

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON – STUDENT GOVERNMENT
OFFICIAL ELECTION CODE
FALL 2026

In accordance with Article 6, Section 2 of the Student Government Constitution, the Spring 2026 Election Code shall serve as the Fall 2026 Election Code for the Fall 2026 Campus Elections.

No filing fee shall be assessed for the Fall 2026 Campus Elections.

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The purpose of the Election Code shall be to provide a method for an orderly election so that all candidates shall have a fair and equitable opportunity to win the election.

I. REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES:

- A. Candidates must not be on academic or disciplinary probation at the time of filing for the elections and, if elected, shall remain as such.
- B. Each candidate shall be responsible for compliance with this Election Code.
- C. **GRADE POINT AVERAGE & ENROLLMENT:**
 - 1. Candidates for Student Body President, Student Body Vice-President, Mr. UTA, and Ms. UTA shall have an overall grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. Upon election to the office of Student Body President or Vice-President, the officeholder must maintain a 2.25 throughout their respective term. Upon election to the office of Mr. or Ms. UTA, the officeholder must maintain an overall GPA of not less than a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
 - 2. Candidates for other offices shall have an overall grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. Candidates for Ambassadors shall have an overall grade point average of at least 2.25 on a 4.0 scale.
 - 3. Candidates, if elected, shall maintain the overall grade point average specified for their offices for the duration of their terms, except candidates for Homecoming Queen and Homecoming King.
 - 4. Candidates must be presently enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours and if elected, shall, for the duration of their term (with the exception of Homecoming King & Homecoming Queen), maintain the overall grade point average specified for their office
 - 5. Student Senators must be declared in the college or school for which they are seeking election, and if elected, shall remain as such.
- D. Candidates for Student Body President, Student Body Vice-President, Ms. UTA, Mr. UTA, Homecoming Queen, and Homecoming King shall have completed at least thirty (30) semester hours, of which at least twelve (12) shall have been completed at UT Arlington.
- E. Candidates for Student Body President and Student Body Vice-President shall have served for one session in Student Government prior to the time of officer installation. Candidates for Mr. and Ms. UTA must have served as an ambassador a 1-year term, exemptions can be made with approval from the UTA Ambassador advisor.
- F. **HOMECOMING COURT:**
 - 1. Candidates for Homecoming Queen shall be female or nonbinary identifying students.
 - 2. Candidates for Homecoming King shall be male or nonbinary identifying students
 - 3. Candidates for Homecoming Court shall file for Homecoming Court and, following the filing period, shall be interviewed by a Student Activities committee.

4. Student Activities shall establish a committee to determine the finalists for Homecoming Court which shall consist of three (3) candidates for Homecoming Queen and three (3) candidates for Homecoming King.
5. Composition of Selection Committee & Conflict of Interest: The Department of Student Activities shall determine the make-up of the selection committee; however, up to two (2) members of the Election Supervisory Board may be appointed as voting members of the selection committee. No more than two (2) voting members of the selection committee shall be members of the same registered student organization. The selection committee shall be comprised of no less than five (5) student voting members.
- G. Candidates for Ms. UTA shall be female-identifying students. Candidates for Mr. UTA shall be male-identifying students.
- H. First semester students shall be permitted to be candidates for Student Senate and UTA Ambassadors.
- I. Candidates shall meet requirements specified in the Constitution for the Student Community.
- J. Candidates shall run for either President or Vice President, not both in the same election. Candidates shall run for either Homecoming Queen or Homecoming King, not both in the same election.
- K. FILING
 1. Candidates shall pay a ten-dollar (\$10) fee by 5:00 p.m. on the last day of filing. This fee will be refunded if a candidate files on the first day of filing and attends the mandatory candidate meeting; it shall otherwise be non-refundable. Additionally, for those who file for Homecoming Court, the fee will not be refunded unless they are selected and attend the mandatory candidate meeting.
 2. The filing fee shall be used to defray election expenses.
 3. Platform statements will be published prior to the election dates and may be edited prior to the deadline set by Student Government.
 4. All candidate names will appear on the ballot with first and last name as it appears on My Mav per the University record only. Pseudonyms are not allowed on the official election ballot.
- L. CANDIDATE MEETINGS
 1. Each candidate must attend one (1) of two (2) candidate meetings. The candidate may send a representative in their place. The representative must provide a note signed by the candidate that authorizes the representative to attend on the candidate's behalf. Lack of attendance by a candidate, or the candidate's representative, with the exception of write-in candidates, shall result in the disqualification of the candidate. Candidates who have been disqualified for lack of attendance, and meet all other requirements, can refile as write-in candidates.
 2. The Judicial Branch shall preside over the candidate meetings.

