

Election Code of the Missouri Students Association

Section I – Purpose of the Code

1.0 DEFINITION – This section shall outline the purpose and regulations for this Election Code, henceforth referred to as the Code.

1.1 PURPOSE – This Code shall serve as the governing document for all elections of the Missouri Students Association (MSA), henceforth referred to as the Association.

1.2 INFERIORITY – This Code shall only be inferior to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association.

1.3 REVISION – This Code shall only be amended through the passage of an act by the MSA Senate.

- A. PROPOSITION: All proposed changes to this Code must be submitted to the MSA Senate Speaker by the Board of Elections Commission (BEC) Chair or a Senator within the MSA Senate. Such a proposal shall be in the form of an act as defined by the Rules of the Senate.
- B. COMMITTEE HEARING: The MSA Senate Speaker shall assign all proposed changes to this Code to the MSA Senate Operations Committee to be heard.
- C. SENATE HEARING: Upon being approved by the MSA Senate Operations Committee, the proposed changes shall be heard by the MSA Senate according to the Rules of the Senate. In order to be adopted, proposed changes to this Code must receive a 3/5ths vote of Senators present and voting.

1.4 REVIEW – This Code shall be reviewed by the BEC Chair at the start of the fall and spring semesters.

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Section II – General Election

2.0 DEFINITION – This section shall outline the Association’s election procedure for the general election.

2.1 GENERAL ELECTION - The general election shall be the election in which members of the Association may run for the positions of President, Vice President, or academic Senator.

2.2 ELIGIBILITY TO RUN – The requirements to run in the general election shall be outlined below.

- A. REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT: Candidates for the offices of President and Vice President must be members of the Association for at least to semesters prior to filing as a slate. No individual may run for the position of President or Vice President while concurrently running for the position of Senator. No individual may concurrently run for the positions of President and Vice President.
- B. REQUIREMENTS FOR SENATORS: Candidates for the office of Senator must be current members of the Association and members of the academic colleges in which they wish to run prior to filing as candidates and throughout the election. Candidates shall only file to run under one academic college. No individual may run for the position of Senator while concurrently running for the position of President or Vice President.

2.3 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES – The guidelines for declaring candidacy in the general election shall be outlined below.

- A. NOMINATION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT: Candidates for President and Vice President may be nominated as slates only. Each slate shall provide a single candidate for the office of the President and a single candidate for the office of the Vice President. A slate shall be defined as the candidates for President and Vice President and the campaign manager. In order to appear on the ballot during the general election, a slate must submit Election Form I containing the names and signatures of the candidates, and the names, student numbers, and signatures of five hundred eligible voters of the Association. Election Form I must be submitted by the Presidential Filing Date.
 - a. The Presidential Filing Date shall be from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the first Tuesday in February. Election Form I must be submitted during this period. Such a form may not be accepted before or after the Presidential Filing Date.
 - b. Should a slate provide the names, student numbers, and signatures of at least five hundred unique individuals, and less than five hundred of them are eligible voters of the Association, the BEC shall inform the slate that they have an insufficient number of signatures. The BEC must inform the slate of this within twenty-four hours of discovering less than five hundred signatures are valid. The slate shall then have forty-eight hours after being informed of this to provide the replacement signatures to the BEC.
 - c. In the event that a slate’s candidate becomes ineligible to run for office, or decides to leave the slate, the state shall have twenty-four hours immediately following the departure of the candidate to select a replacement candidate. The slate shall be required to inform the BEC immediately upon selecting a new candidate. Should the slate fail to meet either of these requirements, it shall be removed from the election.
- B. NOMINATION OF SENATORS: Individuals wishing to run for the office of Senator shall inform the BEC of their intent to run and what academic college they wish to run for through the Senatorial Election Form, which shall be made available online by the BEC.
 - a. The Senatorial Filing Date for the general election shall be 5:00 PM on the Wednesday immediately following the Presidential Advisory Session. All individuals wishing to run for the office of Senator must submit the Senatorial Election Form prior to the Senatorial Filing Date.
 - b. The BEC shall begin accepting submissions for the Senatorial Election Form two weeks prior to the Senatorial Filing Date.

