

THE ELECTIONS CODE
of the
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
of
ARMSTRONG STATE UNIVERSITY

PREAMBLE

The Elections Code shall specify regulations and procedures for Senate and Executive position elections. This Code has no authority over the election/appointment of the Student-at-Large position, Campus Union Board members, Student Integrity Board members, or the Liberty Center Student Council members. The Elections Code shall include all necessary sections of the Constitution and the Bylaws that pertain to student elections. The Elections Code contains all of the rules concerning elections for Senators and Executives. The Election and Recruitment Committee and Rules Committee are the primary sources of judicial review for this code.

DEFINITIONS

- a. Appointment- the act of installing a student into an office if the appointer(s) has the power to do so
- b. Campaign- the act of advertising one's self in person or on paper so that the end result is to be elected
- c. Candidate- any student that is approved to run for election or to be appointed
- d. College- a collection of academic majors that are organized into specific entities that are recognized by Armstrong State University, which include: College of Education, College of Health Professions, College of Liberal Arts, College of Science and Technology, and College of Nursing
- e. Constitution- the governing document of SGA
- f. Dual- Major- any student seeking two bachelor's degrees simultaneously
- g. Elected- winning an election by gaining the majority of votes
- h. Election Season- the set of dates that act as an official beginning and ending for elections
- i. Executive- any member of the Executive branch
- j. Nomination- entering an election as a candidate
- k. Off- Season- any period of time not during election season
- l. Run- Off Election- a special election that take place when a tie emerges or not enough votes are received
- m. Seat- an established position in the Senate that is filled by a student
- n. Senate- the Legislative branch of SGA
- o. Senator- any member of the legislative branch
- p. SGA Member- any student that is apart of CUB, Student Senate, Student Integrity Board, or Liberty Center Student Council
- q. Student- any person currently attending Armstrong State University
- r. Undergraduate Student- any student seeking a bachelor's degree

SECTION 1. GENERAL RULES

- I. Any student seeking election for an Executive position must follow Article II, Section I-IV, Clause I and Article II, Section V of the SGA Constitution.
- II. Any student seeking election for a senator position must follow Article III, Section I, Clause I & II of the SGA Constitution.

SECTION 2. REPRESENTATION OF SENATE

College	Number of Senate Seats
College of Education	
College of Health Professions	
College of Liberal Arts	
College of Science and Technology	

- I. Article III, paragraph I of the SGA Constitution states that there must be a total of 32 Senate seats.

SECTION 3. ELECTION PROCESS- EXECUTIVES

- I. A candidate may only run for one Executive position
- II. A candidate may not simultaneously run for a Senate position
- III. If running unopposed, then the candidate must receive at least one vote
- IV. The candidate with majority vote will be elected, per Art. II, Sec. V, Clause III-c of the SGA Constitution

SECTION 4. ELECTION PROCESS- SENATORS

- I. A candidate may not simultaneously run for an Executive position
- II. A candidate must run for a seat in their respected college
 - A. If a candidate is a dual-major within two different colleges, then he/she may only run for a seat in one college
- III. If running unopposed, then the candidate must receive at least one vote
- IV. The candidate(s) with majority votes will be elected, per Art. III, Sec. I, Clause II-c
- V. Senators shall be elected in the spring semester no later than the third Thursday in April, per Art. III, Sec. I, Clause II-d of the SGA Constitution

SECTION 5. COMPUTERIZED VOTING

- I. All voting will be done on-line via ballot accessible through the Port of Armstrong on the specified election dates
- II. Only current undergraduate students will be able to vote

- III. Students will vote for as many Senators as there are Senate seats in their respected college
- IV. Students will only have one vote for each Executive position
- V. Students may only vote for Senate candidates in their respected colleges
- VI. Voting must take place before Spring Break
- VII. If a tie occurs or the majority vote is not reached for any position, then a special runoff election will take place

