**THE 2024 ELECTION RULES OF PURDUE STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

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# Article 1: Overview

## Section 1: General Provisions

1. The Purdue Student Government, furthermore referred to as PSG, governing documents including the constitution, bylaws, fiscal guidelines, and standing rules of the various branches stand superior over these election rules.
2. These election rules must be posted on the PSG website as well as to be advertised on the various PSG social media outlets (i.e. Instagram, Twitter, etc). These must be available to the public by the second Senate session of the Spring semester, January 24, 2024.

## Section 2: Intention of the Election

1. The PSG election, both presidential and senatorial, is designed to gauge student opinion and establish the best candidate for all positions.
2. The Student Body has a right to an unbiased, fairly conducted, equitable, and professional election.
   1. The student body election should focus on promoting informed voting for all parties.
3. All members of the student body have the right to to be presented with an election of the aforementioned description. If one feels as though this right has been infringed upon, proper due process to rectify that is outlined in both Article 10 of this document and the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules.

## Section 3: Timeline of the 2024 Election

March 7th (11:59 pm) - Due date for a finished petition for candidacy

March 10th-16th - Spring Break

March 18th - Ballot is released

March 19th (12:01 am) - Online Campaigning Begins

March 19th-22nd - Election Committee Promoting\*

March 26th (12:01 am) - Open Campaigning begins

March 26th (11:59 pm) - Preliminary Budget Report due

March 31st (11:59 pm) - Working Budget Report due

April 1st (12:01 am) - Voting begins

April 4th (11:59 pm) - Voting ends

April 4th (11:59 pm) - Final Budget Report due

April 5th (11:59 pm) - Campaign Reimbursement Petition Filing deadline

April 9th (11:59 pm) - Campaign Clean-Up Deadline

April 11th - Results Released (subject to change based on grievances)

\*These are the required days for election committee promoting, additional days may be added up to the discretion of the Elections Director and their committee.

# Article 2: Election Director and Committee Selection

## Section 1: Election Director Appointment and Duties

1. As explained in the PSG Bylaws, The appointment of the Elections Director by the Student Body President shall be brought before the Senate for majority consent by the end of the last regularly scheduled senate session of the Fall semester. Once confirmed, the Elections Director shall report directly to the Chief Justice of the Purdue Student Supreme Court, and shall be responsible for coordinating the Student Body Election.
2. Generally, the duties of the Election Director shall be as follows:
   1. Serve as a member of the elections process committee of at least three members to assist in the elections process. Members of the Elections Committee may be dismissed by a two-thirds vote of the Purdue Student Supreme Court;
   2. Interpret the Election Rules of the Purdue Student Government, assure a fair Student Body Election, and guarantee confidentiality throughout the process;
   3. Promote the Student Body Election by hosting call-outs and information sessions, and advertise the elections to voters, in order to encourage participation from both candidates and voters;
   4. Host polling locations around campus, which shall be widely promoted.

## Section 2: Elections Committee Requirements

1. The remaining Election Committee members shall be appointed by the Elections Director.
2. The Elections Director shall maintain direct oversight of the other members of the Elections Committee
3. Members of the Elections Committee are prohibited from filing candidacy for office.
4. Members of the Elections Committee are prohibited to be involved with any campaign team outside of their role in the Elections Committee

Section 3: Elections Committee Duties

1. The Elections Committee shall be the primary facilitator of the Student Body Election and serve in an advisory role to the candidates with the following responsibilities:
   1. Ensure a fairly conducted, unbiased and well-publicized election;
   2. Ensure the timely release of all records and results of the election;
   3. Create the election schedule, election packets, and all petitions required by these Election Rules;
   4. Remain publicly unbiased throughout the Student Body Election process;
   5. Contact all candidates by email once a grievance hearing has been scheduled;
   6. In the event of a grievance hearing, committee members shall be appointed as requested to advise the complainant and accused parties;
   7. Ensure that all university rules and regulations are available to the candidates;
   8. Respond to all reasonable administrative requests of the candidates with regard to the Student Body Election within 24 hours (Requests deemed responsible by the elections director);
   9. Ensure all requests will remain confidential with exception of the Student Government Advisor(s);
   10. Outreach to a variety of student organizations and students, including outreach to each Academic College.

## Section 4: Election Committee Accountability

1. In the case that the Election Committee and/or Elections Director does not uphold their duties, a complaint may be filed against them which shall go straight to the Purdue Student Supreme Court.
2. If there is found to be large enough or an indeterminable impact which is not conducive to a fair election, the campaigning and voting cycle will be restarted with a timeline up to the discretion of the Purdue Student Government advisors.