2.4 ADVISORY SESSION – The rules regarding general election advisory sessions shall be outlined below.

- A. **PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY SESSION:** Following the Presidential Filing Date, the BEC shall hold the Presidential Advisory Session. The purpose of this session shall be to inform all candidates of the election rules and to clarify questions that candidates may have. The BEC shall also distribute copies of the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, Election Code, Student Court Handbook, and Election Forms II through VII at this advisory session.
 - a. Election Forms: All slates shall be required to submit Election Forms II, III, and VII to the BEC during the advisory session. Failure to do this shall result in the slate being removed from the election.
 - i. By submitting Election Form II, slates will acknowledge their eligibility to run in the election and their understanding of all rules and regulations relevant to the election. By submitting Election Form II, slates also acknowledge the requirement of meeting with the MSA Senate Speaker and Senate Operations Committee Chair by the conclusion of the second week of the Presidential Campaign Period.
 - ii. By submitting Election Form III, slates will select their campaign manager.
 - iii. By submitting Election Form IV, slates will request polling locations and explain what entities facilitate the arrangement.
 - b. All filed slates must attend the Presidential Advisory Session which will include each slate and their chosen representative(s), and the BEC and their appropriate representative(s). Additional parties may be present as determined by the BEC.
 - c. The Presidential Advisory Session shall occur on the Friday immediately following the Presidential Filing Date at a time determined by the BEC to accommodate the schedules of all appropriate parties.
 - i. Should the BEC not be able to find a meeting time for the Presidential Advisory Session where all appropriate parties are available, the BEC shall host one-on-one sessions in lieu of this group session. Should a slate fail to meet with the BEC prior to the start of the Presidential Campaign Period, the slate shall be removed from the election.
 - d. All slates shall still be required to follow all rules outlined in the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code, as well as all relevant University policies, prior to the advisory session with the BEC. Slates may contact the BEC with questions and requests for clarification prior to the advisory session.
- B. **SENATORIAL ADVISORY SESSION:** Following the Senatorial Filing Date, the BEC shall meet with each candidate for the office of Senator to ensure they know how to access the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, Election Code, Student Court Handbook, and Election Forms V through VII.
 - a. Should a candidate fail to meet with the BEC prior to the start of the Senatorial Campaign Period, the candidate shall be removed from the election.

2.5 **CAMPAIGN PERIOD** – The rules regarding the campaign periods of the general election shall be outlined below.

- A. **CAMPAIGNING:** “Campaigning” shall be defined as: working as an individual or group in an organized and active way to influence the decision of any potential voter in support or against any candidate or slate appearing on the ballot through the use of vocal or non-vocal interaction, electronic communication, physical materials, or any persons as an intermediary to communicate the same. This definition includes, but is not limited to, any efforts to fundraise, create a campaign website, advertise a campaign on a personal website, or distribute campaign literature.
- B. **CAMPAIGN WORKERS:** Campaign workers shall be defined as any persons working towards an active goal of promoting a candidate or slate.
- C. **PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD:** The Presidential Campaign Period shall begin at 6:00 AM on the Monday immediately following the Presidential Filing Date and shall end at the close of the general election.
 - a. Campaigning shall not be allowed at any time outside of the Presidential Campaign Period.
 - b. Potential slates may share their intention to run prior to the Presidential Campaign Period for the sole purposes of finding a running mate, a campaign manager, campaign workers, and filing Election Form I.
 - c. All slates shall comply with the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code, as well as all University rules and civil statutes, throughout the Presidential Campaign Period.

