than an advisor that is not. Flexibility comes in different forms. Working with students is different than working with your staff/faculty counterparts. Also, students will come to you with different levels of leadership development and you will need to adapt to meet them where they are in that process.