

ELECTIONS CODE
OF THE
GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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CHAPTER 1. Offices Under Election

- 1.1. Each year during the Spring Semester, an election shall be held.
- 1.2. The GSG election shall consist of races for the following positions:
 - 1.2.1. GSG President
 - 1.2.2. GSG Vice President of Internal Affairs
 - 1.2.3. GSG Vice President of External Affairs
 - 1.2.4. GSG Vice President of Professional Development
 - 1.2.5. GSG Vice President of Campus Engagement
 - 1.2.6. GSG Assembly Member(s) for each college/school, the representation and number of which, including at-large members, shall be determined by the GSG bylaws.
 - 1.2.7. GSG Elections Commissioner, to serve in the following year's election
 - 1.2.8. GSG Assistant Elections Commissioner, to serve in the following year's election

CHAPTER 2. Election Timeline

- 2.1. Each election shall proceed through the following periods, which are herein collectively known as the "election cycle":
 - 2.1.1. Nomination Period - beginning the first Monday in February and ending the last Friday in February.
 - 2.1.2. Verification Period - beginning as soon as the Nomination Period ends and ending as soon as the Campaign Period begins.
 - 2.1.3. Campaign Period - beginning the first Monday after the conclusion of the ASU Spring Break and ending as soon as the Election Period begins.
 - 2.1.4. Election Period - beginning the third Tuesday after the conclusion of the ASU Spring Break and ending 48 hours later.
 - 2.1.5. Certification Period - beginning as soon as the Election Period ends and ending 48 hours later.
- 2.2. If the Election Period overlaps a holiday recognized by ASU, The State of Arizona, or the US Federal Government, the Election Period shall be extended by 24 hours for each such holiday it overlaps.

CHAPTER 3. Voter Qualification

- 3.1. To be a "qualified voter" and thus vote in the GSG election, a person must:
 - 3.1.1. Be enrolled in at least one (1) credit hour at ASU as a current graduate, professional, or non-degree seeking student during the semester the election is held in OR
 - 3.1.2. Be a current ASU student AND be accepted into a graduate or professional program at ASU with their first semester being the Fall Semester following the election.
- 3.2. To be a "qualified voter" for a GSG Assembly Member race excluding such races for "at-large" positions, a person must:
 - 3.2.1. Be a qualified voter for the election the race is a part of AND

- 3.2.2. Be a student in a program housed in the same college/school the position in the race will represent. In the event the person has multiple programs or certificate(s) they may vote in all races for representatives that represent their respective programs or certificates, but may not vote more than once in any given race.
- 3.3. During a voting cycle, any person qualified to vote in more than one election must choose and vote in only one of the elections for which they are qualified.

CHAPTER 4. Candidate Qualification

- 4.1. To qualify as a candidate for a position outlined in Chapter 1, a person must:
 - 4.1.1. Be a qualified voter for the election that position is elected within as outlined in Chapter 3 AND
 - 4.1.2. Be a student in good disciplinary standing with ASU AND
 - 4.1.3. Declare their intent to run for that position and their intent to maintain eligibility for that position as specified in the applicable GSG bylaws throughout the entire term of office.
- 4.2. A single person may be a candidate for only a single position in a single election during a single election cycle.
- 4.3. Qualifying as a candidate does not make a person a candidate. To become a candidate, a person must both qualify and follow the appropriate procedures outlined in this Elections Code.

CHAPTER 5. Elections Department

- 5.1. The ASASU Elections Department, herein referred to as the Elections Department, shall be responsible for conducting the election, addressing election disputes, enforcing this Elections Code, and maintaining all elections records.
- 5.2. The Elections Department shall maintain a public record of all:
 - 5.2.1. Campaign staff, for at least four (4) years following the end of the election cycle the campaign was in
 - 5.2.2. Final Campaign Expense Reports, for at least four (4) years following the end of the cycle the campaign was in
 - 5.2.3. Elections Complaints, Elections Department decisions on those complaints, and Supreme Court decisions on those complaints, for at least four (4) years following the end of the cycle the complaint was submitted in.
 - 5.2.4. Final vote tallies for each race in each election in the election cycle, until those tallies are filed with the appropriate university office as the official and permanent record of the vote for said elections.
 - 5.2.5. All records generated by the ASASU Elections Department pertaining to the GSG Elections shall be kept in a publicly-accessible repository designated by the GSG Assembly in perpetuity.
- 5.3. The GSG Elections Department comprises of the following positions:
 - 5.3.1. One Elections Commissioner.
 - 5.3.2. One Assistant Elections Commissioner.

