ILLINOIS

CAMPUS STUDENT ELECTION COMMISSION
SPRING 2018
STUDENT ELECTION AND REFERENDUM
INFORMATIONAL PACKET

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About CSEC

The Campus Student Election Commission (CSEC) is an independent body of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students that administers the campus student elections and establishes and implements election rules and procedures. The CSEC administers and coordinates the election of the student members of the Illinois Student Government (ISG) Office of the Executive, the Urbana-Champaign (U-C) Senate (who comprise the voting membership of the Illinois Student Government Senate), the Student Trustee, and the voting student member of the Student Organization Resource Fee (SORF) Board. Additionally, the CSEC:

- Adjudicates and rules on election disputes and violations.
- Administers and coordinates the campus referendum process.

Undergraduate, graduate, and professional students are invited to apply to join the CSEC. All candidates applying for the CSEC must complete an application which will be reviewed by the CSEC Chairperson, Vice Chairperson(s), and faculty advisor(s). The application will be continually available online at [http://studentelections.illinois.edu/](http://studentelections.illinois.edu/). Application to be on the CSEC does not guarantee appointment. Furthermore, individuals appointed to the CSEC may not run for any office for which the CSEC oversees elections or be actively identified with any candidate or campaign for elective office, nor act in any partisan manner during membership on the CSEC.

The CSEC does not engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, order of protection, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation including gender identity, unfavorable discharge from the military or status as a protected veteran. The CSEC complies with any and all nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders, regulations policies and procedures promulgated by Federal or State government entities or the University.

Please contact the CSEC with any questions, comments, or concerns and visit our website for further information.

Email: studentelections@illinois.edu
Website: [http://studentelections.illinois.edu/](http://studentelections.illinois.edu/)

Contact CSEC

Corrections and Amendments

The CSEC reserves the right to make corrections and amendments to the Student Election and Referendum Informational Packet as necessary. Once such changes are made, the CSEC shall include the change in the Student Election and Referendum Packet and notify registered Candidates of applicable changes.
In addition, while in general an amendment made “after the fact” will not turn a past permitted action into a violation, an amendment that makes something permitted in the future does not invalidate a past violation.

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2018 Election Timeline

Monday, 22 January 2018
Spring 2018 Student Election and Referendum Informational Packet available on the CSEC website.

Thursday, 25 January 2018
6:00 PM - Lincoln Hall, Room 1002 - Election Information Session.

Monday, 29 January 2018
Candidate Applications Go Live.

Tuesday, 30 January 2018
6:00 PM - Lincoln Hall, Room 1090 - Election Information Session.

Monday, 05 February 2018
5:00 PM - Deadline for submitting a referendum question for CSEC approval.

Wednesday, 28 February 2018
5:00 PM - Deadline for all candidate application forms, referenda forms, and petitions.
5:00 PM - Deadline to complete election rules exam.

Friday, 02 March 2018
5:00 PM - Deadline to contest candidate petitions. Last day to withdraw candidacy and not appear on the ballot. (E-mail: studentelections@illinois.edu)

Tuesday, 06 March 2018
6:00 PM - Spring 2018 Student Trustee Debate.
Location: Courtyard Café.

Wednesday, 07 March - Thursday, 08 March 2018
ELECTION DAYS - VOTE.ILLINOIS.EDU

Friday, 09 March 2018
12:00 PM - Financial disclosure statements must be turned in by all candidates to studentelections@illinois.edu.
1:00 PM - Financial disclosure statements available for public review on U of I Box.
4:00 PM - Deadline for filing candidate grievances.
5:00 PM - Unofficial Results posted online (approx. time).

Saturday, 10 March 2018
12:00 PM - Deadline to contest election results.

Monday, 12 March 2018
Certification of results, if no pending appeals.

Individual Candidacy Checklist

1. Review the Student Election and Referendum Informational Packet and the governing documents of the organization to which you want to be elected.

2. Attend an Election Information Session (recommended).
3. Complete the Application for Candidacy.

4. Complete the Election Rules Exam online.

5. Complete a petition if applicable. Petitions must be completed by 28 February 2018 at 5:00 PM.

6. Campaign!

7. Vote on Election Day (vote.illinois.edu)


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### Student Referendum Checklist

1. Review the Student Election and Referendum Informational Packet.

2. Attend an Election Information Session *(recommended).*

3. File the initial draft of referendum question via the application *(linked here)* no later than 5:00 PM, 05 February 2018.