3. Prior to the first candidate meeting, a drawing of lots shall determine the order in which the candidates' names are placed on the official ballot.
 4. The last candidate meeting shall be at least one (1) week prior to the elections.
- M. **WRITE-IN CANDIDATES**
1. Official write-in candidates are defined as candidates whose names are typed/hand-written on the ballot and are eligible to run in the elections.
 2. Official write-in candidates must register their candidacy with the Judicial Branch by the given deadline.
 3. Official write-in candidates do not have to attend a candidate meeting. However, they must pay all applicable filing fees.
 4. Write-in candidates must meet the same GPA Requirements as listed above.

II. **REQUIREMENTS FOR REFERENDUMS**

- A. The text of each referendum shall be made public at least one (1) full week prior to the elections.
- B. A referendum shall pass if it is approved by a simple majority of votes.
- C. Non-binding referendums are only advisory in nature with all results reported to the UTA President.

III. **CAMPAIGN CONDUCT**

- A. All election campaigns, including referendums, shall be conducted according to the rules and regulations of the Constitution for the *Student Community and the University of Texas at Arlington*.
- B. "Campaigning" is defined as the presentation, distribution, posting, and/or the displaying of any campaign material. Campaigning may be conducted in-person, online or via electronic means.
- C. For the purposes of campaigning, "candidate" shall mean the candidate and their representatives; and "at-large candidates" shall mean candidates for Student Body President, Student Body Vice-President, Ms. UTA, Mr. UTA, Homecoming Queen, Homecoming King, and UTA Ambassador.
- D. A candidate shall be responsible for those persons who display their campaign material with the candidate's knowledge. Consideration shall be given if such material is displayed in an attempt to disqualify a candidate.
- E. Candidates may not receive any funds or other forms of support from any University department or faculty and staff for the purpose of campaigning.
- F. Candidates may not receive any funds or other forms of support for the purpose of campaigning from any organization that is affiliated with a political party, as student elections are non-partisan.
- G. A business, organization, or group may not use a candidate's campaign as a way to advertise inside or outside the University.
- H. Campaigning in residence halls shall be limited to their lobbies.

- I. Campaigning shall end when all polls have closed at the end of the last day of elections.
- J. On election days, no campaigning will be allowed within any polling site or building in which an election is being held. If the weather or extenuating circumstances do not permit outdoor campaigning, a distance marker will be placed within the building to mark the boundary at which no campaigning is permitted.
- K. Website construction for campaigning purposes is permitted.
- L. Candidates are prohibited from offering gifts through raffles or drawings as part of their campaign. This includes raffles or drawings for campaign workers or any other supporters.
- M. Golf carts are prohibited for campaigning purposes.

IV. CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

- A. Candidates shall properly dispose of campaign materials in the University Center prior to polls opening.
- B. All campaign materials must be removed prior to the election results being published.
- C. Candidates shall be allowed to publish advertisements.
- D. Candidates shall be allowed to submit platform statements for publication by Student Governance.
- E. The wearing of campaign material on a person and/or on his/her belongings shall be permitted.
- F. On election days, no campaign material will be allowed for public display or distribution within any polling site or building in which an election is being held. Personal reference material will be permitted as long as it is not displayed.
- G. No campaign material shall be placed on UT Arlington apartments (and apartments on UT Arlington property) mailboxes and door clips.
- H. No writing shall be permitted on sidewalks, chalkboards, or whiteboards.
- I. No general distribution of campaign material will be permitted on parked cars. Campaign writing will be permitted on individual vehicles.
- J. **CAMPAIGN MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION**
 - 1. Campaign material shall be distributed only on a person-to-person basis.
 - 2. Prior to election days, campaign material distribution shall not be limited to any specific area/ location.
 - 3. Candidates may not reserve space on campus to campaign
 - 4. On election days, campaign material distribution shall not be permitted inside any building where voting is taking place, excluding inclement weather days.