# Article 3: Oversight Entities

## Section 1: Current Student Body President

1. The Student Body President shall maintain indirect oversight over the Elections Director and Election Committee and shall be charged with ensuring the competency of the Election Committee to provide an unbiased and fairly conducted election.
2. Upon findings of gross negligence, incompetence, or other malfeasance of office, the Student Body President has the ability to immediately recall the Election Committee, with two-thirds consent of the Student Senate.
   1. This would apply to the removal of an individual member of the Election Committee as well as the recall of the Election Committee as a whole

## Section 2: Chief Justice

1. The Chief Justice shall maintain direct oversight of Election Committee and ensure that the election is proceeding in a timely and organized manner
   1. Upon untimely and unorganized proceedings, the Chief Justice shall take the proper steps necessary to ensure a well-conducted Student Body Election;
   2. The Chief Justice may take over all Election Committee responsibilities, upon two-thirds confirmation of the Student Senate;
2. In the event that the Chief Justice intends to submit a petition for candidacy or publicly support any candidate in the Student Body Election, all of the Chief Justice’s power of oversight shall be immediately transferred to the Vice Chief Justice, if they do not intend to be a candidate or publicly support a candidate in the election, subject to a two-thirds confirmation of the Student senate. If they do not meet the criteria, the power shall be continually transferred to the most senior member of the court.
   1. If no court member meets this criteria, the power shall be transferred to the most senior, by time served, Student Senator not seeking another term or office, upon two-thirds confirmation of the Student Senate.

## Section 3: Student Supreme Court

1. The Student Supreme Court shall be responsible for the review, upon petition of any member of the Purdue Student Government, of any document or action of the Student Government with regard to its constitutionality.
2. The Student Supreme Court shall be the primary facilitator for resolving disputes relating to infractions, malfeasance, and/or other violations that may occur throughout the Student Body Election once grievances have been reported through the Election Committee.
3. The Student Supreme Court may establish a resolution or directive for any unforeseen circumstance that directly affects the Student Body Election for the above disputes.
   1. PSSC shall determine percentage reductions for violation of these Election Rules at a grievance hearing consisting of both the accused and accusing parties and all available evidence
4. The Student Supreme Court shall be the judicial and punitive body of oversight during the Student Body Election.
5. If a member of the Student Supreme Court decides to endorse a campaign or run for any position, they shall not be permitted to act in their capacity as a member of the Student Supreme Court in any grievance proceedings. In a circumstance where enough justices or members of the court are running or participating in the election to the point where quorum is not able to be met, interim justices may be appointed from the current clerks for the purpose of the election by a majority vote of the Chief Justice, Elections Director, and Student Body President.
6. Procedures for grievance hearings shall fall in accordance with the PSSC standing rules and Article 10 of the current year’s election rules.

## Section 4: Current Chief of Staff

1. The active Chief of Staff shall have the duty of casting a vote in the case that the decision of an elections director is appealed and shall not publicly support or run for office.
2. In the event that the Chief of Staff intends to submit a petition for candidacy or publicly support any candidate in the Student Body Election, all of the Chief of Staff’s power of appeal shall be immediately transferred to an executive officer designated by the Student Body President, who does not intend to be a candidate or publicly support a candidate in the election, subject to a two-thirds confirmation of the Student senate.
   1. If no executive officer meets this criteria, the power shall be transferred to the most senior (by time served) Student Senator not seeking another term or office, upon two-thirds confirmation of the Student Senate.

## Section 5: Conflicts of Interest

1. Oversight entities shall not use their positions or information that they learn due to their positions to positively or negatively affect any candidate.
2. If any oversight entity or member of the elections committee is found to have a conflict of interest, or is found to be acting with unfairness or gross negligence due to a conflict of interest, an offense report may be filed against them. This would go straight to the Student Government Advisors. If claims are found to be true, their oversight shall be immediately removed and transferred to another designee by the advisor.

# Article 4: Requirements to File for Candidacy

## Section 1: Presidential and Vice Presidential Requirements

1. Members wishing to be placed on the ballot for the Office of Student Body President and Vice President must provide proof to the Student Activities Office via email to SAO@purdue.edu and the Elections Director that they meet the requirements for holding office as stated in the Regulations for Recognized Student Organizations: Requirements for Members, Officers, and Advisors.
2. Members must provide proof to the Student Activities Office via email to SAO@purdue.edu and the Elections Director that no less than one thousand members of the current Student Body support their petition for candidacy.
3. The Student Body Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates shall run for office as a single, non-splitting ticket.
4. The candidates shall make clear which member is running for the Office of Student Body President and which is running for the Office of Student Body Vice President.
5. If a candidate has been found in violation of Anti-Harassment or Title IX during the election cycle, they shall be immediately removed from the ballot.

## Section 2: Senatorial Requirements

1. Members wishing to be placed on the ballot for the office of School/College Senator must provide proof that they meet the requirements for holding office as stated in Regulations for Recognized Student Organizations: Requirements for Members, Officers, and Advisors, Section B. Members shall provide proof that they are currently enrolled in the school that they are petitioning to represent.
2. Members wishing to represent their college shall provide proof to the Student Activities Office via email to SAO@purdue.edu and the Elections Director that the lesser of five percent or seventy five constituents currently enrolled within their school supports their candidacy.
3. Students filing Senatorial candidacy to represent the Exploratory Studies Program shall provide proof to the Student Activities Office via email to SAO@purdue.edu and the Elections Director that no fewer than the lesser of five percent or twenty-five constituents within the program support their candidacy.
   1. A student may only file for candidacy to represent the Exploratory Studies Program if they are a current or former member of the program.
4. Student Senators running to represent their respective schools shall be elected from and by the students of their respective schools during the election.
5. If a candidate has been found in violation of Anti-Harassment or Title IX during the election cycle, they shall be immediately removed from the ballot.

