

# ELECTION PROCEDURES AND RULES

# CHAPTER 600: APPLICATION AND DEFINITIONS

- 600.1 Title VI, encompassing Chapters 600-699, shall exclusively pertain to the structure and governance of all UKSGA elections.
- 600.2 Throughout Title VI, the following terms and definitions shall be used:
  - a. "Ticket" shall be defined as two or more candidates whose names appear together on the ballot.
  - b. "Affiliated with" shall be defined as openly endorsing a campaign.
  - c. "Elections Timeline" shall be defined as the document submitted to the appropriate standing committee and the Full Senate for consideration, which outlines the location of election polls, the times of operations for each election poll, the promotional plan for the election, and all other procedures and policies for the election that require approval before implementation.
  - d. "Endorsement" shall be defined as a direct public expression of support for any candidate. This includes, but is not limited to, direct statements of support, sharing or reposting of campaign materials, and any form of joint campaigning.
  - e. "Campaign material" shall be defined as anything used to promote a candidate, including, but not limited to, flyers, literature, pamphlets, clothing articles, table-tent advertisements, electronic communication banners, posters, handbills, web pages, social media content, email documents, sound recordings, video recordings, and location-based marketing materials.
  - f. "Campaign promotional item" shall be defined as an item that a candidate distributes which may contain a candidate's or ticket's platform, name, educational experience, or other unnamed item to be determined by the Elections Board. This includes, but is not limited to, apparel for affiliates and buttons.
  - g. "Handbill" shall be defined as a campaign promotional item, no larger than 8.5 x 11 inches, to be distributed in mass.
  - h. "Poster" shall be defined as a campaign promotional item, sized larger than 8.5 x 11 inches, to be posted.
  - i. "Banner" shall be defined as a campaign promotional item, sized larger than 13 x 19 inches, to be displayed.
  - j. "Candidate platform" shall be defined as a statement from the candidate or candidates describing their positions independent of other campaign materials.
  - k. "Classrooms" shall be defined as rooms where at least two different University-administered classes occur weekly during the semester in which the election is held.
  - 1. "Eligible voter" shall be defined as a currently enrolled student at the University of Kentucky and determined by enrollment data provided by the Office of Student Organizations and Activities.
  - m. "Valid ballot" shall be defined as a ballot cast for a candidate that is discernible and without significant or indiscernible spelling or typographical errors.



- n. "Polling hours" shall be defined as the time during which a member is permitted to vote in a given election.
- o. "Polling location" shall be defined as the area within twenty (20) feet of an official inperson, SGA-administered ballot box designated by the Elections Board of Supervisors on election days.
- p. "Pollster" shall be defined as a member designated by the Elections Board of Supervisors to work at a polling location.
- q. "QR code" shall be defined as a machine-readable code used to store URLs or other information for reading by an electronic device's camera.
- r. "Hyperlink" or "link" shall be defined as a digital reference that a user can follow or be guided to by clicking or tapping.
- s. "Objection" shall be defined as a submission to the Elections Commissioner by any member upon a perceived election violation seeking injunctive remedy, but no assessment of penal damages, regarding the alleged conduct.
- t. "Procedural Objection" shall be defined as a submission to the Supreme Court by a candidate or the Attorney General upon a perceived violation by UKSGA, the Elections Commissioner, or the Elections Board, seeking the injunctive remedy of a procedural correction to ensure adherence with the established rules and regulations regarding elections.
- u. "Claim" shall be defined as a submission to the Elections Commissioner by any candidate or the Attorney General upon a perceived election violation, seeking the injunctive remedy of an official review and assessment of penal damages.
- v. "Procedural Claims" shall be defined as a submission to the Supreme Court by a candidate or the Attorney General upon a perceived patent and flagrant violation by UKSGA, the Elections Commissioner, or the Elections Board that results in a significant barrier to the electoral process, seeking the injunctive remedy of official review and the issuance of a special election.
- w. "Actionable" shall be defined as objections determined by the Elections Board to likely have merit if officially reviewed as a claim.
- x. "Merited" shall be defined as actionable claims determined by the Supreme Court to warrant the need for a Supreme Court hearing.
- y. "Violation" shall be defined as any act by a candidate or an individual affiliated with a candidate that violates any of the restrictions and limitations imposed by the Governing Codes.
- z. "Social Media" shall be defined as electronic communication through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content. This includes, but is not limited to, Instagram, Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter), Reddit, etc.



# CHAPTER 601: ELECTIONS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- 601.1 There shall be an Elections Board of Supervisors, hereinafter referred to as the Elections Board, that will oversee the elections process.
- 601.2 The designated constitutional entity, with approval by a simple majority vote of the Senate, shall appoint an Elections Commissioner who shall serve as Chair of the Elections Board of Supervisors. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Elections Commissioner, the Elections Board shall elect an acting chair to serve until there is an Elections Commissioner or Interim Elections Commissioner.
- 601.3 The Elections Board shall be appointed by the Elections Commissioner. Nominees shall be subject to approval by a majority of the Full Senate following approval by the appropriate standing committee. The Elections Board shall be composed of no fewer than eight (8) members, excluding the Chair.
  - a. Should fewer than eight (8) qualified applicants submit to serve on the Elections Board, the appropriate standing committee may approve a slate lower than eight (8) but with no fewer than four (4) members. The Elections Commissioner shall continue to accept applicants and submit qualified applicants to the appropriate standing committee as they become available.
- 601.4 No persons affiliated with an active student campaign, including a candidate or write-in candidate, may serve on the Elections Board.
  - a. No member of the Elections Board shall affiliate with a student campaign for the entirety of the academic year in which they served on the Elections Board, even if they resign their positions on the Elections Board.
  - b. Affiliation with a student campaign during a previous academic year shall not disqualify someone from serving on the Elections Board.
- 601.5 Nominations for the Elections Board shall be presented to the Full Senate at least five (5) academic days prior to the opening day of the elections filing window.
  - a. The Full Senate and the appropriate standing committee shall, if necessary, sit in a special session to fulfill this requirement.
- 601.6 The individual nominations approved by the appropriate standing committee will be referred to as the "Elections Board Slate." This slate of nominees and their qualifications will be presented to the Full Senate for approval. Should the Full Senate reject this slate, the Full Senate may entertain motions to approve the individual nominations.
- 601.7 If a vacancy arises on the Elections Board that causes the number of members on the Board to be fewer than eight (8), the following shall happen:
  - a. If a vacancy arises in the Elections Board during the elections timeline, as approved by the Full Senate, the Board shall be permitted to operate with fewer than eight (8), but no fewer than four (4), members. If the total falls below the minimum of four (4), the appropriate standing committee may approve the Elections Commissioner to name a number of interim members of the Elections Board up to the number needed to meet the minimum number of four (4) until such a time that the current election timeline concludes.



b. If a vacancy arises in the Elections Board outside of the elections timeline, an application shall be opened, and a nomination shall be submitted to the appropriate standing committee within twenty (20) academic days of the vacancy arising or the member's resignation.