5. Nothing which might disturb classes in progress shall be permitted.

K. POSTERS/SIGNS

1. Contents of posters/signs shall comply with University Regulations (such as no obscenities or defamations) and with the regulations set by the Handbook of Operating Procedures Chapter 11, Sec 201-204. Posters may not exceed 11 inches by 17 inches.
2. More than one candidate name may appear on a poster/sign, provided that the number of times each name/photo appears does not exceed the total number allowable for each candidate in that particular building.
3. Signs/posters with more than one candidate's name may only be posted in common buildings where each candidate is allowed, by the election code, to post campaign material.
4. No signs (including but not limited to yard signs, free-standing wooden signs, etc.) will be permitted on university property and/or within a two (2) mile radius of campus as measured from the Central Library Flag Poles; except for those areas designated in this code. T-shirts and sandwich boards may be worn.
5. Posters/signs shall be posted with masking or clear tape, if on walls.
6. Posters/signs must be approved (stamped) by the Student Government Chief Justice, Election Supervisory Board Chair, or the designee of the Chief Justice.
7. No reserved space for posters/signs shall be allowed.
8. No posters/signs shall be erected to extend into the crowded areas on campus (*e.g.* passageways.)
9. Posters can be visually attached, must not overlap with other posters, and each such poster shall count individually towards the maximum number of posters that can be displayed in each building.
10. No posters/signs shall be posted on the outside of any building, on any entrance door, fence, bridges, glass surface, ceiling, clock, sidewalk, tree, or in any classroom or elevator.
11. Each candidate may display two (2) posters/signs in each of the following buildings:
 - a. West Hall
 - b. Arlington Hall
 - c. Kalpana Chawla Hall
 - d. Vandergriff Hall

For residence hall postings, candidates must leave their fliers with the Apartment and Residence Life office between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM (Monday – Friday). They will post the fliers in an area designated for all campaign postings.

12. Each at-large candidate and candidates for may display up to the allotted number of posters/signs in each of the following buildings, in the indicated locations below:

A. Architecture Building (3)

- I. 1st floor brick wall outside elevator
- II. 2nd floor brick wall outside elevator
- III. Bulletin board outside Reflection Room
- B. Business Bldg. (3)**
 - I. Bulletin board between 243 and 246
 - II. Bulletin board between 236 and 239
 - III. Bulletin board between 335 and 337
- C. Nedderman Hall (3)**
 - I. Brick walls on first floor, near entrance
 - II. 1st floor around and above water fountains
- D. Fine Arts Bldg. (5)**
 - I. Brick walls by northeast and northwest building entrances (in Art section)
 - II. Bulletin board on the 4th floor communications side
 - III. Bulletin board by the 1st floor elevators in south hall
- E. Earth & Environmental Sciences Bldg. (2)**
 - I. Bulletin board in all 3 stairwells
 - II. Bulletin board in the Student Lounge (room 106)
- F. Life Science Bldg. (5)**
 - I. Bulletin board in foyer of the 1st floor by vending machine
 - II. Bulletin board on 1st floor across from elevators
 - III. Bulletin board by west entrance
 - IV. All stairwells between 1st and 2nd floors
 - V. Walls between elevator doors (floor 1-4)
 - VI. Walls at entrance to rooms 118 and 119
 - VII. Walls opposite rooms 118 and 119
 - VIII. Wall immediately west and adjacent to Room 118
 - IX. Wall east and west in the Center Vestibule
 - X. Bulletin board between rooms 200 and 201
- G. Pickard Hall (5)**
 - I. Posting area by water fountain (floor 1-3)
 - II. Bulletin boards located by room 103
- H. Preston Hall (2)**
 - I. Bulletin boards in the first-floor lounge area
- I. Science Hall (5)**
 - I. Bulletin board by room 238
 - II. Bulletin board by the southeast and west entrances
 - III. Stairway doors on the first and second floors
 - IV. Wall next to the elevator
- J. Trimble Hall and Hammond Hall (5)**
 - I. Bulletin boards on main floor
 - II. Brick wall across from stairs by entrance to Hammond
 - III. Freestanding board on 2nd floor
- K. University Hall (5)**
 - I. On all ceramic tile walls in the basement
 - II. Bulletin board in the basement under the stairs by room 17
 - III. Bulletin board between rooms 104 and 105 across from the stairs
 - IV. Bulletin board by first floor elevator in north hall between rooms 101 and 102 E
 - V. Wall between elevator doors