# Article 5: Petitioning

## Section 1: General Overview

1. The petition for candidacy shall be produced annually by the Election Committee and shall contain the following minimum requirements:
   1. The names and student ID numbers of the candidates
   2. The minimum number of signatures of the Student Body as required for eligibility
   3. A signed copy of the election rules from each candidate with the candidate’s initials on each page of the document.
2. Once a petition has been filed, the petition for candidacy is considered public and must be open to viewing by the entire student body within the PSG election electronic platform
   1. Filing a petition shall be defined as asking for the creation of a petition by the Elections committee.
3. A finished petition for candidacy shall be submitted to the Elections Director and SAO by no later than noon (12:00 PM) by the final Thursday before Spring Vacation. For the 2024 Election cycle, this date shall be March 7th.

## Section 2: Presidential and Vice Presidential Petitions

1. The petitions of the office of the Student Body Vice President shall clearly state to students signing the names of the Presidential and Vice Presidential ticket
   1. Any changes to the Presidential or Vice Presidential candidate after a petition has been signed will invalidate the petition
2. Presidential and Vice Presidential petitions shall require the signature of 1000 students.

## Section 3: Senatorial Petitions

1. Students running for senatorial positions shall require the signatures of the lesser of five percent or seventy five constituents enrolled within their school.
2. Students filing Senatorial candidacy to represent the Exploratory Studies Program shall provide proof of current or former enrollment in the program to the Student Activities Office via email to SAO@purdue.edu and the Elections Director.
   1. They shall require the signatures of the lesser of five percent or twenty-five constituents within the program.

## Section 4: Language during Petitioning

1. During the petitioning period, when discussing candidacy one may share details of passions, ideas or experiences. This would not fall under the guise of early campaigning with the following caveats:
   1. There may be no branding attached to a candidate defined as a solidified, centralized, and formatted platform or slogan.
   2. There may be no urging for votes during the petitioning period.
   3. Only verbal communication is allowed during the petitioning period. No messaging may be disributed via paper or social media
2. GroupMe and other messaging platforms may be used to distribute petitions, but can only be from personal accounts and may not include any details of passions, ideas or experiences.
   1. Those campaigning may use social media (Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, etc.) to spread awareness of the election. However, the same language rules applies.
3. Examples of correct and incorrect language during petitioning can be found below:
   1. Correct language during in petitioning:
      1. “Here are my ideas, please sign my petition so I may be placed on the ballot to be considered for candidacy”.
   2. Incorrect language during petitioning:
      1. “I am running on the platform of **campaign slogan.** Please sign my petition and vote for us in the student body election”.
4. Incorrect language or activities during petitioning will be defined as early campaigning.

# Article 6: Finances

## Section 1: Financial Limitations for All Tickets

1. Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets shall be limited to $3,500 in campaign expenditures.
2. Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets may not receive campaign contributions in excess of $250.00 from any single source, including any individual or organization.
3. Senatorial tickets shall be limited to $500.00 in campaign expenditures.
4. Senatorial tickets may not receive campaign contributions in excess of $100.00 from any single source.
5. Any expenditure made, either by an external body or a member of the student body, on behalf of, for, or to the benefit of a candidate shall constitute as part of that candidate's campaign expenditure.

## Section 2: Financial Records

1. Candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign expenditures and provide proof of those expenditures(including personal contributions) which shall include the following minimum requirements:
   1. Name of contributing organization or individual
   2. Amount contributed
2. Candidates shall keep records of all donated goods and services along with the fair market value of those services that shall include the following minimum requirements:
   1. Name of contributing organization or individual;
   2. Value of donated goods and services.
3. Fair market value shall be defined as the price at which the property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts, except in the case of private discount not available to the general public. If a good or service is offered at a discounted price, and the discount in question is not available to the general public, the price available to the general public must be reported as the fair market value.
4. A service provided free of charge by a member of the Student Body shall not constitute a campaign contribution and shall not contribute to a candidate's total allowed expenditures, but must still be recorded.

## Section 3: Receiving Financial Contributions

1. Candidates are allowed to utilize online fundraising platforms such as GoFundMe in order to raise funds for their campaigns.
2. Online fundraisers may only be created or made live no earlier than 2 weeks before petitions are due, but only after petitions have been approved by the elections director.
3. Tickets must submit a list of donors within twenty-four hours of the close of voting.
4. The use of campaign logos, platform details, PSG logos, or language suggesting a PSG sponsorship on online fundraising platforms is prohibited.

## Section 4: General Financial Disclosures Guidelines

1. The format of all financial disclosure shall be at the discretion of the Election Committee, with the approval of the Student Body Treasurer which shall be communicated to candidates once their petition has been approved
2. All financial disclosures must be submitted via email to SAO@purdue.edu and the Elections Directors.

