Election Code

Section 1.01 Application
The rules and procedures specified in this Election Code shall apply to all Associated Students elections and are intended to supplement provisions of the Associated Students Constitution pertaining to the conduct of Associated Students’ elections for offices in the Associated Students Executive Council and Senate.

Section 1.02 Definitions
The following terms are defined to avoid ambiguity:
A. An Association election is the process of choosing Associated Students officers pursuant to the Associated Students Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code. An election officially begins when candidacy petitions become available and shall officially conclude when all results are published by the Election Chair.
B. A campaign consists of all activities performed by a candidate with the intention of being elected to office.
C. A run-off election occurs if no candidate receives a clear majority of votes.
D. A candidate’s constituency is defined as the body of students who are eligible to vote for that candidate in an election as defined in Section 1.11 of the Election Code.

Section 1.03 Election Commission
A. Composition
i. The Election Commission shall be comprised of twelve members, all of whom shall be eligible to vote in decisions. The four Executive Council members shall serve on the commission. Four senators representing each class delegation and four members of the Judicial Tribunal shall serve on the commission as voting members.
ii. The Associated Students President shall serve as Election Commission Chair. In his or her absence, the Senior Class Chair shall serve as chair.
B. Selection
i. Preferably, one member of each class delegation and four members of the Judicial Tribunal shall serve as voting members of the Election Commission.
ii. The Election Chair shall appoint each member.
C. Conflict of Interest
i. No candidate in the upcoming election may participate in any function of the Election Commission. Should a member of the Election Commission run for office in an upcoming election, then he or she must file a letter with the chair prior
to the beginning of the election.
ii. Quorum shall be defined as five of the voting members of the commission.

Section 1.04 Complaints and Recounts

A. Any formal complaint, destruction or theft of another candidate property shall be reported to the chair of the Election Commission and subsequently the chair shall call a hearing of the commission. After testimony from both the plaintiff and the defendant, and pertinent investigation, the commission shall deliberate and reach a decision.
B. The decision of the Election Commission is final. A ruling can only be appealed to the Judicial Tribunal on grounds of unconstitutionality. The appeal must be submitted in writing within three days of the decision.
C. If the Election Commission finds the defendant responsible this could result in disqualification.
D. Original designs shall be defined as intellectual property.

Section 1.05 Schedule

A. Candidacy petitions shall be made available at least two weeks prior to the submission deadline.
B. All candidates shall complete and submit a petition, grade point average verification, behavioral waiver and candidate biography and picture (see below, section 1.07) by the submission deadline.
C. All candidates shall have at least three full days of formal campaigning prior to the beginning of the balloting.
D. All presidential candidates must partake in The Presidential Platform.
E. General electronic balloting shall take place during a three-day period, during hours prescribed by the Election Commission Chair.
F. Run-off balloting shall be utilized, if necessary, on a one-day period, during the hours prescribed by the Election Commission Chair.
G. Results shall be certified and posted by the Election Commission Chair to all students via electronic means. Only after certification shall results be official. Certification shall be delayed until all challenges and recounts are settled.

Section 1.06 Eligibility of Candidates

A. Eligibility shall be determined by the Election Commission, in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code.
B. No Association member shall hold more than one elected position at a time. An Association member may run for up to two positions in general elections, provided that they are not running for Class Chair and Class Vice Chair at the same time. Association members may not run for more than one Executive Council position at one time.
C. Disqualified candidates or candidates withdrawing from the election shall have their names removed from the ballot.
D. All candidates must attend the Mandatory Election meeting for their respective election, unless it conflicts with an approved academic or athletic commitment.

E. All candidates must meet GPA requirements and be in good disciplinary standing, as determined by the Office of Community Life.

F. Candidates cannot be involved in multiple positions that overlap and/or have conflict of interest as determined by the Judicial Tribunal.

G. Candidates cannot be involved in Executive positions, including the CAB Director, the President of the Associated Students, the Vice President for Administration of the Associated Students, the Vice President for Student Organizations of the Associated Students, the Vice President for Finance of the Associated Students, and the Chief Justice of the Judicial Tribunal, within multiple branches of the Associated Students.