- L. Woolf Hall (5)**
 - I. Posting areas located on the main lobby across from room 111.
 - II. Posting area located by the entrance and room 120
 - III. Bulletin board by room 315
 - IV. Bulletin board by room 410
 - V. Brick walls on all floors by stairs
- O. E.H. Hereford University Center (4)**
 - I. Bulletin board on stairwell near the market
 - II. Bulletin board near The Plaza next to the woman's restroom
 - III. Bulletin board near The Leadership Center
 - IV. Bulletin board outside Office of Student Organizations
- P. College Hall (2)**
 - I. Bulletin board on the 1st floor by elevators
 - II. Bulletin board by 101
- Q. Health Center (1)**
 - I. Bulletin board in waiting room
- R. Maverick Activity Center (1)**
 - I. Bulletin board on the 2nd floor by the lounge area
- S. Physical Education Building (1)**
 - I. Bulletin board inside east entrance
- T. The Commons (1)**
 - I. Bulletin board on the 2nd floor near the elevator and restrooms
- U. Science & Engineering Innovation & Research Building (2)**
 - I. Bulletin board near entrance to room 194
 - II. Bulletin board near entrance to room 294
- V. Engineering Lab Building (2)**
 - I. Bulletin board next to room 101
 - II. Bulletin board next to room 126
- W. University Administration Building (1)**
 - I. Brick wall on the 2nd floor
- X. School of Social Work (2)**
 - I. Pillar near Social Grounds
 - II. Pillar near northeast entrance
 - III. 1st floor in the common area around Suite #108 and leading to Pickard Hall
 - IV. 1st floor between restrooms 127 and 128
 - V. 2nd floor between restrooms 210 and 211
 - VI. 2nd floor between restrooms 222 and 223
 - VII. 4th floor in the common area near faculty suites and elevator #1
 - VIII. 4th floor between restrooms 426 and 427

13. Each candidate for Student Senate may display up to the allotted number of posters/signs in each of the buildings listed for their college, only in the locations indicated below.

- a. Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs**
 - i. Architecture (3)
 - ii. Fine Arts (5)
 - iii. Pickard Hall (5)
 - iv. University Hall (5)

- b. Business**
 - i. Business (3)
 - ii. Pickard Hall (5)
 - iii. University Hall (5)
- c. Education**
 - i. Trimble /Hammond Hall (5)
 - ii. University Hall (5)
 - iii. Pickard Hall (5)
- d. Engineering**
 - i. Woolf Hall (5)
 - ii. Nedderman (3)
 - iii. Engineering Lab Building (2)
 - iv. Geo-Science (4)
 - v. Pickard Hall (5)
 - vi. Science Hall (5)
- e. Liberal Arts**
 - i. Fine Arts (5)
 - ii. Pickard Hall (5)
 - iii. Preston Hall (2)
 - iv. Trimble/Hammond Hall (5)
 - v. University Hall (5)
- f. Nursing and Health Innovation**
 - i. Life Science (5)
 - ii. Pickard Hall (5)
 - iii. Science Hall (5)
 - iv. Maverick Activities Center (1)
 - v. Physical Education Building (1)
 - vi. Social Work and CONHI Smart Hospital (2)
- g. Science**
 - i. Geo-Science (2)
 - ii. Life Science (5)
 - iii. Pickard Hall (5)
 - iv. Science Hall (5)
 - v. University Hall (5)
- h. Social Work**
 - i. Social Work & CONHI Smart Hospital (2)
 - ii. Pickard Hall (5)
 - iii. Trimble/Hammond (5)
 - iv. University Hall (5)
- i. Division of Student Success**
 - i. University Hall (5)
 - ii. Preston Hall (2)
 - iii. Science Hall (5)
 - iv. Business (3)

v. Fine Arts (5)