## Section 5: Preliminary Budget Report

1. Each Presidential and Vice-Presidential ticket and Senatorial candidate ticket shall submit a preliminary budget report (if applicable) no later than 5:00pm EST on the first day of public campaigning that shall include:
   1. All campaign expenditures thus far
   2. Projected final campaign expenditures
   3. Fair market value of all goods and services;
   4. Contributed funds with note of contributor;
   5. A full disclosure of all contributed funds, services, and materials thus far including both the contributor and the full market value of all goods and services.

## Section 6: Working Budget Report

1. All candidates shall submit a working budget report (if applicable) no later than 11:59pm EST on the day prior to voting:
   1. All campaign expenditures thus far;
   2. Projected final campaign expenditures;
   3. Fair market value of all goods and services;
   4. Contributed funds with note of contributor;
   5. Documentation of changes from the preliminary report.
   6. A full disclosure of all contributed funds, services, and materials thus far including both the contributor and the full market value of all goods and services

## Section 7: Final Budget Report

1. A final financial report from all candidates (if applicable) shall be submitted within twenty-four hours of the close of voting that shall include:
   1. A full account of all campaign expenditures;
   2. A full disclosure of all contributed funds, services, and materials including both the contributor and the full market value of all goods and services;
   3. Copies of all receipts and financial records associated with the campaign.

## Section 8: Public Reporting

1. The Election Committee, with the guidance of the Student Body Treasurer shall make the financial records of each campaign public, upon request, before any election results are announced. The request for financial reports shall be confidential.
2. One week shall be allocated from once the final report is submitted until the results are announced to allow for financial reports to be requested
3. The Election Committee shall create a financial report of all campaigns that shall be maintained by the Student Activities Office for public review for one calendar year. The report shall include:
   1. The total amount of election expenses from the candidate ticket;
   2. A financial report of each ticket;
   3. A record of any financial violations.

## Section 9: General Financial Reimbursements

1. Any single candidate may apply for the following amount in reimbursements, up to the total personal expense incurred, pending any infractions.
2. The Student Senate shall budget $2,500.00 for allocation for All Purdue Student Government Presidential/Vice Presidential tickets.
3. Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets shall be reimbursed no more than $1000 in total.
4. Once the petition date is passed, the elections committee will send out the amount of money each Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets are guaranteed (pending infractions) to receive from PSG which is calculated by the maximum of dividing $2,500.00 by the number of campaigns or $1000.00, whichever is lower.
5. Senatorial tickets are not eligible for reimbursement unless there is leftover after Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets have exhausted all reimbursement opportunities.
   1. In this case, the remaining budget shall be split evenly amongst all senatorial tickets requesting reimbursements to a maximum of $100.00 per ticket.
6. The allocated budget shall not exceed $4,000.00.
7. In the event that the total amount being asked for in reimbursements exceeds $2,500.00 by Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates combined or exceeds $1,500.00 by Senatorial candidates combined, the candidates may receive:
   1. In the case of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, the lesser of the amount being asked and $2,500.00 divided by the total number of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates granted reimbursement;
      1. In the case that the maximum reimbursement is less than $1,000.00 and not all Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets request their maximum reimbursement, the leftover money shall be reimbursed evenly amongst the tickets that requested more than the initial maximum reimbursement.
         1. No ticket shall receive more than $1,000.00 in reimbursement even if there is still remaining money in the budget allocated for Presidential and Vice Presidential candidate reimbursement.
8. To receive financial reimbursement each ticket is responsible for clearly identifying expenses incurred and providing appropriate and timely documentation as outlined previously.
9. When a ticket submits a completed reimbursement petition with all requirements and the ticket has incurred less than 50% deduction of votes, they will be eligible for reimbursement after review from the Election Committee and Student Body Treasurer.
10. Campaign expenditures that must be processed through a university or BOSO account and billed directly to an RSO are not permitted.

## Section 10: Reimbursement Timeline

1. Any candidate wishing to receive reimbursement must file a petition complete with all receipts within twenty-four hours of the close of voting with the Election Committee.
2. The Election Committee will provide notice to each candidate seeking reimbursement by the Wednesday following the close of voting. This notice will include the total amount able to be reimbursed to any candidate based on the information herein.
3. Final reimbursement will be distributed no later than sixty business days following the close of voting.

# Article 7: Campaigning Preparation

## Section 1: Presidential/Vice Presidential Required Meeting

1. The placement of any candidate for Student Body President/Vice President on the ballot is dependent on that candidates’ attendance of a meeting with the Elections Director and all other tickets to overview and clarify any questions on the Election Rules. This meeting shall take place between the time that petitions are due and the Saturday prior to Spring Break. For the 2024 election, this shall be March 7th and 8th.

