
REGULATIONS GOVERNING STUDENT ELECTIONS TO SENATE

All candidates are responsible for the conduct of their campaigns, including the actions of others who are campaigning for them. It is the responsibility of all candidates to follow the campaign rules.

Campaign Period

1. Campaigning may start after the candidate has been contacted by the University Secretariat with confirmation that their nomination has been approved.
2. All **in-person** campaigning must end **at 11:59 p.m. the night prior** to the start of the first day of voting. Candidates may, however, continue to campaign using social media platforms on election day(s).

Conduct

3. All campaign activities are subject to the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities*, University regulations, policies and by-laws, and relevant legislation .
4. Any campaigning that is slanderous or libellous is prohibited.

Social Media

5. Any use of social media must be in good taste and adhere to all codes of conduct (see #3 and #4 above).
6. Spamming of public forums and/or University e-mail distribution lists is prohibited.
7. **Social media** campaigning may continue on election day(s). Please see #2 above regarding in-person campaigning.

Posters

8. Candidates shall not remove, move, cover, deface, or otherwise tamper with their opponents' campaign posters.
9. Candidates are responsible for ensuring that their posters are displayed according to each building's poster and advertising policies.
 - a) MSU Operating Policy – Promotions & Advertising
 - b) McMaster University Student Centre
 - c) Other campus buildings, such as the McMaster residences, have their own policies that must be followed.

Voting

10. Candidates **may not** approach voters requesting them to cast votes in their favour on election day(s).
11. Candidates **may not** provide computers or other devices to the voters for the purposes of voting.

Scrutineers

12. Candidates must notify the Secretary of the Senate of their scrutineers at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the first voting days. A candidate may not be a scrutineer.
13. Campaign expenses will be **limited to \$50.00** for each candidate, in order that those students with limited finances are not placed at a disadvantage during the election campaign.
14. The Secretary of the Senate is authorized to reimburse each candidate for campaign expenses up to the amount of \$50.00, upon submission of receipts for expenses by the candidate.

Infractions

15. The Secretary of the Senate reserves the right to disqualify any candidate for infraction of the regulations They shall also:
 - a) receive and investigate allegations of infractions (up to 14 days after the elections);
 - b) hear appeals for a re-count, evaluate them, and arrange for a re-count if judged necessary (up to 14 days after the election);
 - c) have the authority to levy fines, up to the amount claimed for campaign expenses, for infractions of campaign rules; and
 - d) have the authority to declare an election invalid.
16. The Secretary of the Senate shall report to Senate on the student elections to Senate at the first regular meeting of Senate after the elections have been completed.

Revised: December 9, 2020