- 5.3.3. A minimum of two additional members, herein referred to as the “Elections Department Staff”.
- 5.4. The Elections Commissioner is responsible for running the election.
 - 5.4.1. The Elections Commissioner shall make whatever determinations are necessary to run the election, so long as such determinations do not conflict with this Elections Code.
 - 5.4.2. The Elections Commissioner is ultimately responsible for enforcing this Elections Code.
- 5.5. The Assistant Elections Commissioner assists the Elections Commissioner, and takes on the duties of the Elections Commissioner in the absence of the Elections Commissioner or whenever it is deemed necessary by the GSG Assembly.
- 5.6. Elections Department Staff shall be appointed by the Elections Commissioner through an application process.
 - 5.6.1. Notice about this application process, along with an invitation to apply, must be sent to all qualified voters by the Elections Department.
 - 5.6.2. Applications must remain open for a minimum of five (5) business days.
 - 5.6.3. The Elections Department Staff must be appointed prior to the beginning of the election cycle.
- 5.7. A roster of all members of the Elections Department shall be made publicly accessible to all qualified voters.
 - 5.7.1. The Elections Department shall maintain and update this roster following any changes to the members of the Elections Department.
 - 5.7.2. This roster shall remain publicly accessible until the end of the election cycle.
- 5.8. No member of the Elections Department shall be affiliated with or support in any way any candidate’s/ticket’s campaign, directly or indirectly, except by exercising their individual right to vote. This shall not be construed to prevent members of the Elections Department from providing information about the elections, or about all candidates in a given race equally pursuant to the duties of the Elections Department.
- 5.9. No member of the Elections Department shall become a candidate for any of the races in any of the elections in the election cycle.

CHAPTER 6. Campaign Staff

- 6.1. Campaign staff, also referred to as “campaign staffers”, is defined as any person who meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - 6.1.1. Any person instructed by a candidate/ticket or another campaign staff member to carry out the duties of the campaign or any campaigning activities OR
 - 6.1.2. Any person who works on campaign related activities for more than three (3) hours a week OR
 - 6.1.3. Any person who speaks on behalf of a campaign in a class or to a student organization at the instruction of the campaign OR
 - 6.1.4. Any person who distributes physical or virtual campaign materials on behalf of the campaign at the instruction of the campaign.

- 6.2. A person meeting any of the following criteria shall not be considered a campaign staffer, so long as that person does not otherwise meet the criteria for campaign staff:
 - 6.2.1. A person endorsing a candidate publicly shall not be considered a campaign staffer, whether that person is endorsing as an individual or on behalf of an organization.
 - 6.2.2. A supporter being asked by a candidate to share information regarding said candidate's campaign.
- 6.3. Any campaign staffer must be on a public record, herein referred to as a "campaign staff roster", with the Elections Department as soon as that person meets the criteria to be considered a campaign staffer and prior to engaging in any further campaign activities.
 - 6.3.1. The Elections Department will create a public space to post campaign staff rosters, and will ensure that space and all campaign rosters in it are accessible to the public for the full duration of the election cycle.
 - 6.3.2. The Elections Department will provide each candidate/ticket with sufficient access to the public space so that candidate/ticket can post and update their own campaign staff roster.
 - 6.3.3. Candidates/tickets are responsible for keeping their own respective staff rosters updated and compliant with this chapter.
- 6.4. Upon meeting the criteria to be considered a campaign staffer, that campaign staffer must pass the same quiz used for candidate qualification prior to engaging in any campaign activities.
- 6.5. All provisions and references to campaign staff in this Elections Code apply to any individual meeting the criteria of a campaign staffer, regardless of whether that individual is listed on the applicable campaign staff roster or not.
- 6.6. Candidates/tickets may delegate any tasks required of them by this Elections Code to campaign staffers unless otherwise prohibited, but will still assume responsibility and liability associated with those tasks regardless of such delegation.
- 6.7. Candidates/tickets are responsible for informing their campaign staff of any and all provisions in this Elections Code as well as any applicable provisions from University Policy or ASASU governing documents.
- 6.8. Candidates/tickets are responsible for the conduct of their campaign staff. Any violation of this Elections Code by a member of a candidate's/ticket's campaign staff may be considered a violation by that candidate/ticket.
- 6.9. A candidates/ticket is generally not responsible for the conduct of any supporters, so long as:
 - 6.9.1. The supporter(s) do not meet the criteria to be considered members of that candidate's/ticket's campaign staff.
 - 6.9.2. It is not proven that the supporter acted upon the instruction of the candidate/ticket or a campaign staffer for that candidate/ticket.
 - 6.9.3. The actions of the supporter(s) could not be reasonably construed as directly inspired by words, actions, or campaigning activities of the candidate/ticket or a campaign staffer for that candidate/ticket.