# **CHAPTER 602: ELECTIONS TIMELINE**

- 602.1 The Elections Commissioner shall, no later than forty (40) academic days before a regularly scheduled election, submit an Elections Timeline for consideration and approval by the appropriate standing committee. Following approval by the appropriate standing committee, the Full Senate shall take up the Elections Timeline for consideration and approval.
- 602.2 The Elections Commissioner shall ensure that any Elections Timeline proposed is in full compliance with the following requirements:
  - a. The candidacy filing period for the election of the Student Body President and Vice President, Undergraduate Senators-at-Large, Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large, and College Senators shall begin no later than thirty (30) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours and end no later than twenty (20) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours.
    - i. Should no candidates file to run in a given election, the Elections Board may extend the filing period to appear on the ballot for that office to no later than ten (10) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours.
  - b. The candidacy meeting for the election of the Student Body President and Vice President, Undergraduate Senators-at-Large, Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large, and College Senators shall be conducted within three (3) academic days of the conclusion of the candidacy filing period.
  - c. A campaign material stamping meeting shall be conducted within five (5) academic days of the candidacy meeting.
    - i. At the discretion of the Elections Commissioner, additional campaign material stamping meetings may be conducted, with the last meeting occurring no later than five (5) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours.
  - d. A write-in candidacy filing period for the election of the Student Body President and Vice President, Undergraduate Senators-at-Large, Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large, and College Senators shall begin within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the candidacy filing period and end no later than ten (10) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours.
  - e. The period for write-in candidacy meetings for the election of Student Body President and Vice President, Undergraduate Senators-at-Large, Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large, and College Senators shall begin concurrently with the write-in candidacy filing period and end no later than five (5) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours.
  - f. The period for the submission of optional candidate platforms shall end no later than five (5) academic days preceding the first day of polling hours.
  - g. The time at which polling hours begin shall be no later than 9 AM Eastern Time on the first day of voting and end no earlier than 4 PM Eastern Time on the second day of voting.
  - h. The time in which the in-person polling location operates shall be for no less than four (4) hours between 9 AM and 5 PM Eastern Time on all days during which there are polling hours.
  - i. An unofficial results tabulation meeting shall be conducted no later than twenty-four (24) hours following the conclusion of polling hours.



- j. The period for the submission of campaign expenditure forms by executive tickets shall end no later than twenty-four (24) hours following the conclusion of polling hours.
- k. The period for submission of campaign expenditure forms by Senatorial candidates shall end no later than thirty-six (36) hours following the conclusion of polling hours.
- 1. The period during which candidates may submit claims for review by the Elections Board shall begin immediately following the conclusion of polling hours and end no later than three (3) hours prior to the start of the claims review meeting.
- m. A claims review meeting shall be conducted no later than three (3) academic days following the conclusion of polling and those deemed to have merit shall be sent to the Supreme Court for review no later than three (3) hours following the conclusion of the claims review meeting.
- n. If the claims are deemed to have merit or claims are filed against the process, a Supreme Court hearing shall be conducted no later than five (5) academic days following the conclusion of the claims review meeting.
- o. The Supreme Court shall issue official results within seven (7) academic days of the conclusion of the claims review meeting.
- 602.3 Elections for Student Body President and Vice President, Undergraduate Senators-at-Large, Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large, and College Senators shall be held on the Monday and Tuesday two weeks before Spring Break, with the exception of special elections, which may be issued by the Supreme Court.
- 602.4 The Freshman Senators shall be elected by the corresponding populations on a Monday and Tuesday between the sixth and eighth weeks of classes in the fall semester. The Monday/Tuesday date shall be determined by the Elections Board.
- 602.5 Upon approval by the Senate, the Elections Board may only amend the Elections Timeline under extenuating circumstances, including but not limited to:
  - a. Death of a candidate or SGA member;
  - b. A natural disaster severely affecting campus or the Lexington-Fayette area;
  - c. The safety of the student body; or
  - d. Administrative changes and processes out of UKSGA's control, e.g., event management services, issues relating to software utilized in the elections process, or other unforeseen circumstances.
- 602.6 Any amendments to the approved timeline shall be communicated to the Student Body and Senate as soon as possible. A failure to provide adequate notice may result in a procedural error, providing grounds for a claim in the Supreme Court. The Senate may vote to approve the changes, but approval is not required.



# **CHAPTER 603: CANDIDACY**

- 603.1 All members who wish to run for office shall submit a candidacy filing application to the Elections Commissioner through the official platform utilized by the Office of Student Organizations and Activities to manage student organizations. The submission of this application shall constitute the member's certification that they meet the requirements for office, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules of the election, and grant the appropriate entities the right to verify their eligibility for office. Upon confirmation of a successful application, the member shall be deemed a candidate. The aforementioned application shall collect the following:
  - a. The name of the member;
  - b. The name that the member wishes to appear on the ballot;
    - i. The Elections Board may, if they deem a submission frivolous or fictitious, reject a name from appearing on the ballot and request another name from the member.
    - ii. Should a member fail to respond to a request to update their name on the ballot but meet all other requirements to seek office, the name of the member otherwise submitted in the application shall be used on the ballot.
  - c. The member's LinkBlue; and
  - d. The office the member seeks to run for.
- 603.2 The number of Senators-at-Large shall be set as provided otherwise in the UKSGA Governing Codes and the constitution. The Senate shall adopt a resolution originating from the appropriate standing committee recognizing the number of Senators-at-Large and their respective classifications.
  - a. To run for or be appointed to the position of Undergraduate Senator-at-Large, a member shall meet all requirements for active membership and be classified as an undergraduate student at the University of Kentucky OR certify that they intend to be classified as such by the start of the subsequent academic term.
    - i. Any member who opts to certify intent shall automatically resign their seat should they fail to be classified as an undergraduate student by the end of the second week of the subsequent academic term.
    - ii. Any member who opts to certify intent shall do so in writing (electronic or otherwise) to the appropriate Office of Student Organizations and Activities staff member when contacted by the Elections Commissioner regarding their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application.
  - b. To run for the position of Graduate and Professional Senator-at-Large, a member shall meet all requirements for active membership and be classified as a graduate, professional, or post-doctoral student at the University of Kentucky OR certify that they intend to be classified as such by the start of the subsequent academic term.
    - i. Any member who opts to certify intent shall automatically resign their seat should they fail to be classified as a graduate, professional, or post-doctoral student by the end of the second week of the subsequent academic term.
    - ii. Any member who opts to certify intent shall do so in writing (electronic or otherwise) to the appropriate Office of Student Organizations and Activities staff member when contacted by the Elections Commissioner regarding their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application.



