

Election Rules



EFFECTIVE: November 18th, 2019

AMENDED: July 29th, 2020

AUTHORITY: Board of Directors

RATIFIED BY: Board of Directors

RELATED DOCUMENTS

-Election Policy
-Electoral Oversight Policy
-Electoral Oversight Procedure

The purpose of this document is to be a reference and guide for candidates running in SUS elections or by-elections. It is the candidate's responsibility to read and comply with all Election Rules, as well as Electoral Oversight Policy and Election Policy. The Chief Electoral Officer will determine rule violations and will issue sanctions to candidates that violate the rules.

Part 1: Definitions

"Board" refers to the SUS Board of Directors

"Candidate" refers to any individual that meets the eligibility requirements of SUS elections and intends to run for a position

"Campaigning" refers to any activity or message that serves to promote a candidate.

"EAC" refers to the Electoral Appeals Committee.

"ED" refers to the SUS Executive Director.

"Executive Committee" refers to all elected SUS executives, which contains the Vice Presidents Internal, External, and Students, as well as the President.

"Members" refers to current members of SUS who are enrolled in at least one class or in the trades program and have paid SUS fees for the current semester.

"SUS" means the Student Union Society at the University of the Fraser Valley.

"UFV" means the University of the Fraser Valley, in the Lower Mainland, in the Province of British Columbia.

Part 2: Nomination Requirements

1. Eligibility

1.1. To be eligible to participate in SUS elections, candidates must meet all requirements:

1.1.1. Be a current member in good standing with SUS, which requires candidates to:



- 1.1.1.1. Be enrolled in at least one for credit course in the current semester or be enrolled in the Trades program.
- 1.1.1.2. Have paid SUS fees for the current semester.
- 1.1.2. Meet the specific eligibility criteria for any positions with a specific constituency, when applicable;
 - 1.1.2.1. For example, the College of Arts Rep must be studying towards a degree/declared major within the program areas of the College as listed by the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV), or a current executive member of an association within one of those program areas.
- 1.1.3. Maintain a minimum CGPA of 2.67, which is defined as maintaining a GPA of 2.67 in all undergraduate and graduate-level courses taken;
 - 1.1.3.1. Candidates will submit their eligibility requirements to the CEO for approval. Once elected, Executives will continue to submit their eligibility requirements to the ED for verification on a semesterly basis.
- 1.1.4. Maintain academic good standing;
- 1.1.5. Maintain ethical standards;
- 1.2. Candidates must continue to meet these criteria for their duration of their term of office. If, once elected, a Director fails to meet an eligibility criterion, they will be required to resign.
 - 1.2.1. If a candidate is under active investigation over academic misconduct, they will be placed on a leave of absence until the investigation is complete.

2. Individuality

- 2.1. Candidates must run as individuals with their own platform and ideas; to ensure this, candidates cannot do the following:
 - 2.1.1. Run as a slate or party with other candidates;
 - 2.1.2. Ask other candidates for verbal or otherwise observable endorsement or actionable campaign aid;
 - 2.1.2.1. Verbal advice on campaign strategy and/or conduct is not considered endorsement or aid.
 - 2.1.3. Ask UFV staff or faculty for endorsement or campaign aid;
 - 2.1.3.1. Examples of this include, but are not limited to: displaying or distributing campaign materials in staff dedicated areas, UFV staff verbally advocating for a candidate, displaying materials on UFV media accounts (including social media, TV screens, and computer desktops)
 - 2.1.4. Ask any SUS Staff Member or Director for endorsement, campaign aid, and/or the use of SUS resources.
 - 2.1.4.1. This includes both permanent and student staff (including all services), and current Board Members (voting and non-voting)
 - 2.1.4.2. Use promotional materials that suggest that they have sponsorship or endorsement from UFV, SUS, any club, association, and/or on-campus or off-campus organization.



Part 3: Campaigning Rules

3. Campaigning

3.1. Candidates cannot do the following:

- 3.1.1. Campaign during any part of the election that is not the campaign period;
- 3.1.2. Campaign within 50 meters of a voting station;
- 3.1.3. Violate UFV's Poster Policy or SUB Operating Policies;
- 3.1.4. Campaign during a UFV lecture, lab, and/or class;
- 3.1.5. Post material in designated classroom/lab/teaching space;
- 3.1.6. Display posters that have not been approved by the CEO;
- 3.1.7. Spend more than \$200 on their campaign and/or fail to submit an expense report to the CEO Officer by the end of the campaign period;
- 3.1.8. Campaign using any food, or liquid consumables;
- 3.1.9. Offer any sort of direct incentive (bribe) to any voting member;
- 3.1.10. Harass, threaten, or bully any student to vote for or endorse them;
- 3.1.11. Harass, threaten, or bully the CEO, or any member of the Electoral Committee;
- 3.1.12. Intentionally lie, or spread false information about the University, SUS, and/or other candidates;
- 3.1.13. Set up or have supporters set up their own mobile polling stations in order to get more votes for specific candidate(s);
- 3.1.14. Distribute any partisan campaign materials or campaign inside Baker House, except during a campaign event that is organized by the CEO.

3.2. Candidates are required to do the following:

- 3.2.1. Attend the All-Candidates meeting;
 - 3.2.1.1. Candidates are expected to communicate with their instructors beforehand if there are time conflicts with lectures or labs; proof of communication may be required if a candidate has to miss required sessions due to class conflicts.
 - 3.2.1.2. In the event that a candidate cannot attend the All-Candidates meeting written notice including the reason for absence is required to be emailed to the CEO.
 - 3.2.1.2.1. The candidate must meet with the CEO at their earliest convenience.
- 3.2.2. Submit a written candidate's statement for publication with their completed Nomination Package.

4. Failure to Comply

- 4.1. Failure to comply with any of the rules outlines above may result in the following sanctions:
 - 4.1.1. Written warning.



- 4.1.2. Limited election materials allowed.
- 4.1.3. Removal of election materials.
- 4.1.4. Removal from elections.
- 4.2. Sanctions are made at the discretion of the CEO.
- 4.3. Sanctions can be appealed to the Electoral Appeals Committee. See Election Oversight Policy for more information.
- 4.4. The CEO can sanction a candidate for violations committed by non-candidates acting on behalf of the candidates.

Part 4: Administrative

5. Contact

- 5.1. If you have any concerns about the campaign rules, or if you have witnessed violations of the above rules, please email the following:
 - 5.1.1. Outside of election period: vpinternal@ufvsus.ca or (604) 864-4613
 - 5.1.2. During elections: elections@ufvsus.ca or (604) 864-4613
- 5.2. If escalation beyond contact with the CEO is required, please request the EAC contact information from the SUS office. This should only be done after communicating with the CEO has failed.

The Election Policy, Electoral Oversight Policy, Electoral Oversight Procedure, and Election Rules should be read as parts of one whole. The Election Rules are meant to act as a student perspective of participating in the electoral process and should not be taken out of the context of the other policies and procedure.