CHAPTER 7. Campaign Materials

- 7.1. Campaign materials refers to any items or services including, but not limited to, posters, signs, leaflets, t-shirts, buttons, handbills, websites, stickers, business cards, tabling materials, social media content, or any other advertising promoting a candidate or ticket that is created with the intention of soliciting votes.
 - 7.1.1. Physical campaign materials refers to any campaign materials used, provided, or posted physically in-person, including, but not limited to, posters, signs, leaflets, t-shirts, buttons, handbills, stickers, business cards, or tabling materials. Projecting imagery, words, logos, etc. onto a physical surface or creating imagery, words, logos, etc. through the arrangement of physical objects such as drones are also considered physical campaign materials.
 - 7.1.2. Virtual campaign materials refers to any campaign materials used, provided, published, or posted digitally including, but not limited to, websites, online chat rooms, group chat services, online promotional services, emails, online service subscriptions, and social media posts owned and/or affiliated with a campaign.
- 7.2. The use of ASASU and/or Arizona State University copyrighted images on any campaign materials, is strictly prohibited. Candidates shall make reasonable efforts to avoid using such copyrighted materials. A list of prohibited images can be found at: <https://brandguide.asu.edu>. This provision shall only apply to the use of digital assets, including when printed, and shall not apply to university merchandise or physical ASU property.

CHAPTER 8. Campaign Expenses

- 8.1. A campaign expense is defined as any expenditure, regardless of amount, on campaign materials or anything related towards furthering the efforts of the campaign. This includes, but is not limited to, physical campaign materials, printing services, graphic design or writing or other content creation services, graphic design platforms, advertising services, paid social media boosts or similar features to increase audience reach or engagement.
 - 8.1.1. Any such expenses incurred by the campaign staff of a candidate/ticket are still considered campaign expenses.
 - 8.1.2. Any such expenses incurred by persons or organizations separate from the candidate's campaign but made on behalf of that candidate with that candidate's knowledge and approval shall be considered campaign expenditures. This includes but is not limited to events put on in support of the candidate that the candidate endorses.
- 8.2. Any campaign expenses must be on a public record, herein referred to as an "expense report", with the Elections Department.
- 8.3. Candidates are responsible for reporting all campaign expenses to the Elections Department.
 - 8.3.1. These expenses must be reported regardless of whether they occurred before or after the start of the campaign period.

- 8.3.2. The Elections Department shall maintain and make available to all candidates a Campaign Expense Form.
- 8.3.3. The Campaign Expense Form must be explicitly provided to each candidate prior to the start of the Campaign Period and shall remain available to all candidates for at least the full duration of the Campaign Period.
- 8.3.4. This form shall be the only way for candidates to report campaign expenses.
- 8.4. Candidates are responsible for accounting for all campaign expenses through receipts.
 - 8.4.1. These receipts must be submitted with the Campaign Expense Form.
 - 8.4.2. Submitted receipts must include, at a minimum, the date of the expense, the amount of the expense, and the person(s) or organization(s) the money was paid to.
 - 8.4.3. Multiple expenses may be accounted for on a single submitted receipt, so long as the receipt is itemized by each expense it is being used to account for.
 - 8.4.4. Failing to account for an expense with submitted receipts will require a written justification, and may be considered a violation of this Elections Code.
 - 8.4.5. Expenses should be accounted for and reported within forty-eight (48) hours of incurring the expense. Failure to meet this deadline may be considered a violation of this Elections Code.
- 8.5. The Elections Department will create a public space to post campaign expenses, and will ensure that space and all reports in it are accessible to the public for at least the full duration of the election cycle.
 - 8.5.1. Upon receipt of any reports of campaign expenses, the Elections Department will update the corresponding elections report, if such updates are not automated.
- 8.6. Materials or services purchased or provided by a person to the campaign free of charge are considered “in-kind” donations, and are still subject to all the same rules, regulations, limitations, and reporting requirements as campaign expenses in this Elections Code.
 - 8.6.1. Any in-kind donation must be reported in the same way campaign expenses are, and must include the value of the donation, and the person(s) or organization(s) providing the donation.
 - 8.6.2. If the material or service is provided without charge, then the cost to otherwise acquire that material or service shall be used as the amount of the expense for counting towards the campaign spending limit unless that material or service is equally made available free of charge to all campaigns.
 - 8.6.3. If the material or service is provided at a discounted price to the campaign, then the full, non-discounted price shall be used as the amount of the expense for counting towards the campaign spending limit, unless that discounted price is made available to all campaigns in which case the discounted price shall be used.
- 8.7. Election spending limits shall be \$300 for any GSG candidate.

- 8.8. The Elections Department shall maintain a permanent record of all final expense reports to be stored in perpetuity in a publicly-accessible repository designated by the GSG Assembly.

CHAPTER 9. Election Preparation

- 9.1. The election cycle dates and process shall be publicized on, at the very least, all relevant ASASU social media and websites no fewer than thirty (30) days prior to the beginning of the election cycle.
- 9.2. Within the 30 days prior to the beginning of the election cycle, a general announcement about the election will be made to the entire ASU student body. This announcement must contain (or link to a web page or document accessible to the entire student body that contains):
 - 9.2.1. The dates for each period in the current election cycle.
 - 9.2.2. The date election results will be announced on.
 - 9.2.3. Links to the job description/duties for each position in the election.
 - 9.2.4. A link to the complaint form, instructions on how to submit a complaint, and the expected response time on any submitted complaints.
 - 9.2.5. A link to the current version of this Elections Code.
 - 9.2.6. Contact information for the Elections Department and a link to the Elections Department roster.