## Section 2: Campaign Materials

1. Campaign materials shall be defined as any digital or physical representation of a platform.
2. You shall be able to manage and publicize an online account solely to distribute campaign material prior to open campaigning period. The below fall under this categorization:
   1. This includes Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, and similar platforms made and publicized only to discuss platform/campaign ideas.
3. Campaign materials may be created during the campaign preparation period but not distributed beyond the campaign team.
4. Campaign logos, literature, and materials shall not incorporate any of the following:
   1. No official logo or symbol of Purdue University or the Purdue Student Government may be altered or incorporated into a larger symbol without the expressed written permission of the Student Government Advisor(s).
   2. Statements or graphics depicting illegal substances, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, or any derogatory, inflammatory or offensive material shall not be used without the expressed written permission of the Student Government Advisor(s).
   3. The Student Government Advisor(s) shall be the final authority on the suitability of statements or graphics.

## Section 3: Creation of Campaign Team and Selection of Campaign Managers

1. Campaign team members consist of members of the student body who are volunteering their time for campaign activities and agreed to be a part of the campaign team
2. A campaign team may be formed at any point during the election process, and communication of said team is up to the discretion of the candidates.
   1. Any communication between official members of your campaign team shall not fall under the guise of early campaigning.
3. Any ticket or candidate may opt to have a campaign manager, which may be included in campaign correspondence between the elections director and candidates.
   1. A ticket may only have one official campaign manager, and this person must be communicated with the elections director after they are selected.
   2. If a campaign manager is a member of Purdue Student Government, they shall be prohibited from volunteering at a voting station, operating a voting station or facilitating voting.

## Section 4: Early Campaigning vs. Campaign Preparation

1. The intention of campaign preparation is to gather information on student needs rather than soliciting votes or creating awareness on a larger or public scale of a ticket.
2. Meeting with different organizations, administrators, or students to learn more about what they need on campus is not considered early campaigning if it does not fall in the below definition.
3. Early Campaigning shall be defined as the following:
   1. Distribution of physical or digital campaign materials
   2. Public release of a campaign platform, which is defined as language that is centralized, formulated, solidified. This can include any campaign slogans.
   3. Any meeting that is open to the public and/or more than 10 people outside of a campaign team.

Section 5: Election Committee Promotion Period

1. This period shall be defined as a brief period directly before open campaigning, the timeline of which is outlined previously in this document.
2. During this time, only the election committee, with the help of members of PSG not running in for an elected position, will be able to host events and/or table in-person and online.
3. This period is meant to be a time to increase student awareness of the upcoming election and of the candidates without having the candidates themselves host any public student outreach.

## Section 6: Online Campaigning

1. Candidates may have an online campaign presence beginning the first day of the Election Committee Promotion Period.
   1. An online campaign presence can include but is not limited to facilitating a campaign website and social media platforms.
2. Candidates may not send out their campaign information directly to students through any means other than through the materials, distributed publicly by the election committee.
   1. Candidates may not reach out directly to students through online messaging sites, following students on social media platforms, or emailing students.
3. Any other public student outreach during this time will still be classified as early campaigning.

# Article 8: Open Campaigning

## Section 1: General Overview

1. Campaigning is the public release of a campaign platform or the distribution of campaign material.
2. Open Election campaigning shall commence at 12:01 am EST on March 26th, and shall continue until the closure of the Purdue University-sponsored voting system.
3. Any and all public, scheduled campaign events that a candidate wishes for the Election Committee to market as such must be recorded and the details (including date, time, location, etc.) provided to the Elections Director no later than 24 hours prior to the event.
4. Each candidate has the right to seek unbiased marketing support from the Election Committee by submitting these event details by the aforementioned deadline. The Elections Director reserves the right to request a tentative schedule of campaign events from candidates at an earlier date.

## Section 2: Prohibited Campaigning Activities

1. Illegal display or distribution of campaign materials including but not limited to:
   1. Chalking on prohibited surfaces or with prohibited materials found in University Postings Policy (IV.B.2) which currently states
      1. “Chalking is limited to sidewalk areas (no chalking on brick pavers) that are exposed daily to the elements and prohibited from all vertical surfaces. Chalk messages must comply with all applicable University regulations for posted materials.”
   2. Inappropriate placement of marketing materials which shall be defined as:
      1. Violating the rules of the establishment or severe violation of the establishment’s purpose.
      2. Any intentional placement of marketing materials off-campus.
2. The recreation/renaming/repurposing of a pre-existing (anytime prior to legal campaigning time) social media platform with a pre-established follower base in order to reach that follower base with campaign information once legal campaigning time has begun
3. Public displays of disrespect for an opposing campaign to the public, opposing campaigns, members of PSG, or the Election Committee
   1. Disrespect shall consist of attacking the candidates or campaign teams personally
   2. Professional disagreement is allowed as long as it is done in a respectful manner
4. Using a Purdue University administration operated email list
5. Permanent defacing of public or university property except when permitted by the University Postings Policy (IV.B.2)
6. Destroying or tampering with other candidates’ campaign materials
7. False representation of campaign materials to the Election Committee.
8. Any violation of Purdue University’s Regulations with respect to campaign activity
9. Any violation of Residence Hall Regulations with respect to campaign activity
10. Prohibited Financial Behavior
    1. Failure to report the receipt of donated money, goods, or services on the candidate’s financial disclosure
    2. The receipt of more than the allowed donation caps
    3. The use of proxy individuals or organizations to allow one organization or individual to donate more than the allowed donation cap.

