

Election Procedures & Requirements

Campaign Guidelines & Offenses

ELECTION PROCEDURES:

The Student Government Association (SGA) will hold their annual elections one week prior to Spring Break in March from 12:01 am to 11:59 pm (48 hours) depending upon the determination of spring break in the University calendar. The election results will be kept confidential and monitored by the Election Ways and Means (EWM) Chair, Coordinator of Student Activities, and any SGA faculty and staff advisors until official announcement. The candidates will be able to inspect the results of the election following the announcement. All challenges to the elections, including campaign offenses, must be made in writing and presented to the Center for Student Involvement Office before the announcement of the results. All questions regarding elections or campaigning should be brought to the Election Ways and Means Chair or the Student Government Association advisor.

All violations of election rules and procedures witnessed by or made aware to the CSI Office shall be reported to the EWM Chair/Committee for appropriate action through writing or electronic communication. The Election Ways and Means Committee, under Article VII Section A of the Student Senate By-Laws, shall present the case to the Judicial Board, where the Judicial Board, under the Murray State University Student Government Association Election By-Laws, renders decisions.

GENERAL ELECTION REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) In order to run for or to serve in office, a student must meet all the qualifications set forth in the SGA Constitution, maintain a 2.7 on the 4.0 GPA scale for executive office candidates, and a 2.0 for all other senate candidates.
- 2) Candidates will be eligible to receive an SGA subsidy equal to one half of their campaign expenses, the total subsidy not to exceed \$50 for executive office candidates, and \$20 for senate candidates, excluding residential colleges.
- 3) In order to qualify for SGA subsidy of election costs, the candidates must turn in receipts and required receipt form (available from the SGA Vice President of Finance) of his/her election expenses to the SGA Vice President of Finance within one week of the election date.
- 4) The order that the candidates' names appear on the ballot shall be determined by a random drawing of numbers at the first candidates' meeting with the lowest number being first.

5) Each candidate, or their non-candidate representative (any person who is not a candidate for the same position as the person he/she is representing), must attend the first meeting. Failure to do so will result in that candidate's withdrawal from the election.

FRESHMAN ELECTION REQUIREMENTS:

1) In order to run for or to serve in office, a FRESHMAN student must meet all the qualifications set forth in the SGA Constitution, and maintain a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.

2) Candidates will be eligible to receive an SGA subsidy equal to one half of their campaign expenses, the total subsidy not to exceed \$20 for senate candidates.

3) In order to qualify for SGA subsidy of election costs, the candidates must turn in receipts and required receipt form (available from the SGA Vice President of Finance) of his/her election expenses to the SGA Vice President of Finance within one week of the election date.

4) The order that the candidates' names appear on the ballot shall be determined by a random drawing of numbers at the first candidates' meeting with the lowest number being first.

5) Each candidate, or their non-candidate representative (any person who is not a candidate for the same position as the person he/she is representing), must attend the first meeting. Failure to do so will result in that candidate's withdrawal from the election.

HOMECOMING CAMPAIGN REQUIREMENTS:

1) Homecoming Court candidates may officially begin campaigning following the notification of candidacy.

2) No campaign materials shall exceed 12 x 18 inches in dimension.

3) No campaign materials used during the campaigning period are to be driven into the ground.

4) Chalking in any manner is prohibited.

5) All campaign materials placed in university buildings shall be subject to each individual

6) Subsidies for campaign materials will not be available.

7) Each candidate shall be responsible for the removal of their campaign materials within 72

Murray Code of Ordinances.

candidate for the same position as the person he/she is representing), must attend the first meeting. Failure to do so will result in that candidate's withdrawal from the election.

2.) Formal Campaigning (posters, campaign speeches, letters to organizations, website posts, social media posts, and other digital presentation) may not begin until after the first candidate's meeting.

3.) Documented proof that a candidate or candidate's representative is or has engaged in a defamatory attack against another candidate running for office.