CHAPTER 10. Nomination Period Procedures

- 10.1. The Elections Department shall make the application for candidacy available to all students no later than the beginning of the Nomination Period.
- 10.2. The application for candidacy shall include, at a minimum:
 - 10.2.1. The dates for each period in the current election cycle.
 - 10.2.2. The date election results will be announced on.
 - 10.2.3. The job description/duties or a link to the job description/duties for each position in the election.
 - 10.2.4. A way for the applicant to indicate which position in which race and election they intend to become a candidate for.
 - 10.2.5. Fields to collect the necessary information to verify the applicant's qualification for candidacy for the positions they intend to become a candidate for.
 - 10.2.6. A link to the current version of this Elections Code.
 - 10.2.7. Contact information for the Elections Department.
- 10.3. To become a candidate for a position outlined in Chapter 1, a person must:
 - 10.3.1. Qualify as a candidate as outlined in Chapter 4 AND
 - 10.3.2. Submit an application for candidacy to the Elections Commissioner overseeing the election the race for that position is held within AND
 - 10.3.3. Complete a candidate info session. AND THEN
 - 10.3.4. Complete any candidate information quiz on the current version of this Elections Code provided by the Elections Department as specified in this Elections Code.

- 10.4. Each individual candidate must qualify for candidacy for the position they are running for, regardless of whether that candidate is part of a ticket or not.
- 10.5. Once the Elections Commissioner receives an application for candidacy, they will:
 - 10.5.1. Verify the applicant is qualified as a candidate as outlined in Chapter 4.
 - 10.5.2. Inform the applicant of whether they are qualified for the position applied for, and If the applicant is qualified, provide the applicant with information about the candidate info sessions.
- 10.6. GSG will offer a minimum of two online informational sessions, known herein as “Candidate Info Sessions”.
 - 10.6.1. Each applicant must attend or view the recording of at least one of the candidate info sessions.
 - 10.6.2. These sessions will both be recorded, and the recording will be provided to any applicants unable to attend.
 - 10.6.3. Applicants who view the recorded session in place of attendance will need to inform the Elections Commissioner once they have completed viewing the session recording for this to meet the attendance requirement.
- 10.7. The content of the Candidate Info Session must contain, at a minimum:
 - 10.7.1. All rules, restrictions, and procedures on campaigning outlined in this code, including any determinations made by the Elections Department as required by such rules, restrictions, and procedures.
- 10.8. Upon completion of the candidate info session, the applicant must take and earn a passing score on the candidate information quiz.
- 10.9. Upon earning a passing score on the candidate information quiz, the applicant becomes a candidate for the position indicated on the application for which they are otherwise qualified.
- 10.10. Any applicant who fails to meet the requirements for the position they are running for by the end of the Nomination Period will be disqualified. If the applicant is part of a ticket, the entire ticket will be disqualified.
- 10.11. In the event this Elections Code and its provisions are, intentionally or unintentionally, misrepresented by the ASASU Elections Department or any member of GSG, candidates shall still be required to adhere to the Elections Code as-written.

CHAPTER 11. Verification Period Procedures

- 11.1. The Elections Department shall verify every candidate is qualified for the position they are a candidate for as required in this Elections Code.
- 11.2. The Elections Department shall send each applicant notice of whether they have or have not become a candidate. This notice shall be sent in a timely manner, not later than one (1) business day of the end of the verification period.

CHAPTER 12. Campaign Period Procedures

- 12.1. Campaigning is defined as any public action initiated by either a candidate or a member of that candidate’s campaign staff, to persuade members of the student body to vote for, against, or encourage specific rank choice voting selections of a candidate(s), initiatives, or referendums.