- c. The Elections Commissioner shall verify that a member who wishes to run for Senator-at-Large meets the appropriate classification requirements prior to approving a candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application. Should a member fail to meet the proper classification requirements, the Elections Commissioner shall then inquire as to their intent to meet that requirement by the start of the subsequent academic term and require that a member certify their intention prior to approving their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application.
  - i. A member shall certify their intent within three (3) academic days to the appropriate Office of Student Organizations and Activities staff member following initial contact from the Elections Commissioner regarding their intent or their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application shall be declared invalid.
- 603.3 The number of College Senators shall be set as provided by the constitution. The Senate shall adopt a resolution originating from the appropriate standing committee recognizing the number of College Senators and their respective colleges or schools.
  - a. To run for or be appointed to the position of College Senator, a member shall meet all requirements for active membership and be enrolled in the appropriate degree-granting college or school OR certify that they intend to be enrolled as such by the start of the subsequent academic term.
    - i. Any member who opts to certify intent shall automatically resign their seat should they fail to be enrolled in the appropriate degree-granting college or school by the end of the second week of the subsequent academic term.
    - ii. Any member who opts to certify intent shall do so in writing (electronic or otherwise) to the appropriate Office of Student Organizations and Activities staff member when contacted by the Elections Commissioner regarding their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application.
  - b. The Elections Commissioner shall verify that a member who wishes to run for College Senator meets the appropriate enrollment requirements prior to approving a candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application. Should a member fail to meet the proper enrollment requirements, the appropriate Office of Student Organizations and Activities staff member shall then inquire as to their intent to meet that requirement by the start of the subsequent academic term and require that a member certify their intention prior to approving their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application.
    - i. A member shall certify their intent within three (3) academic days to the appropriate Office of Student Organizations and Activities staff member following initial contact from the Elections Commissioner regarding their intent or their candidacy filing application or write-in candidacy filing application shall be declared invalid.
- 603.4 All members who wish to run for office but failed to properly file during the candidacy filing period shall submit a write-in candidacy filing application to the Elections Commissioner through the official platform utilized by the Office of Student Organizations and Activities to manage student organizations. The submission of this application shall constitute the member's certification that they meet the requirements for



office, have read, understand, and agree to abide by the rules of the election, and grant the appropriate entities the right to verify their eligibility for office. Upon confirmation of a successful application, the member shall be deemed a write-in candidate. The aforementioned application shall collect the following:

- a. The name of the member;
- b. The name that the member wishes to appear on the ballot;
  - i. The Elections Board may, if they deem a submission frivolous or fictitious, reject a name from appearing on the ballot and request another name from the member.
  - ii. Should a member fail to respond to a request to update their name on the ballot but meet all other requirements to seek office, the name of the member otherwise submitted in the application shall be used on the ballot.
- c. The member's LinkBlue; and
- d. The office the member seeks to run for.
- 603.5 Write-in candidate names will be listed at the top of their respective ballots but will not be a selectable option on the ballot. All write-in candidates will need to be manually entered by each voter.
  - a. If no one files during the open candidacy filing period for the position, any write-in candidates will be listed as selectable candidates on the ballot, rather than being listed only at the top of the ballot.
- 603.6 There shall be a candidacy meeting which all candidates shall attend. The Elections Commissioner, in conjunction with the Elections Board, shall explain the rules and procedures of the election, the relevant meeting dates, and the responsibilities of the elected offices. Candidates shall sign in and out of this meeting using the method designated by the Elections Commissioner.
  - a. A candidate who fails to meet this requirement shall have their name stricken from the ballot and deemed ineligible to run for office and unable to file as a write-in candidate.
    - i. A candidate may, up to twenty-four (24) hours preceding the candidacy meeting, communicate with the Elections Commissioner to designate a representative to attend the candidacy meeting in their place.
    - ii. In extenuating circumstances, a candidate may notify the Elections Commissioner less than twenty-four (24) hours before the candidacy meeting of a representative attending in their place. It shall be up to the sole determination of the Elections Commissioner whether the circumstances satisfy the necessity for a last-minute designation of a representative.
  - b. All candidacy meetings shall be recorded and posted to the UKSGA website to maximize transparency surrounding the electoral process. In the event incorrect information is provided during these meetings, a candidate shall not be punished for operating under said incorrect information.
- 603.7 The Elections Commissioner shall, at their discretion, host write-in candidacy meetings, of which all write-in candidates shall attend at least one (1). The Elections Commissioner shall explain the rules and procedures of the election, the relevant meeting dates, and the



responsibilities of the elected offices. Write-in candidates shall sign in and out of this meeting using the method designated by the Elections Commissioner.

- a. A write-in candidate who fails to meet this requirement shall have their name struck from the ballot and deemed ineligible for office.
- b. A write-in candidate who attends the candidacy meeting as outlined in code 603.6 shall still be required to fulfill the write-in candidacy meeting requirement.
- 603.8 All candidates and write-in candidates for Student Body President and Vice President shall seek office independent of other candidates and exhibit no support for other candidate and write-in candidates.
  - a. Candidates and write-in candidates for Student Body President and Vice President shall not endorse, campaign jointly with, or ticket with any candidate or write-in candidate for a Senate seat.
- 603.9 All candidates and write-in candidates for the Senate shall seek office independent of other candidates and write-in candidates.
  - a. Candidates and write-in candidates for the Senate may endorse but not campaign jointly or ticket with any candidates or write-in candidates for Student Body President and Vice President.
  - b. Candidates and write-in candidates for the Senate shall not endorse, campaign jointly with, or ticket with any other candidate or write-in candidate for a Senate seat.
- 603.10 An active member who is not otherwise a candidate or write-in candidate may endorse no more than one (1) candidate(s) or write-in candidate(s) for Student Body President and Vice President or Senate.
- 603.11 No member of UKSGA shall create a ticket with the exception of executive tickets.
  - a. This code shall not be taken to preclude an active member from campaigning for themselves or for their executive ticket.



#### **CHAPTER 604: CAMPAIGNING**

- 604.1 Candidates for office are responsible for familiarizing themselves with and abiding by all applicable University, Elections Board, and UKSGA policies. Candidates are fully responsible for the conduct of those affiliated with their candidacy during the designated Elections Timeline and ensuring their affiliates' compliance with all applicable University, Elections Board, and UKSGA policies.
  - a. Unless otherwise stipulated, hereinafter, the term "candidate" shall refer to both candidates and write-in candidates.
  - b. Any actions that could warrant an objection or claim, as outlined in Chapter 609, committed by a member affiliated with a candidate or ticket shall be considered equal to that of a candidate or executive ticket committing a violation.
- 604.2 A candidate shall not solicit votes through any means prior to the Elections Commissioner's approval of their candidacy application.
  - a. This shall not prohibit a member from meeting with organizations or individuals to solicit ideas, policy proposals, or campus feedback.
- 604.3 Campaigning shall not occur within twenty (20) feet of any polling location during polling hours on the election days and no campaign material shall be present at a polling location during polling hours.
  - a. This stipulation shall exclude candidate platforms received and approved by the Elections Board.
- 604.4 Campaign material within twenty (20) feet of any polling location shall be removed by the candidate or their designee prior to opening of the polls.
- 604.5 Campaigning shall not occur within the University of Kentucky Libraries during polling hours.
- 604.6 Candidates shall not campaign through knocking on dorm room doors to solicit votes in University of Kentucky Residence Halls.
- 604.7 Forums and campaigning may occur in the common area of University of Kentucky Residence Halls, given they comply with Office of Residence Life regulations or applicable building regulations, with final discretion left to the Resident Director in any respective Residence Hall.
  - a. A candidate being allowed to host a forum or campaign in a Residence Hall shall not be taken as an endorsement of or affiliation with that candidate and shall not preclude another candidate from also campaigning or hosting a forum in that space.
- 604.8 Candidates may hold forums with any student organization, provided that the organization's president or equivalent authority approves it.
  - a. A candidate being allowed to host a forum or campaign with any student organization shall not be taken as an endorsement of or affiliation with that candidate by the organization and shall not preclude another candidate from also campaigning or hosting a forum with that organization.
  - b. Should an organization endorse a candidate, that organization shall not hold forums or campaign with any other candidate.