- d. All slates must meet with the MSA Senate Speaker and Senate Operations Committee Chair by the conclusion of the second week of the Presidential Campaign Period for the purpose of discussing the transition period for the offices of the President and Vice President and their cabinet. Failure to do this shall constitute an infraction, unless there are extenuating circumstances as decided by the BEC, who shall then allow for an extension of this deadline.
- D. SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD: The Senatorial Campaign Period shall begin at 6:00 AM on the Monday immediately following the Senatorial Filing Date and shall end at the close of the general election.
- a. Campaigning shall not be allowed at any time outside of the Senatorial Campaign Period.
 - b. Potential candidates may share their intention to run prior to the Senatorial Campaign Period for the sole purpose of filing the Senatorial Election Form.
 - c. All slates shall comply with the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code, as well as all University rules and civil statutes, throughout the Senatorial Campaign Period.
- 2.6 BEC DEBATE AND EVENTS – One debate will be hosted by the BEC during the campaign period of the general election. Attendance at this debate is mandatory. The BEC shall inform all slates of the date, time, and location of the mandatory debate during the Presidential Advisory Session. Attendance at any other debate, regardless of the host, is not mandatory.
- A. BEC EVENTS: BEC sponsored events may be planned at the discretion of the BEC in addition to the mandatory debate. Attendance at these discretionary events is not mandatory.
- 2.7 ELECTION DATE – The election date of the general election shall be the first Tuesday in March. The voting period shall take place over forty-eight hours and shall begin at 6:00 PM on the Monday prior to the election date and close at 6:00 PM on the Wednesday following the election date.
- A. CHANGES OF THE DATE – The Senate may, by enactment, move the election date of the general election. The election date shall not be moved to a date that is more than twenty days prior to or after the first Tuesday in March.
- a. Technical Failure: If the general election fails due to technical reasons, the election date shall be moved one calendar week later.
 - b. Extreme Circumstances: Extreme circumstances including, but not limited to, investigations against a particular slate are recognized as possible factors that may necessitate the delay of the election date. In cases where the BEC feels that a delay is necessary within one calendar week of the date of the election, the BEC shall have the authority to postpone the election date by one week.
 - c. The BEC Chair, with the approval of the MSA President, Senate Speaker, and Chief Justice, may alter the deadlines of the general election to conform with changes to the election date by the Senate.
- 2.8 DROPPING OUT – The rules regarding dropping out of the general election shall be outlined below. All slates or candidates wishing to drop out of the general election shall email the BEC at BEC@missouri.edu to drop out.
- A. PRESIDENTIAL SLATE: In the event that an individual candidate of a slate wishes to drop out of the election, or is no longer eligible to run in the election, they must email the BEC at BEC@missouri.edu. The remaining candidate shall have forty-eight hours immediately following their running mate dropping out to select a replacement candidate and to submit the names, student numbers, and signatures of five hundred eligible voters of the Association to the BEC in order to refile.
- a. Should less than five hundred of the signatures be of eligible voters of the Association, the BEC shall inform the candidate that they have an insufficient number of signatures. The BEC must inform the candidate of this within twenty-four hours of discovering less than five hundred signatures are valid. The candidate shall then have twenty-four hours after being informed of this to provide the replacement signatures to the BEC.
 - b. The candidate and their campaign workers must stop campaigning until submitting the signatures of five hundred eligible voters of the Association.
 - c. If the candidate for the office of Vice President is the remaining candidate, they may choose whether to remain as the candidate for Vice President or to become the candidate for President when refiling.

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Section III – Fall Senatorial Election

3.0 DEFINITION – This section shall outline the Association’s election procedure for the fall senatorial election.

3.1 FALL SENATORIAL ELECTION - The fall senatorial election shall be the election in which members of the Association may run for the position of academic Senator.

3.2 ELIGIBILITY TO RUN – The requirements to run in the fall senatorial election shall be outlined below.

- A. REQUIREMENTS FOR SENATORS: Candidates for the office of Senator must be current members of the Association and members of the academic colleges in which they wish to run prior to filing as candidates and throughout the election. Candidates shall only file to run under one academic college.

3.3 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES – The guidelines for declaring candidacy in the fall senatorial election shall be outlined below.

- A. NOMINATION OF SENATORS: Individuals wishing to run for the office of Senator shall inform the BEC of their intent to run and what academic college they wish to run for through the Senatorial Election Form, which shall be made available online by the BEC.
 - a. The Senatorial Filing Date for the fall senatorial election shall be 5:00 PM on the second Wednesday in October. All individuals wishing to run for the office of Senator must submit the Senatorial Election Form prior to the Senatorial Filing Date.
 - b. The BEC shall begin accepting submissions for the Senatorial Election Form two weeks prior to the Senatorial Filing Date.

3.4 ADVISORY SESSION – The rules regarding fall senatorial election advisory sessions shall be outlined below.

- A. SENATORIAL ADVISORY SESSION: Following the Senatorial Filing Date, the BEC shall meet with each candidate for the office of Senator to ensure they know how to access the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, Election Code, Student Court Handbook, and Election Forms V through VII.
 - a. Should a candidate fail to meet with the BEC prior to the start of the Senatorial Campaign Period, the candidate shall be removed from the election.