## Section 3: Campaign Clean Up

1. All campaign flyers or campaign materials left on university property must be disposed of by all campaigns with assistance from the elections committee at the discretion of the committee, but no later than 11:59 pm on the Saturday following the final voting day.
2. If a campaign has made a concerted effort to remove all materials from campus, there shall be no associated penalty or grievance.

# Article 9: Voting

## Section 1: The Formulation of the Ballot

1. The official Student Body Election ballot shall be published by the Election Committee no later than 5:00 PM EST by the Monday after Spring Vacation.
2. Ballot format shall be ordered based on the ticket that submits their finalized petition first. This shall be maintained on the distributed ballot as well as on the voting ballot.

## Section 2: Voting Procedures

1. Voting shall commence on Monday, April 1 st and last through Thursday, April 4th. Voting will be open 12:01 am through 11:59pm EST.
2. The selection of the Election’s online system (i.e. BoilerLink, Qualtrics, etc) is up to the discretion of the Election Committee and the Purdue Student Government Advisor(s).

## Section 3: Prohibited Voting Activities

1. Prohibited voting activities shall apply to both campaign teams as well as the elections committee.
2. Prohibited voting activities shall include:
   1. Coercing a member of the student body to vote unwillingly.
   2. Transactionally bribing a member of the student body to vote
      1. Example: “If you vote, you get a piece of candy.”
   3. Nonconsensual voting activities, with consent being defined as:
      1. Freely given, reversible, informed, enthusiastic, specific.
      2. Soliciting voting from students who are incapacitated.

# Article 10: Grievances

## Section 1: General Overview

1. Any member of Purdue Student Government (Student Body) may report an alleged offense to the Elections Director.
2. Grievances procedure shall be required to be in agreement with the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules.
3. Candidates shall be provided with a copy of the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules and a document outlining grievance hearing proceedings no later than the Friday prior to Spring Vacation.

## Section 2: Grievance Timelines

1. Petitioning and Campaign Preparations
   1. For all alleged offenses occurring prior to the beginning of open campaigning, the accusing party must file and submit a completed offense report to the Elections Director prior to midnight of the first Friday of open campaigning.
2. Open Campaigning and Voting
   1. For all alleged offenses occurring during open campaigning, the accusing party must file and submit a completed offense report to the Elections Director within seventy-two hours of an alleged offense occurring.

## Section 3: Offense Reports

1. The offense report must include the following:
   1. All members of the accusing party that wish to be associated with the reported offense (i.e.: wish to represent the accusing side in the event of a grievance hearing),
   2. The party/campaign being accused of violating any part of these Election Rules,
   3. The alleged offense at hand
   4. The cited violation of the election rules
   5. If the accusing party so chooses, they may provide a reasonable suggestion of whether the reported offense should be considered Minor or Major, including why they came to this conclusion. This suggestion does not have to be honored by the party deciding the severity of the offense, but it may assist their decision.
2. If the election committee finds evidence or is made aware of a violation of the election rules that can only be proven using privileged information to the elections committee, they are required to file an offense report and oversee it as it goes through the grievance process.

## Section 4: Determination of Offense Severity and Following Procedures

1. Offense Report
   1. Upon receiving an offense report, the Elections Director will determine the severity of the alleged offense. Such a decision must be made within twenty-four hours of receiving the offense report.
   2. Following the receival of the offense report, the offending party shall be notified of the report and its contents before a determination of major or minor and within 12-hours of the offense being filed.
   3. Before making a determination of major vs. minor, both parties may provide reasoning and/or evidence to suggest which categorization it falls under to the Elections Director.
2. Determination
   1. Determination of offense severity (i.e.: Minor or Major) will be determined by the Elections Director.
   2. The Elections Director shall use three criteria to determine whether an offense is a major or minor grievance. The Elections Director shall use their discretion in weighing these criteria. The criteria are as follows:
      1. Reach of the alleged offense
         1. Did the offense impact a significantly impressionable amount of voters?
         2. Did the offense unfairly impact the amount of votes received by a campaign?
         3. Did the offense cause a severe unfair advantage for a campaign?
         4. Did the offense cause a severe unfair disadvantage to a campaign?
      2. Severity of offense itself
         1. Did this offense hurt the legitimacy/image of the election?
         2. Did this offense hurt the legitimacy/image of PSG?
         3. Did the offense cause undue harm to a member of the student body?
      3. Repeated neglect of the rules
         1. Has the offender demonstrated continued negligence of the election rules?
         2. Are the accumulated minor grievances significant enough to equate to one major grievance?
3. Overturning the Decision of the Elections Director
   1. If a campaign disagrees with the determination of the Elections Director, they may file an appeal to the Elections Director. At the time of the appeal being filed, both parties shall be informed of the appeal, and the timer on evidence collection shall immediately be stopped.
   2. The Elections Director shall send all information provided by both the parties to the Student Body President, Chief Justice, and Chief of Staff. The Elections Director shall be the only party allowed to correspond with these parties concerning this appeal until a decision has been rendered.
      1. A majority vote in favor of the appellant shall overturn the decision of the elections director.
      2. Once a decision has been reached by all parties, the Elections Director shall compile all decisions and reasonings and send them to the involved parties. All decisions and reasonings shall be kept anonymous.
   3. If the decision is a determination of a major grievance, once the Elections Director sends the final decisions of all parties, the evidence collection clock shall begin again or start.