- 12.1.1. Campaigning is generally an active action, including but not limited to, posting, displaying, or distributing campaign materials, scheduling of speaking engagements or events, and soliciting donations or endorsements.
- 12.1.2. Posting or sending or otherwise distributing messages, chats, or any content with the intent to persuade members of the student body to vote for or against a candidate(s), initiatives, or referendums shall be considered campaigning.
- 12.1.3. Soliciting person(s) to join, like, follow, subscribe, or otherwise engage with a group chat, messaging platform, server, page, social media account, or other similar app or platform shall be considered campaigning.
- 12.1.4. Requesting permissions, as required in this Elections Code to pursue any activities otherwise defined as campaigning, may be also considered campaigning.
- 12.1.5. Passive actions are generally not considered campaigning, with some exceptions as outlined in this chapter.
- 12.2. Campaigning may only take place from the beginning of the Election Cycle through the end of the voting period. during the nomination period, verification period, campaign period, and election period. The following are the only exceptions to this and may take place prior to the Election Cycle beginning:
 - 12.2.1. Hiring or recruiting campaign staff
 - 12.2.2. Ordering, gathering, or crafting campaign materials
 - 12.2.3. Partaking in any other activities that can reasonably be viewed as planning for the campaign so long as neither the candidate(s) nor campaign staff are soliciting votes in any way.
 - 12.2.4. Expressing interest in applying to run for any position outlined in the GSG Bylaws and/or in this Elections Code.
- 12.3. All candidates, campaign staff, and campaign activities are subject to the relevant University Policies and Procedures and the Arizona Board of Regents policies.
- 12.4. Candidates are required to collect and maintain records of any permissions they obtain pursuant to campaigning requirements in this Elections Code, and to be able to produce those records within two(2) business days of being requested.
- 12.5. On-campus campaigning is generally permitted, with the following restrictions:
 - 12.5.1. Campaigning is not permitted in any Arizona State University library or computer lab. Speaking to clubs and organizations that meet in libraries or computer labs shall not be considered a violation, nor shall use approved by building administration of public signage space and boards.
 - 12.5.2. Campaigning is not permitted in classrooms while a class is in session in that room without prior written approval from the class instructor.
 - 12.5.3. Posting any physical campaign materials must be in accordance with all applicable University policies. Candidates/tickets are responsible for removing any posted physical campaign materials.
- 12.6. Campaigning online is generally permitted, with the following restrictions:
 - 12.6.1. All restrictions that apply to in-person class sessions and physical classrooms also apply to virtual class sessions and classrooms.

- 12.7. Campaigning through group chats, messaging platforms, servers, pages, social media accounts, and other similar apps, herein referred to as “channels”, is generally permitted. The owners or admins of any channel, listserv, or group or account reserve the right to prohibit or restrict campaigning in the space which they own or are an admin of, so long as such prohibitions or restrictions apply equally to all candidates in the election.
- 12.8. Leafleting of any vehicles, on or off campus, is strictly prohibited.
- 12.9. Destroying, removing, stealing, defacing, damaging, or otherwise tampering with any campaign materials is strictly prohibited. A candidate/ticket or campaign staffer for that candidate/ticket removing campaign materials that obstruct their own campaign materials shall not be considered a violation of this clause, so long as the person(s) doing the removing document the obstruction and removal and notify the Elections Department.
- 12.10. No GSG official resources may be used by anyone for the purpose of any campaign.
 - 12.10.1. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of computers, printers, paper, phones, or copy machines that are available to only members of ASASU, as doing so would provide an unfair advantage. The GSG Assembly may, at its discretion, suspend this provision by majority vote for all candidates in an election and notify the GSG Elections Department accordingly.
 - 12.10.2. This does not include university email, nor does this include use of services provided by GSG to all members.
 - 12.10.3. This shall in no way prevent members of the Elections Department from utilizing the necessary ASASU resources to carry out the duties of the Elections Department.
- 12.11. Endorsements from student organizations and/or ASU affiliated organizations are generally allowed, with the following restrictions:
 - 12.11.1. Soliciting endorsements is considered campaigning, and thus is subject to the restrictions on campaigning in this chapter and elsewhere in this code.
 - 12.11.2. The executive board of the organization must make the determination on whether to endorse any candidate(s) or ticket(s). If the candidate(s) or member(s) of the ticket the organization is considering endorsing is/are member(s) of the organization considering endorsing them, the candidate(s) or ticket member(s) must recuse themselves from the decision of the organization.
 - 12.11.3. Student organizations, regardless of endorsement, may not require members to vote for any candidate(s) or ticket(s), nor require members to wear or otherwise display any campaign materials for any candidate(s) or ticket(s). Student organizations that violate this provision may be subject to penalties as determined by the GSG Assembly, including, but not limited to, potentially the suspension of any GSG-endowed GSO funding.
 - 12.11.4. ASASU nor any of its member governments shall endorse any candidate or ticket in any race in any election.
 - 12.11.5. Current GSG officers may endorse candidates, so long as said officers do not use any GSG official resources to do so, and so long as such endorsement

- includes a disclosure that said endorsement does not represent an endorsement from GSG.
- 12.11.6. No current member of the Elections Department shall endorse any candidate or ticket in any race in any election during the current election cycle, even in their personal capacity.
 - 12.12. The Elections Department may hold and manage official debates for any race during the campaign period.
 - 12.12.1. These debates will be organized by the Elections Commissioner.
 - 12.12.2. Participation in these debates shall be open to all candidates for the race.
 - 12.12.3. All Debates are required to be available for public viewing through both in-person attendance and live streaming.
 - 12.13. Bribing voters with monetary, material, or social incentives of substantial value to affect their voting choices or voting behavior is strictly prohibited. The Elections Department shall determine what constitutes “substantial value” pursuant to this clause, and publish and maintain publicly available such determination in advance of the beginning of the Election Cycle.

