

Election Rules Policy

Document ID		Type	Elections
Last Revised	February 7 th , 2019	Next Review	February 7 th , 2021
Authority	Board of Directors	Policy Contact	Vice President Internal (outside of electoral period) Chief Electoral Officer (during electoral period)

Below are the rules for candidates in Student Union Society (SUS) elections or by-elections. It is your responsibility to read and comply with all of the election rules. Ignorance is not an excuse for rule violations. The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) will determine rule violations and will issue sanctions to candidates that violate the rules.

1. Eligibility

Candidates must meet eligibility requirements to participate in SUS elections, including to:

- Be a current Member in Good Standing of SUS, which requires candidates to:
 - Be enrolled in at least one for credit course in the current semester or be enrolled in the Trades program.
 - Have paid SUS fees for the current semester
- Intend to continue to fulfil the above requirements for the duration of the term of office
- Meet the specific eligibility criteria for any positions with a specific constituency, when applicable.
 - 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.
- Maintain a minimum CGPA of 2.0, which is defined as maintaining a GPA of 2.0 in all undergraduate and graduate-level courses taken.
- Maintain academic good standing.
- Please note that candidates must continue to meet these criteria for their duration of their term of office. If, once elected, a Board Member fails to meet an eligibility criteria, they will be placed on a leave of absence or required to resign, depending on the criteria lacking.

2. Candidates Must Run as Individuals

Candidates must run as individuals with their own platforms and ideas. To ensure this during the election, candidates cannot do the following:

- Run as a slate or party with other candidates
- Ask the University of the Fraser Valley Staff or Faculty for endorsement or campaign aid.
 - 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)

- Ask any SUS Staff Member or Director for endorsement, campaign aid, and/or using SUS resources.
 - This includes both permanent and student staff (including all services), and current Board Members (voting and non-voting)
- 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.

3. Campaigning

The SUS election or by-election takes place during regular scheduled classes. Although SUS elections are very important to our organization, we do not want to interrupt the studies of our student membership at large. To that end, candidates cannot do the following:

- Campaign during any part of the election that is not the campaign period.
- Violate UFV's Poster Policy or the SUB Operating Policies.
- Campaign during a scheduled UFV lecture, lab and/or class.
- Campaign in a UFV lecture, lab and/or class
- Post material in designated classroom/lab/teaching space.
- Display posters that have not been approved by the Chief Electoral Officer and/or have not been stamped at the front desk of a SUS office.

4. Candidates

It is important that the SUS members can be made aware of each candidate and their platforms. Because of this, candidates are required to do the following:

- Attend the All-Candidates meeting.
 - Candidates are expected to communicate with their instructors beforehand if there are time conflicts with lectures or labs. Proof of this communication will be required if a candidate has to miss required sessions due to class conflicts.
 - 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.
 - The candidate must meet with the CEO at their earliest convenience.
- Submit a written candidate's statement for publication with their completed Nomination Package.

5. Fairness in SUS Elections and By-Elections

To ensure fairness and validity in all SUS elections;

- A candidate must not spend more than \$125 on their campaign and/or fail to submit an expense report to the CEO Officer by the end of the campaign period.
- A candidate must not campaign using any food, or liquid consumables.
- A candidate must not offer any sort of direct incentive (bribe) to any voting member.
- A candidate must not harass, threaten, or bully any student to vote for or endorse them.



- A candidate must not harass, threaten, or bully the CEO, or any member of the Electoral Committee.
- A candidate must not intentionally lie, or spread false information about the University, SUS, and/or other candidates.
- A candidate must not set up or have supporters set up their own mobile polling stations in order to get more votes for specific candidate(s).
- A candidate must not distribute any partisan campaign materials or campaign inside Baker House, except during a campaign event that is organized by the CEO.

6. Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with any of the rules outlined above may result in a written warning, a sanction, or removal from the SUS election or by-election in accordance with the Elections Policy, Electoral Oversight Policy and Electoral Oversight Procedure.

****NOTE**** If a group or individual violates the above rules in support of a candidate, then the candidate in question may still be subject to sanctions, as determined by the CEO. If you have any questions or concerns about the campaign rules, or if you have witnessed violation of the above rules, please email the CEO at elections@ufvsus.ca.

4. Related Information

Title	Link
Elections Policy	
Electoral Oversight Policy	
Electoral Oversight Procedure	