1. Minor Grievance Procedures
   1. Minor grievances shall be settled by the Election Committee by way of communication with the accusing and accused parties.
   2. The resolving of a minor grievance does not constitute any immediate punitive consequence to the accused party, however record of Minor grievance reporting will be kept by the Elections Committee in order to assist the deciding party in later determinations of the severity of a later offense.
2. Major Grievance Procedures
   1. Major grievances shall be settled by the Purdue Student Supreme Court by way of a Grievance Hearing, further described below.

## Section 5: Grievance Hearings

1. Scheduling of Hearing
   1. Upon determination of a major grievance, the Elections Director shall immediately notify the Chief Justice that a Grievance will need to be heard by the Court.
   2. The Chief Justice will take no more than twenty-four hours to schedule the Hearing and notify the Elections Director of the day, time and place. The Hearing itself must take place between seventy-two to ninety-six hours of it being scheduled.
   3. Once the Hearing is scheduled, the Chief Justice or the Elections Director will send notification via email to both parties with details of the hearing including day, time, place, the offense being discussed, and instructions for the Evidence Collection Period.
2. Evidence Collection Period:
   1. Upon notification of the Hearing, both the accusing and accused parties have a total of forty-eight hours to collect evidence on their behalf. At the end of the evidence collection period, all evidence must be surrendered to the Elections Director. The Elections Director shall be responsible to forward all information provided to the Chief Justice and the other party.
   2. Once all evidence has been surrendered to the Elections Director, no new information may be submitted except in outstanding circumstances, which would require approval from the Chief Justice. Evidence may not be submitted anonymously. Any information with easy public access (i.e. Google) may be permissible at the time of the hearing.
3. Sufficient evidence period:
   1. Within forty-eight to seventy-two hours of the hearing being scheduled by the Chief Justice, the Supreme Court will use the Rule of 4 to determine the validity of the claim. If validity is found, the hearing will continue as scheduled. If validity is not found, the Chief Justice will notify both parties and the grievance will be dropped.
4. Preceding Procedures:
   1. The Student Supreme Court proceedings shall be outlined as follows:
      1. The Grievance Hearing shall be conducted by the Chief Justice or their designee as a Public Hearing, as outlined in the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules. The Chief Justice shall provide candidates with a copy of the exact procedures for grievance hearings before Spring Vacation.
      2. During the hearing, the candidate shall have the right to participate in the hearing, including but not limited to: the right to cross-examine any person testifying, to testify, and to produce witnesses to support each party’s claim, in accordance with the Purdue Student Government Constitution, the Bylaws of Purdue Student Government, and the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules.
      3. The Student Supreme Court shall consider only the stated, accused violation of the election rules and make a determination if they feel the alleged offense occurred. Following this, the court shall determine if the offense warrants a deduction of votes and the amount.
      4. The Student Supreme Court shall utilize the Preponderance of Evidence Standard when determining the outcome of a grievance hearing, which can be found outlined in the Purdue University Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals, C. 7. b.
      5. The Student Supreme Court shall make its ruling immediately after deliberation.
      6. The Student Supreme Court shall assign percentage of votes removed to tickets of candidates found to be in violation of the Election Rules.
      7. All tickets shall be notified of the decision of the Student Supreme Court after deliberation.
5. Burden of Proof
   1. Following the concept of Innocent Until Proven Guilty, the Burden of Proof shall rest on the accusing party.
   2. The accusing party shall be expected to provide evidence to show that it is more likely than not that a Grievance was committed by the accused party, as outlined by the Preponderance of Evidence Standard utilized by the Student Supreme Court when deciding Grievance Hearings.
6. Infraction Determinations
   1. Percentages incurred from infractions shall be cumulative.
   2. The determination of percentage totals incurred for infractions shall be at the discretion of the Purdue Student Supreme Court during the discussion period of the grievance hearing at which the reported offense is heard.
   3. The Purdue Student Supreme Court may award from 0- 50% for an offense.
   4. The basis for determining percentage of votes deducted from a ticket if that ticket is found to be responsible for the accused grievance shall be determined
      1. The reach of the alleged offense
         1. How many impressionable voters were impacted by this offense?
         2. How many votes did this offense result in?
      2. The severity of the offense itself
         1. To what extent did this offense hurt the legitimacy/image of the election?
         2. To what extent did this offense hurt the legitimacy/image of PSG?
         3. To what extent did the offense cause undue harm to a member of the student body?
      3. The repeated neglect of the rules
         1. Has the offender demonstrated continued negligences of the election rules?
      4. The effort of the accused to uphold the rules
         1. Were steps taken to avoid this offense?
   5. Beyond 50% votes removed shall result in the removal of the campaign from the ballot.
   6. Upon final removal from the ballot (50% or more assigned to a ticket and all appeals exhausted), the member(s) of a disqualified ticket may no longer be eligible for campaign financial reimbursement.

