

I. Candidacy and Individual Elections

A. Declaration of Candidacy

1. Candidates must submit a formal declaration of candidacy using the official form provided by the SGA President no later than 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 3, 2025.
2. Candidates will run independently for their respective positions, either for President or Vice President.
3. The student body will vote for President and Vice President as separate positions, ensuring that each is elected individually.
4. A list of all declared candidates will be published by the SGA President within 48 hours of the submission deadline to maintain transparency.

B. Petitioning Process

1. Candidates must use the official petition form provided by the Elections Committee.
 2. Each candidate must collect 300 signatures from currently enrolled students at the university to qualify for the election.
 3. Duplicate signatures or signatures from non-students will be disqualified.
 4. Candidates must submit completed petitions to the Elections Chair by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date.
 5. The Elections Committee will verify signatures before approving candidacy.
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II. Campaign Finance Regulations

1. Each candidate has an individual spending cap of \$350 for campaign-related expenses, including donations and in-kind contributions.
 2. All receipts for campaign expenses must be submitted to the Elections Chair by 5:00 p.m. on the day of purchase or the following business day if purchased after 5:00 p.m.
 3. Donations will be assessed at fair market value and counted toward the total budget.
 4. The following materials are exempt from financial reporting: chalk, pens, markers, paint, paper, and non-professional printing services.
 5. Failure to comply with financial reporting or exceeding the budget limit may result in disqualification.
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III. Campaigning Guidelines

1. Campaigning is defined as any public or digital effort to promote a candidacy.
 2. Campaigning may begin at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, and must end by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.
 3. **Restrictions:**
 - Candidates may not seek endorsements from faculty or staff.
 - The use of SGA office resources for campaign purposes is strictly prohibited.
 - Campaign-related mass emails or telephone solicitations are not allowed.
 - Campaign materials must be removed by the deadline on the last day of voting.
 4. All campaign materials must be pre-approved by the Elections Chair before distribution.
 5. Candidates must conduct their campaigns with professionalism, avoiding negative or defamatory statements.
 6. Social media accounts or pages used for campaigning must be approved before going public.
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IV. Election Violations and Appeals

1. The Elections Chair has the authority to determine if a candidate has violated the election rules.
 2. Intentional violations will result in immediate disqualification.
 3. Candidates who commit minor infractions may receive a warning at the discretion of the Elections Chair. Multiple warnings will escalate to a formal violation.
 4. Candidates may appeal violations by submitting a formal request to the Associate Vice President of Student Life within 24 hours of receiving a penalty.
 5. Appeals will be reviewed in a timely manner to ensure fairness.
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V. Prohibition of Slates

1. Slates are strictly forbidden.
 2. A slate is defined as any number of candidates working together to promote a pre-selected or pre-identified team through shared materials, messaging, or events.
 3. Candidates may not share financial resources, campaign branding, or promotional efforts.
 4. Any candidate found participating in a slate will face immediate disqualification.
 5. The Elections Chair and Oversight Committee will monitor compliance and investigate suspected violations.
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VI. Post-Election Responsibilities

1. All candidates must submit a post-election report within 24 hours of voting closure, which includes:
 - A final campaign expense report with all receipts.
 - A brief reflection on the election experience, including challenges and lessons learned.
 2. Failure to submit a post-election report may result in penalties or restrictions on future candidacy eligibility.
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VII. Candidate Agreement and Declaration

Candidate Agreement

I, the undersigned, declare my intention to petition for candidacy for an elected position in SGA and agree to adhere to all election rules and regulations outlined in this document. I confirm that I meet all eligibility criteria and that all information provided in my application is accurate.

Position Running For:

Candidate Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Last Updated: Jan 29, 2025

SGA President: Josh Springer

Elections Advisor: Susan Gore