- 604.9 Candidates shall not intentionally misrepresent facts to or mislead UKSGA throughout the campaigning, tabulation, or certification process.
- 604.10 Candidates shall not utilize any monies generated from student fees mandated by the University of Kentucky for campaigning. Further, candidates shall not utilize any resources provided by UKSGA unless those resources are available freely to all candidates.
  - a. This provision shall not prohibit a candidate from utilizing monies received as compensation from an organization or entity that collects or receives monies generated from student fees mandated by the University of Kentucky for their campaign.
  - b. This provision shall not prohibit a candidate from utilizing apparel received as a result of their membership in UKSGA for their campaign.
  - c. This provision shall not prohibit the Elections Board from the use of monies generated from student fees mandated by the University of Kentucky for the purpose of promoting an election.
- 604.11 Members shall not utilize intimidation, harassment, or restraint to compel or induce nay person to vote or abstain from voting in an election.
  - a. Members shall not use or threaten force or violence to induce any person to vote or abstain from voting in an election.
- 604.12 Members shall not distribute or display any hyperlink or QR code that links to the ballot, directly or indirectly, apart from the official hyperlink or QR code generated by the Elections Board.
  - a. Members shall not display the official hyperlink and/or QR code before, during, or in the immediate aftermath of any organizational event, apart from those hosted by the Elections Board.
  - b. Members shall not distribute the QR code on social media through any means other than reposting or sharing an official UKSGA post.
  - c. Candidates shall not distribute the hyperlink on social media through any means other than a direct link in their biography or equivalent.
  - d. Members shall have the right to distribute the official hyperlink or QR code through direct messaging on social media, email, or text messaging. Members shall further have the right to distribute the official hyperlink or QR code through group communication platforms approved by the Elections Board.
    - i. The Elections Board shall confirm a final list of approved group communication platforms no later than five (5) academic days preceding the first day of voting.
- 604.13 Members shall not set up any electronic device to be used as a polling location for the purpose of soliciting votes.
  - a. This stipulation shall not preclude the Elections Board from establishing polling locations.
- 604.14 Following the opening of the candidacy filing application, there shall be no campaigning in the UKSGA office. This shall not preclude the general discussion of campaigns but rather prohibit the solicitation of votes in that space.



- 604.15 All candidates and their affiliates shall adhere to all election policies and applicable institutional policies. Unless otherwise allowed under the elections bylaws and policies, all candidates shall adhere to applicable university policies, municipal policies and laws, and stat policies and laws.
- 604.16 Additional policies and procedures approved by the Elections Board for the purpose of managing the elections process may be put into effect in addition to these codes and shall be adhered to by all candidates and their affiliates. All additional policies shall be provided to candidates prior to the opening of the candidacy filing application.

# CHAPTER 605: CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

- 605.1 Campaign materials shall only be posted in spaces in which the candidate has received advance written approval, electronic or otherwise, and shall fully comply with relevant University of Kentucky Administrative Regulations.
  - a. This code shall not apply to bulletin boards.
- 605.2 Candidates shall not post any campaign materials in a Residence Hall without the written, electronic or otherwise, approval of the given Resident Director.
  - a. All campaign materials posted in a Residence Hall shall fully comply with Office of Residence Life regulations.
- 605.3 Candidates shall not post any campaign materials in classrooms.
- 605.4 Candidates shall not post any campaign material on the ground or onto university-maintained grounds or foliage. This does not include articles of clothing or other textiles.
- 605.5 Candidates shall have the right to place campaign materials on any and all bulletin boards on university property unless otherwise prohibited by the appropriate managing authority.
- 605.6 Candidates shall refrain from damaging property that does not belong to them.
- 605.7 Candidates shall receive physical approval from the Elections Board for campaign materials classified as posters or banners. Posters or banners shall not be displayed without the official seal of the Elections Board.
- 605.8 Candidates shall not utilize more than twenty (20) percent of their total expenditure limit to provide direct gifts. Gifts shall not be preconditioned on voting for or against a candidate or total refrainment from voting.
  - a. Campaign promotional items shall not be considered gifts.
- 605.9 Candidates, based on the office sought, shall abide by the following limits for posters, banners, and handbills:
  - a. Candidates jointly seeking the offices of Student Body President and Vice President shall utilize no more than one hundred and fifty (150) posters, ten (10) banners, and one thousand (1,000) handbills.
  - b. Candidates seeking the office of Senator shall utilize no more than one hundred (100) posters, five (5) banners, and two hundred (200) handbills.
- 605.10 Once placed, campaign materials shall only be removed by the candidate, their affiliates, or the Elections Board. Candidates shall ensure that all campaign materials are removed within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of polling hours.
  - a. This provision shall not prohibit employees of the University of Kentucky from removing campaign materials in accordance with their job responsibilities.
- 605.11 A candidate shall not have the right to utilize a social media or email account which belongs to or belonged to another member for the purpose of their campaign.
  - a. A candidate shall not have the right to utilize a social media or email account which belongs or belonged to an affiliate.



- b. Candidates for Student Body President and Vice President shall have the right to utilize an account used previously, so long as it was utilized solely by one of those candidates.
- 605.12 Candidates shall have the right to submit a candidate platform that shall be accessible on the ballot next to their name. Said candidate platforms shall consist of no more than two hundred and fifty (250) words, maintain full compliance with the requirement for other campaign materials, and be submitted to the Elections Commissioner no later than five (5) academic days preceding the start of polling hours.
  - a. Write-in candidates shall not be permitted such a candidate platform.