CHAPTER 13. Election Period Procedures

- 13.1. Ballots for each election shall include:
 - 13.1.1. A list of each position in the election and that position’s duties as outlined in the GSG bylaws.
 - 13.1.2. The name of each qualified candidate for each race in that election, a short biographical statement, and a a short statement submitted by that candidate for that race should that candidate choose to provide one.
 - 13.1.3. The ability, for each race, to rank each qualified candidate for that race in order of the voter’s preference.
 - 13.1.4. Contact information for the Elections Commissioner overseeing the election.
- 13.2. Ballots shall be made accessible online for the full duration of the Election Period to all qualified voters for the election(s) in which the voter is qualified to vote.
- 13.3. All races in all elections shall use the Single Transferable Vote Ranked Choice Voting system pursuant to this Elections Code.
- 13.4. Proxy voting of any kind shall not be permitted, with the exception of students requiring assistance.

CHAPTER 14. Certification Period Procedures

- 14.1. All races in all elections shall be tallied according to the Ranked Choice Voting system:
 - 14.1.1. Voters rank the candidates/tickets by preference on their ballots.
 - 14.1.2. The Elections Commissioner tallies the ballots for each race they oversee.
 - 14.1.3. If a candidate wins an outright majority of first-preference votes (i.e., 50 percent plus one), they will be declared the winner.
 - 14.1.4. If, on the other hand, no candidates/tickets win an outright majority of first-preference votes, the candidate/ticket with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated.

- 14.1.5. All first-preference votes for the eliminated candidate/ticket are eliminated, lifting the second-preference choices indicated on those ballots to be counted as first-preference votes.
- 14.1.6. The Elections Commissioner conducts a new tally to determine whether any candidate has won an outright majority of the adjusted voters.
- 14.1.7. This process of eliminating the candidate/ticket with the fewest votes and recounting all ballots shall continue until one ticket receives a majority of the valid votes in a round.
- 14.1.8. If a tie occurs, after proceeding through the above process, the Elections Commissioner calls a run-off election.
- 14.1.9. Any preference votes for a disqualified or otherwise ineligible candidate/ticket shall be ignored, and any lower-ranked choices shall be promoted as necessary as if the ignored preference ranking was not present.
- 14.2. In the event a candidate is disqualified or otherwise becomes ineligible for the position for which that candidate ran, the disqualify recount procedure shall be:
 - 14.2.1. The Elections Commissioner shall eliminate the disqualified candidate from the race.
 - 14.2.2. On each ballot, any choices ranked below the disqualified candidate/ticket are promoted in rank such that each such choice is ranked one rank higher and the choices are all still ranked in the same order.
 - 14.2.3. If any part of an individual voter's ballot, including the entire ballot, is cast fraudulently, that voter's entire ballot shall be discarded and none of the votes or preference rankings on that voter's ballot shall be counted.
 - 14.2.4. The Elections Commissioner then re-conducts the tally as described in this chapter as if the disqualified candidate/ticket was not part of the race.
- 14.3. The Elections Commissioner shall retain a record of the ballots and tallies for reference in the event an otherwise winning candidate/ticket fails to take office for any reason (for example, voluntarily backing out, losing eligibility, or being disqualified). These records in perpetuity in a publicly accessible repository as designated by the GSG Assembly.
- 14.4. The Elections Commissioner shall report the results of the election to the Election Commissioners's advisers.
 - 14.4.1. The Elections Commissioners and their advisers will perform a final verification that the winning candidates are each eligible for the positions they have won.
 - 14.4.2. If a candidate is found to be ineligible, that candidate will be disqualified.
- 14.5. The results of the election are confidential and shall only be known by the Elections Commissioners, Assistant Elections Commissioners, and the Elections Commissioners' Advisors prior to the final announcement.

CHAPTER 15. Violations

- 15.1. The following, in addition to any offenses not enumerated in this chapter, shall result in one strike against a candidate. The accumulation of three strikes shall result in the candidate being disqualified.

- 15.1.1. Obstructing the Elections Department or any member of the Elections Department in the discharge of their departmental duties. This shall include, but not be limited to, sending an excessive amount of superfluous or otherwise inflammatory messages to the members of the Elections Department.
- 15.1.2. Failure to abide by provisions in the Campaign Expenses (see Chapter 8).
- 15.1.3. Failure to abide by endorsement provisions, or failure to follow proper procedure to secure, or otherwise falsely claiming an endorsement (see Chapter 12).
- 15.1.4. Failing to report a person who qualifies as a campaign staffer on the campaign staff roster (see Chapter 6).
- 15.2. The following shall result in the disqualification of a candidate:
 - 15.2.1. Failure to qualify or remain qualified as a candidate through the duration of the election cycle (see Chapter 4).
 - 15.2.2.
 - 15.2.3. Failure to abide by provisions in Campaign Expenses regarding spending limits (see Chapter 8).
 - 15.2.4. Failure to abide by anti-bribery rules or engaging in similar coercive behavior (see Chapter 12).
 - 15.2.5. Falsification of any reports, complaints, submissions, public records, or other information required by the Elections Code.
 - 15.2.6. Destruction of any campaign/non-campaign materials (see Chapter 12).
- 15.3. Strikes only apply within the Election in which they are incurred.

