Temple Student Government
ELECTIONS CODE
Article I: Eligibility & Responsibilities of Candidates and Campaign

Section 101 Definitions

101.01 Campaign
A Campaign consists of all Campaign Members working officially on behalf of any Candidate(s) who can solicit and receive endorsements, raise funds, hang banners, advertise electronically, distribute promotional items, and conduct other activities that could be perceived as campaigning by the Elections Commissioner.

101.02 Candidate
A Candidate is any individual on the ballot for election to the office of President, or Vice President, or member of Parliament, who has met the filing criteria outlined in Section 102.

101.03 Campaign Member
A Campaign Member is any individual, including the Candidate(s), who is actively working to benefit a Campaign or an individual Candidate with respect to Campaign. All Campaign Members must fulfill the criteria outlined in Section 102.01.

101.04 Election Season
An Election Season is any 3 week period designated for registered Campaigns to compete in the Temple Student Government Election, the specific dates of Election Season will be determined by the Elections Commissioner.

101.05 Election Days
Election Days occur during final two days of the Election Season.

Section 102 Campaign Member Qualifications

102.01 Requirements
A Campaign Member must be a registered full-time student of Temple University. A full-time student, as defined by the University as registered for at least twelve (12) credit hours of “full-time” enrollment. Students shall successfully maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher during elections and while in office. Students shall pay any and all debts to the university and must be able to abide by the rules and regulations presented in the Temple Student Conduct Code.

102.02 Restriction
Any member of the current Temple Student Government administration who intends to run as a candidate in any campaign must undergo a vetting process to check for any conflict of interest. If the Election Committee finds sufficient evidence of conflict of interest between Temple Student Government member(s) and campaign(s)/candidate(s), then they must step down from their position one day prior to the Election Season. A replacement process will occur to fill the open position(s).

102.03 Notification of Resignation
Any Temple Student Government member who decides to step down from their position(s) due to conflict of interests must give one-week notification prior to the beginning of Election Season, then proceed to step down from their position prior to the beginning of Election Season.

102.04 Campaign Application Form
Each Campaign must submit the Candidate(s) resume(s), a list of all Campaign Members, and a completed Elections application form by a time specified by the Elections Commissioner prior to the beginning of Election Season. Each
Candidate(s) must also have fully read through the Elections Code and is responsible for educating their own Campaign members on the said document. Only after completing all steps listed in Section 102.04 of the Elections Code, then Campaign(s) will be considered for the Elections season.

**Section 103 Registered Campaign**

**103.01 Determination**

The Elections Committee will review all completed Campaign Application Form(s) and verify that the Campaign(s) is in compliance with the Elections Code and Temple Student Government Constitution. Only after receiving an email notification of approval from the Elections Commissioner, then and only then, would a Campaign be Registered and can rightfully participate in the Temple Student Government Election.

**Section 104 Responsibilities and Accountability**

**104.01 Governing Policy**

All Candidates shall be responsible for knowing and understanding:

2. The policies set forth by the Elections Committee.
4. The rules and regulations of Student Center Operations, Residence Halls, Academic Spaces and Temple University.
5. The guidelines for use of Temple University logos and branding.

**104.02 Accountability I**

Each Candidate shall be responsible for all of their Campaign materials and shall be held liable for any violation of Temple Student Government Constitution, Temple Student Government Elections Code, or any policies set forth by the Elections Committee. Candidates shall be held liable for any violation of University of Temple Student Government policies listed in section 104.01.

**104.03 Accountability II**

It is the duty of the Candidate(s) to police their own Campaign Members. If the Elections Committee finds sufficient evidence of an Election Code or policies set forth by the Elections Committee violation by any Campaign Member, it shall be considered equal to a violation by the Candidate(s).

**104.04 Accountability III**

If the Elections Committee finds sufficient evidence of coercion between non-Campaign member(s) and Campaign, said Campaign will need to appear before the Elections Committee to receive a notification of suspension, and face any disciplinary action it might receive.