SECTION 6. OFF- SEASON APPOINTMENTS

- I. When and if a Senate seat is open during off- season, students must follow Art. III, Sec. I, Clause II- e to be appointed as a senator
 - A. A student may only be appointed as a senator in their respected college
- II. If an Executive position becomes vacant during off-season, then the President will appoint a student to the vacant position with $\frac{2}{3}$ majority approval of the Senate, per Art. II, Sec. I, Clause II-g
- III. If the office of President becomes vacant, then the Vice President will ascend to the office of President
- IV. If the offices of President and Vice President become vacant simultaneously, then the president pro-tempore will call for an emergency meeting of the Senate and follow regular Senate meeting procedures
 - A. Senators will nominate any SGA member for the office of President
 - B. All candidates must follow Art. II, Sec. I, Clause I of the SGA Constitution when regarding eligibility
 - C. One candidate will be appointed with $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of Senate votes

SECTION 7. CAMPAIGNING REGULATIONS

- I. Campaign materials shall not be allowed in or on the following areas:
 - A. Any wall surfaces inside the Student Union or Memorial College Center (MCC)
 - B. Departmental Bulletin Boards
 - C. Walls on the outside of buildings
 - D. The doors, posts, rails or walls of University Housing apartments unless with prior permission
 - E. The area surrounding the mailboxes at University Crossings
 - F. Campus trees
 - G. Any classroom whiteboard or chalkboard
 - H. Light Poles
- II. No sidewalk chalk campaigning is allowed in the Armstrong Housing Communities, the MCC or Student Union Plazas or on any slate surfaces including but not limited to: the steps of the Memorial College Center, the quad fountain and the University Hall Plaza.
- III. In regards to buildings other than the MCC or Student Union on the main or extension Armstrong campuses, discuss your intentions with and obtain permission from the respective department head(s) or chief administrator.

- IV. Campaigning at University Housing:
 - A. Candidates may reserve the Compass Point Clubhouse for campaign purposes through the Housing Office
 - B. All campaign material that is posted on the designated areas provided by University Housing must be approved by the Housing Office and comply with the Housing posting policy which states: Fliers and posters must be approved by Armstrong Housing with a stamp of approval on the master copy before duplicating or posting. Fliers and posters can only be posted in approved locations, which are bulletin boards. Please secure all corners of fliers to keep them neat and presentable in outside environment
 - C. Campaign material (fliers, posters, etc.) may be posted on the bulletin boards located in the Compass Point breezeway with a limit of one flyer/poster per bulletin board per candidate
 - D. One poster/flyer per candidate may be posted on the bulletin board located in building A of University Terrace
 - E. Campaign materials mailed to campus residential facilities must include appropriate postage
- V. Only masking tape or thumb tacks may be used to post information anywhere. Items posted with other materials will be removed. (Example- Scotch tape, staples, glue, gummed backing)
- VI. Removal of campaign materials within 48 hours of the certification of the election shall be the responsibility of each candidate
- VII. Each candidate is limited to one printed campaign flier (maximum size 11x17") per bulletin board. Improperly posted materials should be reported to the Elections and Recruitment Committee Chair and the Dean of Students
- VIII. Under no circumstances should a candidate remove another candidate's campaign material or cover another candidate's campaign material
- IX. Campaigning by email is allowed
- X. No student activities fees or university logos will be used for any candidate's' campaign
- XI. Advertising may be purchased in the Inkwell if an issue is published prior to the elections
- XII. No candidate or his / her supporters shall issue false or libelous statements against his / her opponents
- XIII. Candidates or their representatives must not knowingly be present when others are voting on-line.
- XIV. Candidates are advised not to campaign until the Dean of Students has certified their application and until all mandatory candidate meetings have been held by the Elections and Recruitment Committee. It is the candidate's responsibility to verify their certification prior to campaigning.
- XV. Any candidate that continuously violates the campaigning regulations may receive punitive action

SECTION 8. PUNITIVE ACTION

- I. Recommended punitive action for candidates who violate the elections code include but are not limited to:

- A. Removal of all campaign material and/or suspension of campaigning for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Elections and Recruitment Committee and/or the Dean of Students
- B. Disqualification, thereby voiding any votes received by that candidate and/or removal from the SGA.
- C. Referral to the Office of Student Affairs for judicial action.