3.5 CAMPAIGN PERIOD – The rules regarding the campaign periods of the fall senatorial election shall be outlined below.

- A. CAMPAIGNING: “Campaigning” shall be defined as: working as an individual or group in an organized and active way to influence the decision of any potential voter in support or against any candidate appearing on the ballot through the use of vocal or non-vocal interaction, electronic communication, physical materials, or any persons as an intermediary to communicate the same. This definition includes, but is not limited to, any efforts to fundraise, create a campaign website, advertise a campaign on a personal website, or distribute campaign literature.
- B. CAMPAIGN WORKERS: Campaign workers shall be defined as any persons working towards an active goal of promoting a candidate.
- C. SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD: The Senatorial Campaign Period shall begin at 6:00 AM on the Monday immediately following the Senatorial Filing Date and shall end at the close of the fall senatorial election.
 - a. Campaigning shall not be allowed at any time outside of the Senatorial Campaign Period.
 - b. Potential candidates may share their intention to run prior to the Senatorial Campaign Period for the sole purpose of filing the Senatorial Election Form.
 - c. All slates shall comply with the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code, as well as all University rules and civil statutes, throughout the Senatorial Campaign Period.

- 3.6 ELECTION DATE – The election date of the fall senatorial election shall be the first Tuesday in November. The voting period shall take place over forty-eight hours and shall begin at 6:00 PM on the Monday prior to the election date and close at 6:00 PM on the Wednesday following the election date.
- A. CHANGES OF THE DATE – The Senate may, by enactment, move the election date of the fall senatorial election. The election date shall not be moved to a date that is more than twenty days prior to or after the first Tuesday in November.
- a. Technical Failure: If the fall senatorial election fails due to technical reasons, the election date shall be moved one calendar week later.
 - b. Extreme Circumstances: Extreme circumstances including, but not limited to, investigations against a particular candidate are recognized as possible factors that may necessitate the delay of the election date. In cases where the BEC feels that a delay is necessary within one calendar week of the date of the election, the BEC shall have the authority to postpone the election date by one week.
 - c. The BEC Chair, with the approval of the MSA President, Senate Speaker, and Chief Justice, may alter the deadlines of the fall senatorial election to conform with changes to the election date by the Senate.
- 3.7 DROPPING OUT – All candidates wishing to drop out of the fall senatorial election shall email the BEC at BEC@missouri.edu to drop out.

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Section IV – Special Elections and Runoff Elections

4.0 DEFINITION – This section shall outline the Association’s election procedure for special elections and runoff elections.

4.1 SPECIAL ELECTIONS – Special elections shall be elections called for by the Senate or by the President with the concurrence of the Senate.

- A. SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: The Senate may, by enactment, call for a special presidential election in the event that the offices of President and Vice President are both vacant. Such an election may also be called in the event that no slate successfully files to run in the general election or that all slates running in the general election are removed or drop out.
 - a. The procedure and regulations outlined in Section II of this Code that relate to slates and candidates for the offices of President and Vice President shall govern the procedure for special presidential elections, with the exception of dates, times, and deadlines listed in Section II.
- B. SPECIAL PROPOSITION ELECTIONS: The Senate may, by enactment, call for a special proposition election to place an initiative, referendum, or constitutional amendment before the student body.
- C. PROCEDURE: The Senate, when calling for a special election, shall specify the date and time of the election, and in the case of special presidential elections, the Senate shall specify when the filing date, advisory session, and campaign period shall be. No special election may be held within ten days of the beginning or end of academic semester or when the University of Missouri is not in session. Special elections must be held during the fall or spring semester.

4.2 RUNOFF ELECTIONS – Runoff elections shall be elections automatically held to resolve ties to determine the winners of general elections, fall senatorial elections, and special presidential elections. Runoff elections shall also be called when no slate in the general election receives at least 35% of the vote.

- A. DATE AND TIME: In the event that a runoff election is required, the BEC shall set the date and time for the election. Runoff elections must be held within fifteen days of the original election and cannot be held while the University of Missouri is not in session.

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Section V – Election Regulations

5.0 DEFINITION – This section shall outline the rules and regulations that all candidates and slates must follow during the general election, the fall senatorial election, special elections, and runoff elections.