Section 1.07 Candidacy Petitions

A. The office for which a candidate runs shall be written on the candidacy petition at the time it is administered by the Election Commission Chair, or his or her designee.

B. The possibility of a proxy is to be made available only to students studying abroad who wish to run in the Executive or General Spring Term elections, all proxies must be approved by the Election Commission Chair. The abroad candidate must submit proxy agreement form to the Election Commission Chair.

C. The Election Commission shall, upon receipt of candidate’s petition with the requisite number of signatures, determine the validity thereof.

D. Signature requirements shall be:
   i. Executive Council: 100
   ii. Class Delegation members: 75

E. The Election Commission shall verify at least ten percent (10%) of the signatures by random selection.

F. The Election Commission shall compile and make available a list of potential candidates for public inspection.

G. A candidate may only collect signatures from his or her constituents.

Section 1.08 Campaign Rules

A. Posting and distribution requirements shall be set by the posting policy described in the student handbook and by the office of Student Involvement and Leadership.

B. Copyrighted material shall not be used in the campaign.

C. Candidates must comply with all policies outlined in the Student Handbook, and all other College policies.

D. No campaigning shall take place on Election days.

E. Candidates must refrain from loitering near or otherwise disturbing polling locations.

F. All physical modes of campaigning (i.e. posters and handouts) must be approved by the Election Commission Chair before public posting.

G. Following the approval of the Election Commission Chair, campaigning may officially commence at midnight after the Mandatory Election Meeting.
H. All electronic campaigning, included but not limited too: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and email, must comply with campaigning rules and the policies outlined in the Student Handbook. Additionally, candidates must provide social media links to the Election Commission Chair.
I. Failure to comply with the above campaigning rules could result in a potential Election Commission Case.

Section 1.09 Spending Limits
A. No candidate for Executive Council shall spend more than $100.00 total during their campaign (non-refundable personal funds) unless a run-off is deemed necessary.
B. No candidate for class delegation shall spend more than $75.00 total during their campaign (non-refundable personal funds) unless a run-off is deemed necessary.
C. Run-off expenses shall not exceed more than one-half the amount allowed in preparation for the general election.
D. All expenses must be turned in by the close of balloting in the executive, general, and run-off elections.
E. The value of any materials purchased without receipts shall be estimated at market values.
F. The value of any donations shall be listed as expenditure, with a price set by market values.
G. Donated labor need not be reported as expenditure.
H. All prices shall include the sales tax of the area in which materials were purchased.

Section 1.10 Balloting
Balloting shall be conducted at the direction of the Election Commission, in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Code.
A. Only members of the Association may vote in any election.
B. No voter shall vote more than once in a single election.

In the Fall Elections:
A. Only Association members who are first year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for freshman class leadership.
B. Only Association members who are second year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for sophomore class leadership.
C. Only Association members who are third year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for junior class leadership.
D. Only Association members who are fourth year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for senior class leadership.
E. If an Executive Council election is postponed until the fall, all Association members may vote for Executive Council positions.
F. The Election Commission shall conduct audits on the cast ballots when fraud is suspected or when deemed necessary.
G. The Election Commission shall consult with campus partners to ensure fair and representative election processes. Any Association member who is unable to vote as a constituent may appeal to the Election Commission for special consideration.

In the Spring Elections:
A. Only Association members who are recognized by the Registrar as first year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for sophomore class leadership.
B. Only Association members who are recognized by the Registrar as second year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for junior class leadership.
C. Only Association members who are recognized by the Registrar as third year undergraduates at the time of the election may vote for senior class leadership.
D. All members of the Association may vote for Executive Council positions.
E. The Election Commission shall conduct audits on the cast ballots when fraud is suspected or when deemed necessary.
F. The Election Commission shall consult with campus partners to ensure fair and representative election processes. Any Association member who is unable to vote as a constituent may appeal to the Election Commission for special consideration.

Section 1.11 Vacancies and Removal from Office
Refer to Bylaws, specifically Article 2.07 for Executive Council and Article Three for Senate.