14. If campaign material is allowed in the building where polling is set to occur, all campaign material must be removed forty-eight hours (48) before the scheduled start time of the first day of polling.
15. No campaign material may be posted outside of any office doors or on desks if such posting would exceed the number of posters allowed in that building.
16. No posters/signs shall be posted in any other designated areas.
17. For posting at the UTA Fort Worth Center (Santa Fe Station) all At Large Candidates. Candidates for Student Senate within the College of Business, College of Liberal Arts, and College of Education are allowed to post one (1) poster/sign in the student lounge or the main information desk.
18. Posting for Referendums shall follow the UTA's Sign Implementation Policy.
19. Digital Campaign materials and posts shall comply with University Regulations (such as no obscenities or defamations) and with the regulations set by the Handbook of Operating Procedures Chapter 11, Sec 201-204.

V. ELECTIONS

A. VOTING

The Student Governance Office shall provide polling areas that meet the following criteria.

1. Entrances and exits shall be clearly defined before polling begins.
2. Official platform statements shall be displayed.
3. The privacy of voters shall be ensured.
4. Necessary personnel shall be provided to supervise elections. No candidate shall provide manpower assistance at any polling site.
5. Currently enrolled students may log in to vote during permitted hours with their UTA NetID and Password. The link to vote shall be placed on the Student Governance website.
6. The Judicial Branch is responsible for administering and facilitating Campus Elections.

B. ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

Any student, who at the time of elections, is enrolled in one or more courses for credit from UT Arlington, is eligible to vote in the election. In effect, this precludes students only enrolled in the English Language Institute from being eligible to vote.

C. PROCEDURE

All students must present a valid picture ID card to vote (UTA ID, driver's license, military ID or state ID card).

D. RESULTS

1. The election results shall be posted within forty-eight (48) hours of the closing of all polls.
2. No election results shall be final until all disputes have been settled.
3. The official posting site for the election results shall be the Student Governance Digital Display on the first floor of the University Center.
4. The final tabulation of the votes shall be submitted to the Assistant Director for Student Governance.
5. All ballots shall be retained by the Office of Student Governance for at least thirty (30) days after the polls have closed.
6. Resolution 92-51 shall be in effect for those candidates not elected.¹

E. LINE OF SUCCESSION: PRESIDENT-ELECT AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT

If, after the election results are determined, the Student Body President-elect or the Student Body Vice President-elect become ineligible to serve. The following method shall determine who shall succeed to each respective office.

Student Body President

1. If the president-elect is unable to serve, then the runner-up of the presidential election will succeed to the presidency.
2. If the presidential race is uncontested, or the runners-up are not able to serve, the winner of the vice-presidential race will succeed into the presidency.
3. If the Vice-Presidential election is uncontested, or the runners-up are unable to serve, then the Supreme Court shall work with the Student Governance Office to determine a time and method for a special election.

Student Body Vice-President

1. If the vice-president-elect is unable to serve, then the runner-up of the vice-presidential election will succeed into the vice-presidency.
2. If the vice-presidential race is uncontested, or the runners-up are not able to serve, the presidential candidate who received the most votes after the winner shall succeed into vice-presidency.
3. If the vice-presidential election is uncontested, or unable to serve, then the Supreme Court shall work with the Student Governance Office to determine a time and method for

¹ Resolution 92-51: If a seat becomes vacant, the next person with the highest votes gets the position without an interview.

a special election.

F. RUNOFF ELECTIONS

1. In the event of a tie, the Student Governance Office will conduct a run-off election for at-large positions (only applies to Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, Mr. UTA, Ms. UTA, Homecoming King/Queen and SSAC Representatives) within ten (10) school days after the posting of results.
2. The rules and regulations for run-off elections shall be determined by the Judicial Branch, in accordance with the Student Governance Office.