## Section 6: Appealing Grievance Decision

1. Any ticket found in violation of these Election Rules and therefore receiving any amount of percentage deducted from the ticket, The Purdue Student Government Advisors will administer the evaluation of the appeal, and it will be decided with a majority vote of those advisors.
2. If a candidate chooses to submit an appeal, within 48 hours of the close of the Grievance Hearing where points were applied to a ticket, the candidate(s) represented on that ticket must submit an appeal percent to the Elections Director, who will transfer it to the hands of a Purdue Student Government Advisor to be evaluated.
3. Within 36 hours, the Advisors must deliver their decision to the Elections Director, who will communicate the findings to all parties.
4. The appeal itself must contain the following:
   1. The Candidates' names as they appear on the ballot,
   2. A copy of the Grievance Hearing findings, directly from the Chief Justice via the Elections Director, including copies of the offense report, all evidence submitted and used at the Hearing, and both majority and dissenting opinions of the Court Justices hearing the case,
   3. A clear and concise explanation of the candidate(s) reason for appeal,
   4. The candidate(s) may request any of the following in their appeal:
      1. That the finding of responsibility for the reported offense on the part of the candidate(s) was ill-reached, and that all percentage deducted from the ticket should be removed.
      2. That the percentage deducted from the ticket was in excess of the deserving amount based on the severity of the offense committed and the number of students reached by the offense. This request by the candidate(s) represents an acceptance of potential responsibility for the offense committed, but not an acceptance of the percentage deducted from the ticket.
5. If an appeal returns unsuccessful, the candidate(s) do not have the option to submit a second appeal for the same offense. Only one appeal may be granted per offense that the ticket is found to have committed.
6. The accused party is the only party that may submit an appeal when percentage deductions occur. The Student Government Advisors may only decrease or uphold the decision of the PSSC, they may not increase infraction percentages.

# Article 11: Results

## Section 1: Tabulation.

1. Votes shall be tabulated by Student Activities and Organizations and returned to the Director of the Election Committee.
2. The presidential vote shall be conducted where all voters get one vote to cast for one of the tickets.
3. The senatorial vote shall be conducted where all voters get a maximim number of votes equal to the number running or 3 votes, whichever is lower, to equally distribute amongst the senatorial candidates being voted on .
4. In the event that tickets recieving the highest number of votes are ties, the election shall be decided by a runoff election of the tied tickets.
   1. The runoff election will be governed by the Election Committee and must occur no later than three business days from the announcement of election results. The runoff election will last no fewer than twenty-four hours and no longer than seventy-two hours. A time frame will be chosen and publicly posted by the Election Committee during which time the tied tickets may campaign again for the duration of the runoff election.
   2. No further funds will be allocated to either party, and the same infractions will be enforced.
   3. In the event that two or more tickets still recieve the same number of votes, the election shall be decided by a majority vote of the Student Council Presidents for a Presidential/Vice Presidential tie and a majority vote of the respective Student Council for a Senatorial tie.

## Section 2: Announcement of Results

1. The public announcement of the results of the Student Body Election shall take place within one week of the final tabulation of results.
2. Prior to the public release of results, Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets will have a private meeting with the Elections Director to learn results. Within 12 hours of learning results, the ticket may request for a recount. The request will only be granted if deemed reasonable by the Elections Director or Student Government Advisors.
   1. The public release shall be between 12 and 24 hours of the release of this information to Presidential/Vice Presidential candidates.
3. The Election Committee, with consent of the Student Body President, may delay the release of results for no more than thirty days from the date of final tabulation in order to allow reported offenses to be resolved, infraction point appeals to be exhausted, and financial records to be reconciled, and campus to be cleared of campaign literature.
4. No persons other than associated tickets may know the results until announced other than the appointed members of the Election Committee, the Student Government Advisor(s), and the manager of the Purdue University sponsored voting system. Release of results by the Election Committee before the public release date shall constitute a malfeasance of office.

## Section 3: Claims of Gross Negligence or Corruption within the Election Process

1. Any member of the Purdue Student Government (Student Body), by procedure herein, may submit a petition of no confidence in the Student Body Election.
2. The petition shall be submitted to the Student Government Advisor(s) within five business days of the release of results and must contain the reasons for a no confidence vote along with the signatures of at least one twentieth of the Student Body, of the constituency base in question, as determined by the University Registrar.
   1. Once verified by the Office of the Dean of Students as legitimate, the Office of the Dean of Students, or a representative of, shall investigate the election process and determine the legitimacy of the claim.
3. Upon a written ruling of no confidence, signed by the Office of the Dean of Students, the Student Government Advisor(s) shall appoint Purdue Student Government members to initiate a new election within fifteen calendar days.
   1. A board of oversight that is appointed by the Dean of Students, or representative thereof shall oversee the Election and all persons having an active role in the Election, including the Election Committee.
4. The decision by the Office of the Dean of Students may be appealed to the Campus Appeals Board. In such cases, it may affirm, change, or reverse a decision, and its action is final.

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