5.1 POLLING – The regulations regarding polling shall be outlined below.

- A. POLLING DEFINITION: Polling shall be defined as an individual or group providing devices in which eligible voters of the Association may vote in an election of the Association.
- B. POLLING LOCATION: Slates must submit Election Form IV listing five preferences for polling locations to the BEC during the Presidential Advisory Session. The BEC will assign one unique polling location to each slate and compile a list of locations at which all slates can poll. This list shall be sent to all slates at least one week before the election date. No slate may poll at another slate’s unique polling location assigned by the BEC.
 - a. Candidates may not post campaign materials within one-hundred feet of BEC on-campus polls, nor may they loiter within one-hundred feet of these polling stations. This restriction shall not apply if the BEC on-campus polls are not clearly marked off.
- C. RESTRICTIONS: The following shall be restrictions on what is allowed at polling locations operated by slates and its campaign workers.
 - a. No slate or its campaign workers may ask any eligible voter to disclose who they are voting for.
 - b. No slate or its campaign workers may vote on behalf of any eligible voters.
 - c. No slate or its campaign workers may deny any eligible voters the ability to vote at the polling location.

5.2 CAMPAIGN MATERIALS – The regulations regarding campaign materials shall be outlined below.

- A. MATERIALS: Campaign materials shall be defined as materials or services produced or authorized by a slate, campaign team, proponent, opponent, or candidate with the intent to campaign as defined in 2.5 and 3.5 of this Code.
- B. ELECTION FORM V: Election Form V shall be used to disclose all new campaign materials being used by a slate or candidate. A slate or candidate may post campaign materials at their discretion, but that material must be registered with the BEC in Election Form V the following week. If a slate or candidate commits an infraction in materials that have been posted prior to registering them with the BEC, this will be treated as a campaign violation.
- C. WEBSITES: Websites shall not be made public prior to the commencement of the campaign period. A slate or candidate’s website(s) must be registered with the BEC. Information on a slate or candidate’s website(s) must be in compliance with the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code, as well as the University’s policies and regulations.
- D. SOCIAL MEDIA/NETWORKING SITES: A candidate’s personal social networking profile (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) will NOT be considered campaign material in the respect that it must be registered. Any social media profile(s) being made on behalf of the campaign must be registered with the BEC. Any misuse or libel will be subject to the punishment by the BEC.
- E. CAMPAIGN VIDEOS: Campaign videos shall include, but is not limited to, videos posted in Google Video, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, etc. Campaign videos may not be posted on these sites prior to the campaign period. Campaign videos must be registered with the BEC as with all campaign materials. Campaign videos containing slander, libel, or profanity will be subject to the same penalties as other campaign materials.
- F. CLOTHING: Wearing items of clothing and personally possessing accessory items (e.g. shirts, buttons, water bottles, and costumes) shall be exempt from location-based restrictions. The purpose of this shall be to not prevent students from freely moving around the campus if they are passively participating in a campaign.
- G. MAILERS AND FLYERS: Each slate or senatorial candidate shall be allowed to send mailers or flyers to residence halls, but not both mailers and flyers.

- a. Mailers: Each slate will be allowed to distribute campaign materials in residence hall mailboxes provided they adhere to Residential Life policy. Before a mailer is printed, it must first be approved by the BEC. After approval, slates may send their materials to the MSA advisor to request permission of Residential Life on the behalf of the slate. Once they have approval, slates will need to bundle and drop off their materials to the correct locations. All materials submitted to Residential Life must clearly identify the individual or group responsible for their creation and distribution.
- b. Flyers: Residential Life may allow the distribution of one, 8.5" x 11" flyer on each floor in every residence hall, and materials must coincide with university standards. Materials may be no larger than 8.5" x 11". The same approval process exists for this option as the mailers. All materials submitted to Residential Life must clearly identify the individual or group responsible for their creation and distribution.