**104.05 Solicitation of Committee Members**

Any campaign found to have attempted to or successfully solicited a member of the Elections Committee shall appear before the Elections Committee for a hearing, and face any disciplinary action it might receive. EBRP Rule 17(i).
Section 105 Campaign Finance and Resource

105.01 Contributions
The Elections Commissioner is to set two spending caps, one for all Parliament Campaigns and another for all Executive Campaigns. The Elections Commissioner will determine how to count the value of gifts on a case by case basis.

105.02 Restrictions
Funds for the Campaign shall not come from Temple Student Government Allocations or Temple University Student Organizations.

105.03 Elections Committee Campaign Representative
Each Executive Campaign is required to designate a member as representative to the Elections Committee for weekly activity/expense reports and necessary communications.

Section 106 Endorsements

106.01 Definition
Endorsement is a declaration of support of a Candidate or Campaign by any organization, regardless of their relation to the University community.

106.02 Eligibility
Any organization, with the exception of Temple Student Government, regardless of their affiliation with the Temple University community, may endorse a Candidate(s) or Campaign.

106.03 Candidate Solicitation
Candidates may seek endorsements at any time from the start of the Election Season until the conclusion of the second Election Days.

106.04 Compliance
All endorsing organizations must complete the Online Endorsement Form and it shall be sent to the Elections Commissioner for approval prior to the placing of ads or the distribution of any Campaign materials bearing the organization’s name in support of the Candidate.

106.05 Rights of Endorsing Organizations
Endorsing parties may:
1. Promote Campaign through print, television, radio and internet advertising.
2. Promote the Campaign through word of mouth.
4. Promote Campaigns through social media.

106.06 Restrictions of Endorsing Organizations
Endorsing parties may not:
1. Promote Candidates without having submitted an Endorsement Form.
2. Endorse more than one executive Campaign.
3. Participate in any campaigning, which violates the Election Code, Temple University regulations, or Temple
University Student Code of Conduct, or disregards the fairness and integrity of the Temple Student Government Elections.

106.07 Endorsing Organizations and Election Days
During Election Days, Endorsing Organizations are to abide by these set of rules;
Endorsing Organization are prohibited from doing the following:
A. Contribute gifts to a campaign/candidate
*Contributions made prior to the Election Days and disclosed to the Elections Committee are valid gifts.

106.08 Campaign Endorsements
Campaigns are responsible for campaigning done by organizations that have endorsed them, and will be penalized for any Campaign violations, at the discretion of the Elections Commissioner.

106.09 Voter Coercion
No organization that endorsed any Candidate may offer any monetary material prize or the chance to win a prize for voting for a specific Candidate or Campaign. They also cannot coerce members to vote with any threat, including loss of membership from the organization.

Section 107 Posted Campaign Materials

107.01 Defacing University Property
Stickers, self-adhesive materials, painting of windows, doors or other fixtures, chalking or the placing of Campaign materials which in some way damages or defaces walls, doors, windows or other University fixtures are prohibited. Candidates may be held financially responsible for any damage that may occur.

107.02 Legal Compliance
Campaigning and posting of all printed material must be in accordance with all University rules and regulations, as well as local, state and federal statutes.

107.03 Posting Restrictions I
Posters and fliers can only be placed on the bulletin boards of academic spaces and kiosks after being approved by Temple University Student Center Operations as per their published guidelines.

107.04 Posting Restrictions II
Posters and flyers may not be:
1. Distributed underneath the room doors of the Residence Halls or off campus housing complexes.
2. Hung in a manner that they obstruct any other posted Campaign material.
3. Posted on the outside of any University building or in any unauthorized location including, but not limited to, doors, windows, and glass doors.
4. Taped, glued or stapled on ceilings, walls, doors, podiums or anywhere in bathrooms or classrooms.

Section 108 Bribery and Coercion

108.01 Definition
Bribery and coercion shall include, but are not limited to:
1. Promises of appointment or reappointment to positions of authority.
2. Threats to politically or socially ostracize an individual/organization.
3. Undisclosed transfer of funds, goods, or services.
4. Intimidation or threats of physical violence.

108.02 Elections Committee
At no time shall an individual/organization attempt to bribe, coerce, intimidate or otherwise attempt to exert undue influence on any member of the Elections Committee or any member of the current Temple Student Government Administration.

108.03 Candidates and their Campaign
At no time shall an individual/organization attempt to bribe, coerce, intimidate or otherwise attempt to exert undue influence on any Candidate or Campaign member.