# **CHAPTER 606: VOTING PROCEDURE**

- 606.1 An eligible voter shall be permitted to cast one vote in an election.
  - a. An eligible voter shall be permitted to abstain from voting in any election.
- 606.2 The eligible voter record shall be determined by enrollment data provided to the Office of Student Organizations and Activities. An eligible voter shall be permitted to cast one (1) vote for Student Body President and Vice President and College Senator during the appropriate election.
  - a. An eligible voter enrolled in two (2) or more degree-granting colleges or schools shall be permitted to vote in the election for the College Senator representing the college or school of their primary enrollment.
- 606.3 An eligible voter shall be permitted to cast as many votes as there are positions for Senators-at-Large.
  - a. An eligible voter classified jointly as an undergraduate student and a graduate, professional, or post-doctoral student shall be permitted to vote in the election for Undergraduate Senators-at-Large or Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large based on their primary classification by the university.
- 606.4 Within three (3) academic days following the candidacy meeting, the Elections Commissioner shall publish a list of all write-in candidates and the office(s) those write-in candidates are seeking.
  - a. The names of the candidates shall be listed in the order in which those candidates complete the candidacy filing application. Separate lists shall be published for each election being conducted.
  - b. The names of the write-in candidates shall be listed in the order in which those candidates complete the candidacy filing application. Separate lists shall be published for each election being conducted.
- 606.5 Eligible voters shall cast their ballot electronically through the official platform utilized by the Office of Student Organizations and Activities to manage student organizations.
  - a. The candidates in each election shall have their names listed in the same order as prescribed in code 606.4(a). The write-in candidates in each election shall have their names listed in the same order as prescribed in code 606.4(b).
  - b. The space to list and vote for a write-in candidate(s) shall be placed after all candidate names.
- 606.6 Should and eligible voter be unable to cast their ballot electronically, that eligible voter shall report to a polling location and notify the pollster that they are unable to cast their ballot electronically. The pollster shall provide the eligible voter with a paper ballot containing the same information as the virtual ballot, excluding candidate platforms. Upon completion of the paper ballot, the eligible voter shall place the ballot in an envelope, seal that envelope, and submit the envelope to the ballot box provided at the polling location.
  - a. The pollster shall log the name, LinkBlue, and email address of any eligible voter who casts a paper ballot. This information shall be retained until the conclusion of



- polling hours to ensure that no eligible voter can vote multiple times. Following the verification of ballots, the collected information shall be destroyed.
- 606.7 The Elections Board shall establish at least one (1) polling location in the Bill Gatton Student Center on every academic day during which there are polling hours. This polling location shall operate for no less than four (4) hours between 9 AM and 5 PM Eastern Time.
  - a. A pollster shall be present at a polling location during all hours of its operation.
  - b. All candidate platforms shall be made available at all polling locations.
  - c. Should no space be available in the Bill Gatton Student Center, the Elections Board shall establish an alternative polling location elsewhere on the University of Kentucky's campus.
- 606.8 Polling hours for an election shall be no less than thirty-six (36) hours and no more than forty-eight (48) hours.



#### CHAPTER 607: EXPENDITURES

- 607.1 An executive ticket of candidates for Student Body President and Vice President shall be limited to a total expenditure of one thousand (1,000) dollars. In the case of a special election issued by the Supreme Court, a ticket may spend an additional two hundred fifty (250) dollars.
- 607.2 Candidates for College Senator and Senators-at-Large shall be limited to a total expenditure of three hundred (300) dollars. In the case of a special election issued by the Supreme Court, candidates for College Senator and Senators-at-Large may spend an additional one hundred (100) dollars.
- 607.3 The Elections Board shall issue a list of no less than five (5) approved Lexington-area vendors and five (5) national vendors for campaign materials no less than twenty (20) academic days preceding the start of polling hours. All expenditures claimed by a candidate shall be within twenty (20) percent of the lowest value equivalent good or service provided by an approved vendor.
  - a. Candidates may purchase expenditures that are outside of the twenty (20) percent requirement ascribed but shall claim no more than twenty (20) percent and no less than twenty (20) percent of the lowest value equivalent good or service provided by an approved vendor.
  - b. Should none of the approved vendors provide an equivalent good or service to a claimed expenditure, candidates shall provide a list of no less than three (3) unapproved vendors that offer a comparable good or service to that claimed expenditure wherein the value listed is within twenty (20) percent of the claimed expenditure.
    - i. Failure to provide an adequate list of unapproved vendors shall quantify a failure to comply with the expenditure limits stipulated herein.
  - c. Only standard shipping rates shall be required to be claimed as an expenditure; candidates shall not be required to claim expedited shipping rates beyond a standard shipping rate.
  - d. All donated goods and services, apart from the donation of a member's time or services shall count as expenditures and comply with the expenditure limits stipulated herein.
    - i. Members may, at the discretion of the Elections Board, be asked to verify that their time and services were provided freely.
- 607.4 Each executive ticket shall submit a candidate expenditure form to the Elections Commissioner through the official platform utilized by the Office of Student Organizations and Activities to manage student organizations no later than twenty-four (24) hours following the conclusion of polling hours. Each candidate for Senate shall submit a candidate expenditure form to the Elections Commissioner through the official platform utilized by the Office of Student Organizations and Activities to manage student organizations no later than thirty-six (36) hours following the conclusion of polling hours. Candidates shall include all relevant documents, including but not limited to receipts and appropriate listings to verify pricing.
- 607.5 The Elections Commissioner shall publish all candidate expenditure forms submitted by executive tickets for public viewing within three (3) hours of the deadline for submission



of candidate expenditure forms by executive tickets. The Elections Commissioner shall publish all candidate expenditure forms submitted by Senate candidates for public viewing within six (6) hours of the deadline for submission of candidate expenditure forms by Senate candidates.

#### **CHAPTER 608: TABULATION**

- 608.1 A simple majority of the Elections Board, a professional staff representative of the Office of Student Organizations and Activities, and the Elections Commissioner shall be at the vote tabulation procedure. This meeting shall be open to the public in order to promote UKSGA transparency.
  - a. Tabulations shall be displayed for all attendees throughout the entire duration of the vote tabulation.
  - b. The contests shall be counted and recorded in the following order when applicable:
    - i. Student Body President and Vice President;
    - ii. Graduate and Professional Senators-at-Large;
    - iii. Undergraduate Senators-at-Large;
    - iv. College Senators, in alphabetical order by degree-granting college or school.
  - c. The Elections Commissioner, with the consent of a majority of the Elections Board, may designate a member of the Elections Board to act in their place for the vote tabulation procedures.
- 608.2 The vote tabulation shall take place within twenty-four (24) hours of the closing of the polls.
- 608.3 All elections shall be determined using the plurality method, wherein the remaining candidate who receives the most votes is declared the winner. The appropriate number of winners shall be determined for each election based on the number of positions available.
  - a. In any election, should abstain receive the most ballots cast, the remaining candidate who received the next most votes shall be declared the winner.
  - b. In the event a ticket or candidate withdraws or is disqualified prior to the tabulation of ballots, all votes cast for that candidate shall be disregarded.
- 608.4 The Elections Board shall determine, through a majority vote of the supervisors present and voting, the total number of valid ballots cast in and the unofficial winner of each election following the completion of tabulation.
- 608.5 The results shall be considered official and certified following a review and affirmation by a majority of the members of the Supreme Court.
  - a. Following certification, the official results, as affirmed by the Supreme Court, shall be published on the UKSGA website and all UKSGA social media platforms.
  - b. Following certification, if there is no clear winner, the Supreme Court may order a special election to determine a winner.
- 608.6 The official winners of each election shall be designated as follows until inauguration:
  - a. The official winning executive ticket shall be designated as the Student Body President-elect and Student Body Vice President-elect.
  - b. An official winning Senatorial candidate shall be designated as a Senator-elect.
- 608.7 Any elected Senate position left vacant following the certification of results by the Supreme Court during an election in the spring semester shall be remanded to an election in the fall semester.