CHAPTER 16. Disputes and Conflict Resolution

- 16.1. Any qualified voter in any of the elections, excluding sitting members of the GSG Judicial Branch, may submit to the Elections Department, at any time during the election cycle, a complaint alleging violation(s) of this elections code for any of the elections taking place during that election cycle.
 - 16.1.1. The person submitting the complaint is herein referred to as the “petitioner”.
 - 16.1.2. The person(s) whom the complaint alleges committed the violation(s) are herein referred to as the “defendant”.
 - 16.1.3. The Elections Department shall maintain and make available to all qualified voters an Election Complaint Form.
 - 16.1.4. The Election Complaint Form must be explicitly provided to all qualified voters prior to the start of the election cycle and shall remain available to all qualified voters for at least the full duration of the elections cycle.
 - 16.1.5. This form shall be the only way to submit complaints.
- 16.2. The complaint shall only allege violation(s) of noncompliance of this Elections Code, including its references to the Student Code of Conduct and other related governing documents.
 - If the Elections Department receives complaints alleging a violation of anything other than this Elections Code, the Elections Department shall

- immediately pass those complaints onto the appropriate authorities if necessary.
- 16.3. Upon receiving a complaint, the Elections Department shall, within two (2) business days, notify the defendant(s) listed in the complaint of the alleged violation(s) in the complaint, and that the Elections Department is currently reviewing the complaint.
 - 16.4. Complaints listing Assistant Elections Commissioner(s), Elections Commissioner(s), or the entire Elections Department among the defendant(s) shall be reviewed by the GSG Assembly or its designated committee in place of the Elections Department.
 - 16.4.1. Any such complaints received by the Elections Department must be immediately forwarded to the GSG Assembly President and the GSG President.
 - 16.4.2. The GSG Assembly shall act as the review committee for the purposes of this chapter, and must carry out the duties of the review committee listed in this chapter, though the timelines for this review may be modified at the discretion of the Assembly President .
 - 16.4.3. The GSG Assembly shall review the complaint, conduct hearings as necessary, and issue a ruling according to the policies of the GSG Bylaws and Constitution.
 - 16.5. Within two (2) business days of being assigned to the complaint, the Elections Department shall:
 - 16.5.1. Review the complaint to determine the validity of the complaint.
 - 16.5.2. If the complaint is valid, issue a decision on the complaint including what, if any, offenses occurred and what the recourse for those offenses shall be.
 - 16.5.3. If the complaint is not valid, dismiss the complaint.
 - 16.5.4. Announce any decision(s) on the complaint to both the petitioner and the defendant(s) on behalf of the Elections Department. If any defendant is a member of a ticket, all members of that ticket must be notified.
 - 16.6. Both the petitioner and the defendant(s) have two (2) business days following the announcement of the Elections Department's decision to appeal to the GSG Supreme Court, and all appeals shall proceed pursuant to the Supreme Court's Rules and Procedures except for where otherwise noted by this Elections Code. The GSG Supreme Court may only uphold or overturn the decision of the Elections Department, and may not impose any new sanctions or penalties on any parties pursuant to such appeals.
 - 16.7. The information contained in a filed complaint is privileged to the petitioner, the Elections Department, the defendant(s), and the GSG Supreme Court until the end of the appeals process if the decision is appealed, or until the end of the appeals period if the decision is not appealed.

CHAPTER 17. Candidate and Ticket Disqualification

- 17.1. In the event a candidate/ticket is disqualified, or otherwise found to no longer be eligible for the race they were a candidate/ticket for, herein referred to as the "affected race":

- 17.1.1. The Elections Commissioner shall be notified of the disqualified candidate/ticket and affected race(s).
- 17.1.2. The Elections Commissioner shall notify all qualified voters for the election the affected race is in of the candidate(s)/ticket(s) disqualification.
- 17.2. If the Campaign Period has already ended when a candidate is disqualified, the Elections Commissioner shall follow the disqualify recount procedure.