5.3 MASS COMMUNICATION – The regulations regarding mass communication shall be outlined below.

- A. SPAM: Using any means of unsolicited electronic communication “spam” to campaign will be a violation of BEC rules and is subject to an infraction. This shall include, but is not limited to, electronic mail, phone calls, text messages, and messages on social media.
 - a. Spam shall be defined to include any unsolicited electronic communication that does not meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - i. The recipient initiated contact regarding campaign matters through the same communication medium with the author.
 - ii. The recipient gave their contact information for the same communication medium to the author’s campaign.
 - iii. The communication is sent through a social network and the recipient has the author as a connection/friend/etc. on the same social network.
 - iv. The recipient has had non-campaign related contact with the author through the same communication medium within the past three months.
 - v. The communication is sent through a listserv/group message mechanism run by some organization and the author has permission from the leadership of that organization or is a member in good standing of that organization and the communication clearly indicates the group/listserv through which it is sent. This criteria shall not be valid for group messages sent to an entire class, academic program, or other groups/listservs which students are required to be or automatically are members of.
 - vi. For the purposes of this section, the “author” shall be defined as the following individuals:
 - 1. All slates or candidates explicitly campaigned for in the communication.
 - 2. The individual from whose personal account, number, or address the communication is sent.
 - 3. The individual who signed the communication or otherwise indicated themselves as the author in instances where the message is sent from an impersonal or shared account, number, or address.
 - b. Any one “blast” of communications that are similar in content and are sent within a six-hour period shall count as a single violation per candidate, slate, proponent, or opponent responsible for the communication.
- B. UNIVERSITY MASS EMAIL POLICY: The following is the University’s policy regarding mass emails. Violating this policy shall constitute an infraction.
 - a. The University’s central email systems automatically block attempts to email more than 250 addresses in a note.
 - b. Execution: Any uses of MU equipment to deliver essentially the same note to more than 250 recipients through mechanisms other than appropriate use of Listserv or Exchange distribution lists must be approved by MU Administrative Services. The University may require a fee for this mass email service. Attempts to circumvent this restriction whether from inside or outside can result in loss of access to University information technology, and disciplinary action.
 - c. Origin: Mass email requests must originate in department, division, or school administration, not from lower-level units.

- d. Content: Use of mass email is restricted to email from the University which is relevant to official University business, the University’s mission, and a significant segment of the campus community. Mass email is considered an appropriate form for communication of an informational item under the following circumstances: Emergency or crisis situations (including closings and delays due to hazardous weather conditions or power outages, the need to provide special assistance to students, etc.), occurrence of crimes that threaten public safety, sudden changes in traffic, campus vehicular access, and parking due to emergencies, planned or sudden disruption of significant computer network features, other critical and time-sensitive situations affecting the campus as a whole.
 - e. Alternatives: For announcements that do not meet the preceding criteria, such as campus events, advertising, or other promotional activities, a variety of options are available to the University community. These options include announcements in MU Info, Mizzou Weekly, The Maneater, or other appropriate departmental newsletters, mailings, memoranda, and distributed announcements, announcements placed on University web pages, posting of events on the MU “Events Calendar” or departmental calendars, posting to an appropriate distribution list with permission of the list owner, and links from an informational email item to a website for purposes such as surveys or voting.
- C. COMMUNICATION DISCLAIMER: All forms of mass communication from slates or a slate’s campaign workers must include the following disclaimer at the beginning of the aforementioned communication: “The following is an official campaign communication from the .../... slate, running for MSA President and Vice President. Please feel free to contact the Board of Elections Commissioners at BEC@missouri.edu to voice any concerns you might have about the contents or use of this communication.” All forms of mass communication from senatorial candidates must include the following disclaimer at the beginning of the aforementioned communication: “The following is an official campaign communication from ..., running for MSA Senate. Please feel free to contact the Board of Elections Commissioners at BEC@missouri.edu to voice any concerns you might have about the contents or use of this communication.”
- a. All forms of mass communication, including, but not limited to, emails and other forms of public communication, must be reported to the BEC prior to sending.
- D. HARASSMENT: If the BEC receives notification that a slate or candidate is sending out multiple emails, private messages via social media or any other mass communication tool, text messages, or phone calls to an individual, individuals, or groups who have already stated a desire not to be involved in the campaign, this will be considered harassment and will be charged as a violation subject to the discretion of the BEC and Student Court. The severity of the violation will be based on the type, amount, and content of the message(s) that the individual or individuals received.

5.4 GREEK CHAPTERS – Slates or candidates may speak to Greek chapters if invited by the chapters or at open-forum type events, such as dinner speaking, only during the Campaign Period. Slates and candidates (including their campaign staff) may not go door-to-door within a Greek chapter house to solicit votes (including the use of laptops for mobile polling locations).