- a. Should any Senate position remain vacant following the election in the fall semester or otherwise become vacant following the election in the fall semester, the Senate Executive Council shall solicit applications for that position and appoint an individual to serve the remainder of the outstanding term.
  - i. The Senate Executive Council may delegate this responsibility for any given Senate position to the Full Senate.



# CHAPTER 609: THE OBJECTIONS AND CLAIMS REVIEW PROCESS

- 609.1 At any time following the opening of the candidacy filing window, any member shall have the right to file an objection. Members shall have the right to submit relevant accompanying documentation to support their objection to the Elections Commissioner for consideration by the Elections Board.
  - a. The member who files a given objection shall be known as the "objectant."
- 609.2 Upon receipt of an objection, the Elections Commissioner shall convene the Elections Board within one (1) academic day of receipt to consider the objection and any accompanying materials submitted.
- 609.3 The objectant, as well as the relevant parties who are the subject of the objection, shall be informed as to whether the Elections Board determines if the objection is actionable and state their reasoning, in writing, to the aforementioned parties of how a decision was reached.
- 609.4 Elections Board determinations of objections are not appealable. Assessment of penal damages may only be assigned to actionable claims by the Supreme Court, and no penal damages may be assigned to candidates for actionable objections.
- 609.5 If, after being informed of an actionable objection against their conduct, a candidate persists in that conduct, the Supreme Court is encouraged to impose higher penal damages in their consideration of claims related to an objection. If a candidate ceases conduct after being notified by the Elections Board that an objection is actionable, the Supreme Court is encouraged to impose lower penal damages in their consideration of claims related to an objection.
- 609.6 If a member submits an objection that is determined to be actionable after the deadline for submission of claims to the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court retains the authority to order a review of the objection as a claim and issue penal damages if deemed appropriate.
- 609.7 At any time following the opening of the candidacy filing window, any candidate, or the Attorney General, shall have the right to file a procedural objection to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, hereinafter referred to as the Chief Justice. Candidates and the Attorney General shall have the right to submit accompanying relevant documentation to support their procedural objection to the Chief Justice.
  - a. The member who files a given procedural objection shall be known as a "procedural objectant."
- 609.8 Upon receipt of a procedural objection, the Chief Justice shall convene the Supreme Court within three (3) academic days of receipt to consider the procedural objection and any accompanying materials submitted.
- 609.9 The procedural objectant, as well as the relevant parties who are the subject of the procedural objection, shall be informed as to whether the Supreme Court determines the procedural objection is actionable and state their reasoning, in writing, to the aforementioned parties. If deemed actionable, the Supreme Court shall provide guidance on procedural corrections to ensure alignment with established rules and regulations regarding elections.



- a. UKSGA, the Elections Commissioner, and the Elections Board shall be bound to compliance with the guidance on procedural correction provided by the Supreme Court.
- 609.10 Following the conclusion of polling hours, any candidate or the Attorney General shall have the right to file a claim to the Elections Commissioner. Candidates and the Attorney General shall have the right to submit relevant accompanying documentation to support their claim(s) to the Elections Commissioner. All claims and relevant documentation shall be submitted to the Elections Commissioner within forty-eight (48) hours following the conclusion of polling hours.
  - a. The member who files a given claim shall be known as a "claimant."
- 609.11 The Elections Board shall convene within three (3) academic days following the conclusion of polling hours to consider all claims. In the claims review meeting, the Elections Board shall deem each claim as actionable or not actionable. The Elections Commissioner, within three (3) hours following the conclusion of the claims review meeting, shall refer all actionable claims to the Supreme Court for a determination of merit and official review.
  - a. The Elections Board shall determine if a claim is more likely than not to have occurred, and if they determine so shall deem the claim actionable.
  - b. The decision of the Elections Board shall be sent in writing, electronic or otherwise, to the claimant and respondent.
- 609.12 Following official review of merited claims, the Supreme Court shall determine whether such claims constitute a violation. The Supreme Court shall assess the appropriate penal damages for any violations as follows:
  - a. Tier One Violations
    - i. A tier one violation shall assign a candidate or executive ticket no less than one (1) point and not more than three (3) points. The Supreme Court shall determine the intentionality of such violation and award penal damages based on the perceived intentionality.
    - ii. Violations of the following codes and ascribed conduct shall constitute tier one violations:
      - A. Code 604.7
      - B. Code 604.8
      - C. Code 604.13
      - D. Code 604.14
      - E. Code 604.16
      - F. Code 605.1
      - G. Code 605.2
      - H. Code 605.3
      - I. Code 605.4
      - J. Code 605.5
      - K. Code 605.9(a)
        - 1. Every twenty-five (25) handbills utilized over the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier one violation.



- 2. Every five (5) posters utilized over the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier one violation.
- 3. Each additional banner utilized over the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier one violation.

# L. Code 605.9(b)

- 1. Every ten (10) handbills utilized over the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier one violation.
- 2. Every three (3) posters utilized over the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier one violation.
- 3. Each additional banner utilized over the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier one violation.
- M. Code 606.5
- N. Code 607.3(a)
- O. Code 607.3(b)
- P. Code 607.3(c)
- Q. Code 607.4(d)
- iii. Repeated tier one violations of the same rule or regulation governing the election shall result in the consecutive accumulation of points.

# b. Tier Two Violations

- i. A tier two violation shall assign a candidate or executive ticket no less than two (2) and not more than four (4) points. The Supreme Court shall determine the intentionality of such violation and awarded penal damages based on the perceived intentionality.
- ii. Violations of the following codes and ascribed conduct shall constitute tier two violations:
  - A. Code 604.2
  - B. Code 604.4
  - C. Code 604.6
  - D. Code 604.10
  - E. Code 604.12
  - F. Code 605.7
  - G. Code 607.1
    - 1. Every five (5) percent of expenditures in excess of the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier two violation.
  - H. Code 607.2
    - 1. Every five (5) percent of expenditures in excess of the stipulated limit shall constitute a tier two violation.
- iii. Repeated tier two violations of the same rule or regulation governing the election shall result in the consecutive accumulation of points.