CHAPTER 18. Compromised Elections

- 18.1. A compromised election shall be defined as an election where there is a reasonable belief the outcome was altered as either an intentional or unintentional consequence of actions wrongfully taken during that election such that the only reasonable recourse for the wrongful actions is re-conducting the election.
- 18.2. Individual races, or an entire election may be declared compromised.
- 18.3. A race/election shall be declared compromised if any of the following criteria are met:
 - 18.3.1. The ballots are not available to all qualified voters for at least ninety-five (95) percent of the duration of the Election Period for any reason, including but not limited to: technical issues or failure to publish on time.
 - 18.3.2. A candidate is wrongfully disqualified, and as a result of this disqualification the candidate does not appear on the ballot at any point during the voting period, and then that disqualification is overturned by appeal.
 - 18.3.3. A decision on a complaint listing the Elections Commissioner, Assistant Elections Commissioner, or Elections Department as a whole as defendant(s) determined the aforementioned defendant(s) acted negligently or otherwise engaged in misconduct, intentionally or not, that resulted in a candidate(s) having an unfair advantage in the race/election.
 - 18.3.4. Voters have cast fraudulent votes, such as unqualified voters casting votes, or a single voter casting multiple votes under the names of other people, and the number of fraudulent votes is significant enough to alter the outcome of the election.
- 18.4. The deadline to declare an election or race compromised shall be one (1) calendar week following the end of the Election Period.
- 18.5. In the event the GSG Assembly, herein referred to as the “determining authority”, determines a race in an election or an election was compromised pursuant to this Elections Code, the existing results, if any, for that race/election shall be thrown out and that race/election shall be reconducted.
- 18.6. Only the compromised race(s)/election(s) shall be reconducted. The results of all other race(s)/election(s) shall stand.
- 18.7. All qualified candidates in the compromised race/election shall be automatically considered requalified for the reconducted race/election.
 - 18.7.1. This includes any candidates that were previously disqualified prior to the disqualification being overturned.
 - 18.7.2. All campaign staff in the compromised race/election shall be automatically considered campaign staff in the reconducted race/election.
 - 18.7.3. Any strikes from offenses shall be reset in the new race/election.

- 18.8. The determining authority shall further determine whether a new Campaign Period is required.
 - 18.8.1. If a new Campaign Period is required, all provisions in this code pertaining to Campaigning, Campaign Staff, Campaign Materials, Campaign Funding, and Campaign Period Procedures shall still apply, with the timelines and dates adjusted as necessary for the reconducted election's time period.
 - 18.8.2. Campaign spending limits are not reset, nor are previous expenses removed from counting towards the total expenses.
- 18.9. The Elections Department shall set the dates for the reconducted race/election.
 - 18.9.1. All provisions in this code pertaining to the Elections Period shall still apply.
 - 18.9.2. The length of the Elections Period shall remain the same as otherwise specified in this Elections Code.
- 18.10. The reconducted race/election shall be followed by a Certification Period which shall be otherwise the same as described in this Elections Code.
- 18.11. Any and all provisions in this code referring to the elections cycle as a determination of time shall be considered extended to cover the full duration of the reconducted race/election, through the conclusion of the reconducted Certification Period.

CHAPTER 19. Reporting Election Results

- 19.1. The announcement of the final election results shall be posted on the GSG websites and shall be sent by the Elections Department in a notice to all qualified voters in all elections.
- 19.2. If any complaints have been filed with the Elections Department, the GSG Supreme Court, or the GSG Assembly have yet to be decided upon, including appeals, then the announcement of the final election results shall wait until all such complaints and appeals are resolved.
- 19.3. The Elections Department shall record final vote tallies for each race in each election in the election cycle and file them with the appropriate university office as the official and permanent record of the vote for said elections, prior to the winning candidates taking office.

CHAPTER 20. Amendments

- 20.1. Amendments to this code shall be made consistent with the GSG Bylaws and Constitution.
- 20.2. Amendments made within 30 days of the beginning of the election cycle shall not go into effect until after the conclusion of that election cycle.

CHAPTER 21. Authority

- 21.1. Upon adoption by a simple majority vote of the GSG Assembly, this Election Code shall supersede any existing election codes in the bylaws of the respective ASASU student governments at the time of adoption.
- 21.2. Applicable University Policy and the GSG Constitution shall take precedence over this Elections Code.

Appendix 1 Definitions

ASASU: Associated Student of Arizona State University comprising of USG, GSG, and other branches which are not pertinent hereto

USG: Undergraduate Student Government comprising of USG-Downtown, USG-Polytechnic, USG-Tempe, and USG-West Valley constituting a portion of ASASU

GSG: Graduate Student Government constituting a portion of ASASU

Spring Semester: the semester in which ASASU elections are held beginning after the conclusion of winter break and ending after session C courses

GSG President: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Vice President of Internal Affairs: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Vice President of External Affairs: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Vice President of Professional Development: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Vice President of Campus Engagement: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Assembly Members: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Elections Commissioner: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

GSG Assistant Elections Commissioner: a position open for ASASU GSG Elections, for the definition and qualifications of this role please refer to GSG's ByLaws

University Policy: referring to any and all formal expectations of ASU students imposed by the Arizona Board of Regents and Arizona State University

Supporters: individuals who are not campaign staff and are not held accountable to the Elections Code

All relevant ASASU social media and websites: including but not limited to all active USG and GSG Instagram accounts and websites. If one of the aforementioned organizations have a social media account but do not regularly post on it to communicate with constituents, they are not considered relevant to advertising ASASU elections.

Passing score: referring to the candidate information quiz in section 10 a passing score is up to the discretion of the Elections Department.

Statements of support: messaging affiliated with endorsing candidates