5.5 RESIDENCE HALLS, CAMPUS DINING, STUDENT UNIONS, AND CAMPUS BUILDINGS – The regulations regarding residence halls, Campus Dining Services, Student Unions, and other campus buildings shall be outlined below.

- A. RESIDENCE HALLS: Campaigning within residence halls shall be subject to Residential Life guidelines. Residence halls are defined as any owned or leased property of the Department of Residential Life.
- B. CAMPUS DINING SERVICES: Campus Dining Services (CDS) does not allow any form of campaigning in CDS locations. Breaking this policy shall constitute an infraction.
- C. STUDENT UNIONS: Campaigning is permitted within the Student Unions as long as it does not violate any policies of the Student Unions or the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, or Election Code.
- D. OTHER CAMPUS BUILDINGS: It is the slate’s responsibility to contact the building managers on campus to get permission to place posters, banners, or other campaign materials on or in campus buildings. This permission must be documented on Election Form VI, which must be submitted to the BEC prior to posting the material. Upon BEC approval, the campaign materials may be posted. The BEC shall respond within twenty-four hours of receiving Election Form VI with approval or denial of the posting of the material. The campaign material shall not be posted until the BEC gives approval.

- a. Slates and candidates may not post any campaign materials in any building operated by the University Libraries.
- b. Slates and candidates may not write campaign messages on the chalk boards, dry erase boards, or other classroom equipment within classrooms.
- c. Slates and candidates may not mass distribute flyers in classrooms.
- d. Slates and candidates shall not be required to submit Election Form VI to post material on designated public bulletin boards.

5.6 MSA OFFICES, EQUIPMENT, RESOURCES, AND AUXILIARIES – The regulations regarding the Association’s offices, equipment, resources, and auxiliaries shall be outlined below.

- A. MSA OFFICES, EQUIPMENT, AND RESOURCES: Offices, equipment, etc. of the Missouri Students Association are for official use and may not be used for campaigning including - but not limited to - the Center for Student Involvement and meeting rooms being used for MSA Senate, Executive, or Student Court business.
 - a. People may not wear any campaign-oriented clothing, buttons, etc. to any official meeting or event of the Association where they are serving as a Senator or other officer of the Association.
- B. MSA AUXILIARIES: Auxiliaries’ services may be used for campaigning purposes under normal business practices. In no way may any MSA auxiliary show support for or endorse any candidate or slate. If any person associated with an MSA auxiliary wishes to support or endorse a candidate/slate they may not explicitly mention the fact that they are associated with a particular MSA auxiliary when doing so. This rule is confined to the leadership of these organizations. Determination of endorsement of a candidate will be left to the discretion of the BEC and will include using auxiliary offices, list serves, etc.

5.7 ENDORSEMENTS – The public endorsement of any candidate or slate shall be limited to persons eligible to vote in the Association’s elections.

5.8 CAMPAIGN FINANCE – The regulations regarding campaign finance shall be outlined below.

- A. ELECTION FORM VII: Election Form VII shall be used to disclose all new campaign donations and expenditures. A slate or candidate must register all new donations and expenditures with the BEC in Election Form VII the following week. Each slate shall be required to self-report donors, donation amounts, campaign expenditures, and all spending to the BEC. Money donated to and spent by a slate for the campaigning purposes will be documented by the BEC.
- B. CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE LIMIT: An expenditure limit of \$1,000 shall be imposed on all slates and candidates. This expenditure limit shall be limited to items being given away to students not campaigning. Advertisement of the election or campaign will not count towards the expenditure limit. If the expenditure limit is exceeded by more than \$150, the slate or candidate in violation will be expelled from the election.
 - a. Only campaigning materials create by members of the slate or the senatorial candidates, or created with knowledge from the slate or candidate about the creation of campaign materials will be charged to the expenditure limit.
 - b. Advertisements shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - i. Flyers and posters being put up in campus buildings.
 - ii. Tables and tents used to campaign on campus
 - iii. Banners and posters set up at tabling locations.
 - iv. Posters at polling locations.
 - v. A maximum of twenty-five t-shirts for members of the campaign team.
 - c. Items that count against the expenditure limit shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i. Consumable items, including food, drinks, etc.
 - ii. T-shirts being handed out to eligible voters of the Association.
 - iii. Decorative objects handed out to eligible voters of the Association, including stickers and phone wallets.
 - iv. Social media advertisements.