# c. Tier Three Violations

- i. A tier three violation shall assign a candidate or executive ticket no less than three (3) and no more than five (5) points. The Supreme Court shall determine the intentionality of such violation and award penal damages based on the perceived intentionality.
- ii. Violations of the following codes and ascribed conduct shall constitute tier three violations:



- A. Code 603.8
- B. Code 603.9
- C. Code 603.10
  - 1. The Supreme Court may, on the determination that a candidate did not knowingly consent to receive an endorsement under code 603.10, opt to assess zero (0) points for this tier three violation.
- D. Code 604.3
- E. Code 604.9
- F. Code 604.11
- G. Code 605.6
- H. Code 605.8
- I. Code 605.10
- J. Code 605.11
- iii. Repeated tier three violations of the same rule or regulation governing the election shall result in the concurrent accumulation of points.
- d. Tier Four Violations
  - i. A tier four violation shall assign a candidate no less and no more than fifteen (15) points.
  - ii. Violations of the following codes and ascribed conduct shall constitute tier four violations:
    - A. Code 603.6
    - B. Code 603.7
    - C. Code 603.11
    - D. Code 604.11(a)
    - E. Code 607.4
- 609.14 Should a party to a claim believe that another party to that claim has breached code 604.9 in their representations to the Supreme Court or Elections Board, that party shall have the right to request the Supreme Court assess penal damages in line with a tier three violation.
- 609.15 Should the Supreme Court assess fifteen (15) or more points resulting from the aforementioned violation tiers to a given candidate(s), that candidate shall be disqualified.
  - a. The Supreme Court may, unanimously, opt to forego a mandated disqualification.
- 609.16 Should the unofficial winning candidate for a College Senator seat be disqualified, the candidate that received the next most votes in that election shall be offered that Senate seat. Should there be no other candidate or the candidate who received the next most votes decline that Senate seat, then that College Senator position shall be considered vacant and remanded to the election in the fall.
- 609.17 Should an unofficial winning candidate for a Senator-at-Large seat be disqualified, the candidate that received the next most votes in that election shall be offered that Senate seat. Should there be no other candidate or the candidate who received the next most votes decline that Senate seat, then that Senator-at-Large position shall be considered vacant and remanded to the election in the fall.



- a. Should more than five (5) candidates for Senator-at-Large in a given classification be disqualified, no more than five (5) seats shall be filled by the candidates who received the next most votes. All seats declared vacant as a result of disqualification beyond those five (5) shall be automatically remanded to the election in the fall.
- 609.18 Should the unofficial winning executive ticket for Student Body President and Vice President be disqualified, the Supreme Court shall order a special election for the offices of Student Body President and Vice President.
- 609.19 Following the conclusion of polling hours, any candidate or the Attorney General shall have the right to file a procedural claim to the Chief Justice. Candidates and the Attorney General shall have the right to submit relevant accompanying documentation to support their procedural claim to the Chief Justice. All procedural claims and relevant documentation shall be submitted to the Chief Justice within forty-eight (48) hours following the conclusion of polling hours.
  - a. The member who files a given claim shall be known as a "procedural claimant."
- 609.20 The Supreme Court, within three (3) academic days of receipt of actionable claims from the Elections Commissioner, shall determine whether any procedural claims are merited. All parties to a merited claim shall be notified of the Supreme Court's determination and summoned to a hearing of the Supreme Court for official review of merited claims within five (5) academic days of the claims review meeting.
- 609.21 Following an official review of merited procedural claims, the Supreme Court shall determine whether such procedural claims constitute a patent and flagrant violation resulting in a significant barrier to the electoral process. The Supreme Court shall then determine the necessity of the issuance of a special election as a result of such violation(s).



# **CHAPTER 610: SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

- 610.1 There shall be three (3) scenarios which shall result in the issuance of a special election:
  - a. A vacancy in the office of Student Body President, hereinafter referred to as a vacancy election;
  - b. The result of a procedural claim as outlined in code 609.21, hereinafter referred to as a procedural election; and
  - c. The result of the disqualification of an executive ticket for Student Body President and Vice President as outlined in code 609.18, hereinafter referred to as a contingent election.
- 610.2 Should the need arise for a vacancy election before or during the fall term, that election shall occur within thirty (30) academic days of the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of the Student Body President.
  - a. The member elected to serve the remainder of the outstanding term shall be inaugurated within five (5) academic days of the certification of official results.
  - b. A member who serves out the remainder of an outstanding term under code 610.2 shall have that term count against any term limits in the office of the Student Body President.
- 610.3 Should the need arise for a vacancy election during the spring term, that election shall occur within thirty (30) academic days of the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of the Student Body President.
  - a. The member elected to serve the remainder of the outstanding term shall be inaugurated within five (5) academic days of the certification of official results.
  - b. A candidate for Student Body President during the regular election in the spring term shall not also be a candidate for the vacancy election.
  - c. A member who serves out the remainder of an outstanding term under code 610.3 shall not have that term count against any term limits in the office of the Student Body President.
- 610.4 The Elections Board shall establish a timeline for a vacancy election. Any timeline established shall allow for a candidacy filing period, a candidacy meeting, polling hours, a claims review meeting, and certification of official results by the Supreme Court.
  - a. No write-in candidates shall be accepted for a vacancy election. Should no member file during the candidacy filing period, the Elections Board shall extend the candidacy filing period until 8 AM Eastern Time on the day after at least one (1) candidate has filed and been approved by the Elections Commissioner.
    - i. UKSGA shall announce, as soon as reasonably possible, when the candidacy filing period shall lapse.
  - b. The Elections Board may, by a unanimous vote, amend the timeline for a vacancy election to address any extenuating circumstances.
- 610.5 The Elections Board shall use the expenditure limits for special elections established in Chapter 607 for vacancy elections.



- 610.6 The Supreme Court shall have the right to assess penal damages to claims based on the existing tier system established in code 609.13. The Supreme Court may, in extenuating circumstances, opt to award zero (0) points for any violation in a vacancy election.
  - a. There shall be no procedural objections or procedural claims considered or validated during a vacancy election.
- 610.7 Should the Supreme Court order a procedural election, that election shall occur within fifteen (15) academic days of the certification of official results. The Supreme Court shall oversee the administration of a procedural election and ensure the Elections Board's compliance with all established rules and regulations governing elections.
- 610.8 The Supreme Court shall establish a timeline for a procedural election. Any timeline established shall allow for a candidacy filing period, a candidacy meeting, polling hours, a claims review meeting, and certification of official results by the Supreme Court.
  - a. No write-in candidates shall be accepted for a procedural election. Should no member file during the candidacy filing period, the Supreme Court shall extend the candidacy filing period until 8 AM Eastern Time on the day after at least one (1) candidate has filed and been approved by the Elections Commissioner.
    - i. UKSGA shall announce, as soon as reasonably possible, when the candidacy filing period shall lapse.
    - ii. Should no member file by 8 AM on the day that polling hours are set to begin, the position being elected shall be declared vacant.
      - A. For a vacancy in the office of Student Body President, refer to code 610.1(a).
      - B. For a vacancy in the office of Student Body Vice President, the Student Body President inaugurated following certification shall nominate a member to fill the vacancy.
      - C. For a vacant Senate seat, refer to code 608.7 for guidance on filling the vacancy.
  - b. Procedural election results shall be certified no later than three (3) academic days preceding the schedule inauguration for the elected position.
  - c. The Supreme Court may, by a unanimous vote, amend the timeline for a procedural election to address any extenuating circumstances.
- 610.9 The Supreme Court shall use the expenditure limits for special elections established in Chapter 607 for procedural elections.
- 610.10 The Supreme Court shall have the right to assess penal damages to claims based on the existing tier system established in code 609.13. The Supreme Court may, in extenuating circumstances, opt to award zero (0) points for any violation in a procedural election.
  - a. There shall be no procedural objections or procedural claims considered or validated during a procedural election.
- 610.11 Should the Supreme Court order a contingent election, that election shall occur within fifteen (15) academic days of that certification of official results.
- 610.12 The Elections Board shall establish a timeline for a contingent election. Any timeline established shall allow for polling hours, a claims review meeting, and certification of official results by the Supreme Court.