108.04 Voters
At no time shall an individual/organization attempt to bribe, coerce, intimidate or otherwise attempt to exert undue influence on any voters.

Article II: Temple Student Government Separation

Section 201 Temple Student Government Office

201.01 Restrictions
Campaign Members are restricted from using the Temple Student Government office for any campaigning activity, including but not limited to:
1. Using Temple Student Government resources.
2. Conducting Campaign business.
3. Promotion of Candidates or Campaigns including: distribution of materials, wearing of t-shirts, buttons, pins, wristbands, etc., and word of mouth.

Section 202 Separation and Duties

202.01 Administration
The Temple Student Government shall not officially endorse a candidate. Neither shall any Executive Branch members, Parliament members, or Ethics Board members speak on behalf of any Candidate or Campaign. Under no circumstance should the Campaign of any Candidate include an official endorsement from any Temple Student Government member(s).

202.02 Administration Endorsing Restrictions
Temple Student Government members are restricted from the following:
A. Use of Temple Student Government position or title to show support.
B. Use of Temple Student Government social media to show support.
C. Use of private social media to show support.
D. Use of Temple Student Government time, office, and meetings to show support.

202.03 Current Administration Candidate Endorsing Rights
Candidate(s) who also serve on the current Temple Student Government administration are allowed to use their private social media to endorse their own campaign.

**202.04: Current Administration Candidate Endorsing Restrictions**

Candidate(s) who also serve on the current Temple Student Government administration are restricted from doing the following:

A. Use of Temple Student Government time, office, and meetings to show support.

B. Use of Temple Student Government social media to show support.

C. Use of public or private social media to support a campaign(s) other than their own.

**202.05 Separation from Administration**

Show of support includes but is not limited to:

A. Declaration of approval for Campaign/Candidate

B. Strategizing on behalf of any Campaign/Candidate

**202.06 Fulfillment of Duties**

Any Campaign member who holds a current position within Temple Student Government must fulfill their duties until the end of the term of the current administration regardless of winning or losing the election.

**202.05 Election Commissioner Integrity**

The Election Commissioner and Election Committee-persons are forbidden to run for office of any kind in the Temple Student Government Elections.

**Article III: Voting and Election Day**

**Section 301 Eligible Voters**

**301.01 Specific Criteria for Voting**

Any Temple University student is eligible to vote in the Temple Student Government Election. Voters are to cast votes for Campaigns/Candidates by means of a Single Winner Plurality voting mechanism.

**Section 302 Voting**

**302.01 Campaigning**

Candidates are allowed to campaign up until the poll closes.

**302.02 Obtaining Votes**

Candidate(s)/Campaign Members are not allowed to walk around campus with a laptop, cell phone, iPod, iPad, or any other technological device to solicit a direct vote.

**302.03 Online Voting Fraud**

At no point shall any individual attempt to vote using the username of any member of the Temple University community other than themselves.

**Section 303 Elected Candidates**

**303.01 Voting System**

The winning Candidate shall be determined by means of a Single Winner Plurality voting mechanism as determined by the Elections Commissioner.
Section 304 Announcements and Tie Votes

304.01 Tie Votes I

If a tie occurs for Executive Office, there shall be an internal Parliament referendum, by means of Single Winner Plurality voting mechanism between tied campaigns. If a tie occurs during the Parliament referendum, the winner of the election shall be determined through a random drawing of the tied campaigns.

304.02 Tie Votes II

If a tie occurs for Parliament positions, the procedure by which the winner will be selected shall be in accordance with the Parliament Bylaws vacancy procedure, except that only the tied candidates will be eligible for appointment.

304.03 Result Announcements

Only after all the votes have been tallied and confirmed will the Elections Commissioner officially and publicly announce the results of the election.

Article IV: Elections Committee and Authority

Section 401 Elections Code

401.01 Election Code Definition

The Elections Code is a body of rules set up by the Elections Committee, which governs the election process and all persons involved with the elections or individual Candidates or Campaigns.

401.02 Preliminary Election Code Approval Procedure

The Elections Code is to be reviewed and presented to the Constitutionality Council for approval every 3 years. The next time the Elections Code will be up for review is in 2023.