- v. Other media advertisements through newspapers, television, radio, etc.

5.9 INFRACTIONS AND PENALTIES – The regulations regarding infractions and penalties shall be outlined below.

- A. **INFRACTIONS:** Infractions shall be defined as minor inaccurate representations of information (two or fewer inconsistencies) and acts that violate the Association’s Constitution, Bylaws, or Election Code, or the University’s rules and regulations and civil statutes. Infractions shall include, but are limited to, the following:
 - a. Using the Association’s offices, equipment, etc. for campaigning purposes.
 - b. Destruction, removal, or obstruction of opponent’s campaign materials.
 - c. Covering an entire bulletin board or dry erase board, or the majority of such boards, with campaign materials or writings.
 - d. Campaigning prior to the start of the allowed campaign period.
 - e. Violations of the BEC’s outlined campaign finance limitations.
 - f. Violations of University policies and the Collected University Rules and Regulations.
 - g. Expenditures exceeding the set limit.
 - h. Violating any provision or requirement outline within this Code.
- B. **PENALTIES:** The first instance of an infraction shall result in a written warning from the BEC. The second infraction will result in the suspension of campaigning for a twenty-four-hour period for the slate or candidate that committed the infraction. The BEC must provide notice to the slate or candidate about campaign suspension at least twelve hours prior to the start of the suspension. The third infraction will result in the suspension of campaigning for a forty-eight-hour period for the slate or candidate that committed the infraction. The BEC must provide notice to the slate or candidate about campaign suspension at least twelve hours prior to the start of the suspension. Court procedures. Slates and candidates will also be put up for consideration for expulsion from the election in the event that the BEC finds the slate has committed three or more infractions.
- C. **IMMEDIATE EXPULSION:** All infractions that are serious in nature are subject to immediate expulsion from the election at the discretion of the BEC. Such infractions shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Obstruction of the fair election process. This shall be defined as inhibiting the free participation of the students in the election process, including, but not limited to, influencing a student’s decision while they are voting (harassment). If a slate is found to have knowingly committed obstruction, they will be immediately expelled from the campaign.
 - b. Deceit or dishonesty with the BEC. If evidence or knowledge of dishonesty or deceit toward the BEC is found, the slate or candidate will be immediately expelled from the campaign. In an attempt to improve the integrity of the candidates, the BEC will not tolerate lying or falsifying forms.
 - c. Lack of integrity. Slander, libel, profanity, and lying to or deceiving members of the Association will not be tolerated in campaigning or campaigning materials. Any slates or candidate including these aspects in their materials or campaign will be immediately expelled from the election.
- D. **BEC CASE GUIDELINES:** The BEC will act as the prosecution in cases involving violations of election law, except in cases in which the BEC acts as the defense. If a slate, candidate, or complainant wishes to file an appeal of any BEC decision they must do so within 24 hours of being notified of the decision by the BEC. Cases regarding the expulsion of a slate or candidate may be sent to the court in cooperation with the BEC, for decisions. In these cases, the slates or candidates will be notified that an infraction that may result in expulsion has been filed and shall be allowed to provide a defense to the court at MSACourt@missouri.edu or in person in oral argumentation.
- E. **AGREEMENTS:** The BEC, with the consent of the Student Court, has the ability to offer sanction agreements between the accused slate or candidate and the BEC. However, these agreements must be submitted to the Court for approval via email to MSACourt@missouri.edu. The BEC is not required to offer agreements of any kind.
- F. **COURT PROCEDURES:** BEC initiated court procedures are outlined in the MSA Student Court Handbook. Case guidelines and timelines are also outlined in the Court Handbook. The BEC will not have communication with the accused slate(s) or candidate(s) prior to oral arguments and will not ask for a testimony without the presence of an MSA Court Official. If a slate or candidate wishes to express their

opposition to an infraction being issued, they may express this in their brief to the MSA Court. If a slate or candidate has any further questions they should contact the BEC for clarification.

- G. ELECTION FORM C: Any eligible voter of the Association witness to an infraction committed by a slate or candidate may file an Election Form C (Form C) with the BEC detailing what infraction was committed. The BEC shall then decide whether to this claim is valid or not, and shall issue penalties as necessary.