- a. The remaining candidates for Student Body President and Vice President who were not disqualified shall automatically be designated candidates for a contingent election.
  - i. The automatically designated candidates may, within three (3) academic days following the Supreme Court ordering a contingent election, decline to be candidates in said contingent election.
  - ii. Should a situation occur where no candidates are remaining for Student Body President and Vice President, the Elections Board shall open a candidacy filing period to last no more than two (2) academic days. The Elections Board shall conduct on-demand candidacy meetings for the members who file during this period.
- b. Contingent election results shall be certified no later than three (3) academic days preceding the schedule inauguration for the elected position.
- c. The Elections Board may, by a unanimous vote, amend the timeline for a contingent election to address any extenuating circumstances.
- 610.13 The Elections Board shall use the expenditure limits for special elections established in Chapter 607 for contingent elections.
- 610.14 The Supreme Court shall have the right to assess penal damage to claims based on the existing tier system established in code 609.13. The Supreme Court may, in extenuating circumstances, opt to award zero (0) points for any violation in a contingent election.
  - a. There shall be no procedural objections or procedural claims considered or validated during a contingent election.



# **CHAPTER 611: THE TRANSITIONS PROCESS**

- 611.1 Following the conclusion of the candidacy filing period for Student Body President and Vice President, the Elections Commissioner, Attorney General, and Chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, or their designee(s), shall meet with all approved candidates for Student Body President and Vice President. No meeting shall be required with write-in candidates for Student Body President and Vice President. Following this meeting, the following information shall be submitted to the Elections Commissioner within seven (7) academic days:
  - a. Proposed Executive Staff positions;
  - b. Prompts for Executive Cabinet applications;
  - c. Prompts for Executive Staff applications; and
  - d. Prompts for interbranch position applications.
- 611.2 Following the submissions established in code 611.1, the Elections Commissioner shall communicate the collected information to a professional staff member from the Office of Student Organizations and Activities, who shall then build applications for the relevant position on the appropriate platform.
  - a. An application shall be built for each executive ticket.
  - b. All applications shall be completed prior to the beginning of polling hours.
- 611.3 Following the certification of official results by the Supreme Court, a professional staff member from the Office of Student Organizations and Activities shall contact the Student Body President-elect and the Student Body Vice President-elect within two (2) academic days and seek their final approval for the applications for the relevant positions. Following this approval, these applications shall begin accepting responses.
- 611.4 The Student Body President and Student Body Vice President shall meet with the Student Body President-elect and Student Body Vice President-elect within five (5) academic days of the certification of official results by the Supreme Court to establish an executive transition plan.
  - a. Executive transition plans shall include the timeline for individual training for the Student Body President-elect and Student Body Vice President-elect, respectively, and the timeline for soliciting applications for, interviewing for, and hiring the Executive Cabinet and Executive Staff.
- 611.5 The Student Body Vice President and the Senate Chair shall meet with the Student Body Vice President-elect within five (5) academic days of the certification of official results by the Supreme Court to establish a legislative transition plan.
  - a. Legislative transition plans shall include the timeline for soliciting standing committee preferences from Senators-elect and the communication of the proposed standing committee roster to Senators-elect and the timeline for nominations for positions on the Senate Executive Council.
    - i. The proposed standing committee roster shall be sent to Senators-elect no less than five (5) academic days preceding the first meeting of the newly elected Senate.



- 611.6 The Student Body President, Executive Directors, and Executive staff shall provide detailed transition documents explaining the responsibilities of their roles to the Student Body President-elect no less than five (5) academic days following the certification of official results by the Supreme Court.
  - a. The Student Body President-elect shall make these transition documents available to the Student Body Vice President-elect and may, at their discretion, share these transition documents with other active members.
  - b. The Student Body President shall determine the level of detail necessary for each transition document.
- 611.7 The Student Body Vice President, Senate Chair, and Senate Standing Committee Chairs shall provide detailed transition documents explaining the responsibilities of their roles to the Student Body Vice President-elect no less than five (5) academic days following the certification of official results by the Supreme Court.
  - a. The Student Body Vice President-elect shall make these transition documents available to the newly elected Senate Chair and may, at their discretion, share these transition documents with other active members.
  - b. The Student Body Vice President shall determine the level of detail necessary for their transition document. The Senate Chair shall determine the level of detail necessary for their transition documents and those of the Senate Standing Committee Chairs.
  - c. The newly elected Senate Chair may, at their discretion, share these transition documents with other active members.
- 611.8 The newly elected Senate shall convene no later than the second week of April to inaugurate the Student Body President-elect, the Student Body Vice President-elect, and all Senators-elect. At this meeting, the Senate shall elect, at least, the Senate Chair, Senate Vice Chair, and all Standing Committee Chairs.
  - a. The newly elected Senate Chair and the previous Senate Chair shall meet within two (2) academic days of this meeting to ensure a peaceful transition from the outgoing Senate Executive Council to the newly elected Senate Executive Council.
  - b. The newly elected Senate Chair and the newly inaugurated Student Body Vice President shall meet within five (5) academic days to establish the Senate Accountability Contract and tentative meeting schedule for the Senate and the standing committees for the fall term.
- 611.9 The Senate shall meet no less than twice during the spring term during which they were elected. Further, the Standing Committees shall meet no less than twice during the spring term during which they were elected.
- 611.10 The Senate Chair shall present the Senate Accountability Contract and the tentative meeting schedule for the fall term to the Senate at their second regular meeting during the spring term during which they were elected. The Senate shall vote to approve the tentative meeting schedule for the fall term, with a simple majority of the Senators present and voting constituting passage.



- a. All Senators shall sign the Senate Accountability Contract prior to the fourth regular meeting of the Senate following their inauguration or the Senate Chair shall automatically accept their resignation from their position.
  - i. Senators may, at the discretion of the Senate Chair, submit their agreement to the Senate Accountability Contract electronically.
- 611.11 The outgoing Student Body President, the members of their administration, outgoing Student Body Vice President, outgoing Senate Chair, and outgoing members of the Senate Executive council shall complete all work pertinent to their roles no later than the final day of the spring academic term following the inauguration of their successors.
  - a. An active member concluding the work of their previous role shall not preclude them from serving in a newly elected or appointed role, so long as their work is completed by the deadline established in the preceding code.