VI. SUPREME COURT

A. MEMBERSHIP

1. The Supreme Court shall consist of seven (7) Justices, including one (1) Chief Justice. No Justice of Supreme Court shall be a candidate for office. Justices of the Supreme Court are not allowed to campaign for or publicly support any candidate.

B. DUTIES

1. The Supreme Court will approve the Election Code each semester. If a new code is not approved, the previously approved code will remain in effect.
2. The Supreme Court, in accordance with the Election Code, shall hear election disputes, referrals, and grievances.

VII. ELECTION SUPERVISORY BOARD

- A. The Election Supervisory Board shall be a special committee that can be formed at the discretion of the Chief Justice, in order to assist in the administration of elections.

VIII. ELECTION VIOLATIONS

- A. Any Election Code violations should be submitted to the Judicial Branch via the online form on the Student Governance website. Upon receipt of the form, and confirmation that the details provided in the form are accurate, the Chief Justice will contact the candidate in violation of the code via email and phone. The candidate will have five (5) business hours upon the email being sent to correct the violation and to communicate the correction to the Chief Justice.
- B. Failure to correct an Election Code violation may result in immediate disqualification by the Judicial Branch. If a candidate is disqualified, he or she may appeal to the Supreme Court within 24 hours of their disqualification by submitting the online form available on the Student Governance website.
- C. Repeated offences may result in the disqualification of the candidate.
- D. Election Code violations may be submitted up until the closing of the polls on the last day of voting.
- E. Correcting an Election Code violation does not keep a candidate from being the subject of an election dispute.

- F. Candidates may request, via an online form on the Student Governance website, to view violations that were submitted during the election process. The online form will be accessible following the posting of election results. Candidates may only view a violation in a race for an office they are seeking.

IX. DISPUTES

- A. Each election dispute shall be submitted to the Supreme Court via the online form on the Student Governance website within three (3) school days after the election results have been posted. Only candidates for office may file election disputes. In addition, candidates may only file a dispute in a race for an office they are seeking. The Supreme Court shall contact the parties involved in the dispute.
- B. **HEARINGS**
1. The Supreme Court shall hold a hearing within five (5) business days (M-F) after the filing dispute deadline. Persons to be summoned shall be the complainant-candidate, the respondent-candidate, and any witnesses to said disputes. No other persons, except the Supreme Court Justices and the Assistant Director for Student Governance, shall be admitted.
 2. At least 5 Supreme Court Justices shall attend the hearing.
 3. The Supreme Court shall recess for deliberation after all evidence has been presented.
 1. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be rendered at the hearing and filed in writing with the Assistant Director for Student Governance.
 2. No hearing shall be held while the elections are in progress.
- C. **APPEALS**
1. Each candidate involved in the dispute may appeal the Supreme Court decision to the Senior Director of Involvement and Engagement via the online form on Student Governance website within three (3) school days of the receipt of the original ruling.
 2. The Senior Director of Involvement and Engagement shall render a decision within five (5) school days after the submission of the appeal.
 3. The decision of the Senior Director of Involvement and Engagement shall be final.

X. ADMINISTRATION OF THE ELECTIONS

- A. The Judicial Branch in collaboration with the Student Governance Office shall furnish the official ballots.
- B. The Judicial Branch in collaboration with the Student Governance Office shall make available candidates' applications at least five (5) days prior to the election filing deadline.
- C. The Judicial Branch in collaboration with the Student Governance Office shall preside over all candidate meetings.

- D. The Judicial Branch in collaboration with the Student Governance Office shall be responsible for the listing of candidates on the official ballot.
- E. The Student Governance Office shall establish the election calendar.
- F. The Student Governance Office shall certify the eligibility of all candidates before their names are placed on the ballot.
- G. The Student Governance Office shall determine the method of ballot tabulation.
- H. The Student Governance Office and the Judicial Branch shall tabulate, post, file, and retain all ballots in accordance with the Election Code.
- I. Persons violating any University regulation not covered by the Election Code shall be disciplined by the University in accordance with applicable University procedures.

REVISED: January 5th, 2026

APPROVED: February 2nd, 2026