Section 402 Duties

402.01 Campaign Review

The Elections Committee will provide, receive and determine the completion of all Campaign Application Forms received from Candidates running for Office. The eligibility of candidates and campaign members will be advised by the advisor of the Temple Student Government.

Section 403 The Election Commissioner

403.01 Authority I

The Elections Commissioner shall preside over all meetings of the Elections Committee and shall act as its spokesperson and executive director in all matters of election business.

403.02 Authority II

In the event that there needs to be an extended deadline for applications, the Elections Commissioner has the authority to determine when that extension shall be.

403.03 Enforcement

The Elections Commissioner shall oversee the Committee members and is in charge of their recusal or removal should any ethical conflicts arise.

403.04 Discretion

For all matters related to the elections for which there are no established provision within the Temple Student Government Constitution, Bylaws or supplementary elections materials, the Elections Commissioner shall have the
authority to establish and maintain those provisions necessary to ensure a fair, honest and efficient elections season.

Section 404 The Committee

404.01 Neutrality
The members of the Elections Committee shall at all times seek to make decisions based on the Election Code. Committee members shall sign documentation and pledge that they will not endorse or hold bias towards any Candidate(s) or Campaign(s).

404.02 Appearance of Impropriety
Members of the Elections Committee shall at all times avoid appearance of any bias, even if no real bias exists.

404.03 Recusal
Any Elections Committee member, Elections Commissioner, or other Temple Student Government member with a real conflict of interest will be expected to recuse themselves from any decisions where such conflict arises.

404.04 Limitation of Authority
The Elections Committee has no authority over the removal of Campaign materials unless they are hung in violation of university policy or the elections code.

Section 405 Election Programming and Campaigning

405.01 Programming
The Elections Committee, at its discretion, may sponsor or hold programs it believes will increase voters’ knowledge of the election and to increase voter turnout.

405.02 Public Disclosure
Voting times shall be established by the Elections Committee and shall be publicized prior to the Election Season.

Article V: Violations of the Election Code

Section 501 Adjunction and Penalties

501.01 Violations
Violations of policies shall be adjudicated internally by the Elections Committee. This includes, but is not limited to, the violations of:

1. Temple University Elections Code
2. The Temple University Student Code of Conduct
2. The policies set forth by the Elections Committee
3. Rules and Regulations of Temple University

501.02 Reporting Violations
1. All complaints must be submitted in writing to the Elections Commissioner.

2. Any Temple University student may file a complaint or appeal in accordance with the Ethics Board Rules of Procedure EBRP Rule 4.

3. Complaint hearings will be conducted in accordance with the Ethics Board Rules of Procedure EBRP Rule 17(i).

4. Any appeal of the decision of the Elections Committee shall be made to the Constitutionality Council EBRP Rule 5.
5. Any Candidate(s)/Campaign(s) that violates the election code will be notified by the Elections Committee with a written cease and desist order.

501.03 Penalties

The rules set forth throughout the Elections Code are to be adhered to by all Candidates and Campaign members. In the event that a Campaign(s) violates the Elections Code, a warning, suspension or disqualification may be issued.

The following penalties are applied to the amount of violations below:

· First Violation - Campaign will be served a warning. Depending on severity of first violation campaign(s) may result in an immediate suspension.
· Second Violation – Campaign will be suspended. The length of suspension will be determined by an Election Committee consensus. The length of the suspension shall be proportional to the severity of the violation.
· Third Violation – Campaign will be immediately suspended for 5 days.
· Fourth Violation: Campaign will be disqualified with the signature of the Elections Commissioner.

501.04 Severity of Violation

The severity of suspendable violations shall be ranked on a system of increasing severity from 1 to 3.

1. A score of 1 results in a 3 day suspension,
2. A score of 2 results in a 5 day suspension.
3. A score of 3 results in a 7 day suspension.

501.05 Suspension Period

During a suspension period, the guilty party may not solicit votes, campaign, or organize any activity that might benefit the said campaign.

501.06 Repeat Offenders Penalties

Any Campaign that commits a violation will receive a written cease and desist order. If a Campaign commits a second violation of the same offense, that campaign will be disqualified and will not be able to participate in the Temple Student Government Election.