4. Finalize referendum question with the CSEC. This process may take a number of days to complete depending on the question.

5. Receive endorsement of the Illinois Student Government OR complete a petition. Petitions are created by the CSEC after your question is finalized. Petitions must be completed by 28 February 2018 at 5:00 PM.

6. Campaign!

7. Vote on Election Day (vote.illinois.edu)
Guidance for Candidate Applications

Beginning the Application

Each student running for an elected position must complete an application for each office desired. **Please review all policies and documents related to each elected position.** An individual student may run for Student Trustee, Student Senator, and SORF Board Member, however, an individual student cannot run for multiple positions in the same organization.

The online applications go live on Monday, 29 January 2018 and are found at the following links:

- **Student Trustee**
- **ISG President & Vice President**
- **U-C Senator / ISG Senator**
- **SORF Board Member**

Contact Information

All contact information is used for election business and candidate verification only. Information is not shared with anyone outside of the elections process except where mandatory disclosure is required under University Policy. Be sure that your Illinois e-mail address forwards to a functional e-mail account. The CSEC will only correspond with you via your Illinois e-mail address.

Student Status Information

You are asked to provide your expected status as a student and whether you will be in-residence during the upcoming academic year. You must use the best available information you have at the time you complete your application using a more-likely-than-not philosophy. This means if there is a greater than 50% chance you will spend a semester away from campus, then you will not be in-residence for that semester for purposes of the application. If your expected credits or in-residence status changes, please notify the CSEC.

Eligibility Documents for Trustee Candidates

Students who apply for Student Trustee are required to submit the necessary documentation pursuant to the eligibility requirements set by Illinois state law along with the completed application.

Electronic Signature

The final section of the candidate application is your electronic signature, which is considered equally valid as compared to a manual signature on paper. You execute your signature through the combination of: 1) logging in with your NetID and Active Directory Password; 2) typing your name and date in the specified boxes; and 3) having your NetID linked to the submission via the Public Affairs Web Tools form system.

Election Information Sessions

Students interested in running for an elected position are invited to attend an *optional* Election Information Session. These sessions are educational and will take place on the following dates and times:
Note: The SORF Board permits candidates to attend a SORF meeting or SORF workshop if it is not possible to attend an Election Information Session. This only applies to SORF candidates.

Candidate Debates

Following the deadlines for all candidate application forms, completion of the online election rules exam, and all contests to candidate petitions have been resolved, all candidates that will appear on the ballot for the ISG President and the Student Trustee will be invited to participate in the Spring 2018 Debate Nights. The ISG Presidential debate will take place on Sunday, 04 March 2018 (location TBD) and the Student Trustee Debate on Tuesday, 06 March 2018 at 6:00 PM in the Courtyard Café.

Election Rules Exam

All candidates must complete the Election Rules Exam, which will be made available at http://www.studentelections.illinois.edu/ on 05 February 2018 and must be completed before 28 February 2018 at 5:00 PM.

Financial Disclosure Forms

All candidates must keep a log of all forms of campaigning, including those which are free to execute (e-mail, social media, use of previously-owned personal property, etc.). Candidates must file a financial disclosure form on the day after elections. Forms are filed in one of two ways:

- If the candidate did not incur any real expenses, then the disclosure is made via a web form assenting to no real expenses and listing the campaign activities.
- If the candidate did incur any real expenses, then the disclosure is made via an electronic document uploaded to the candidate’s U of I Box folder.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
CSEC ELECTION CODE

Article I: Scope and Authority

§ 1.01 The purpose of these rules is to ensure a proper, fair, efficient, and standard means of conducting the annual student elections and referendum. These rules derive their authority from the Senate Election Rules for the Student Electorate, the Illinois Student Government Constitution, the SORF Board, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. These rules are subject to the superseding authority of University policies and the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the City of Champaign, the City of Urbana, the State of Illinois and the United States of America.
§ 1.02 In all cases where possible, absent reasonable intent to the contrary, the rules herein are entirely severable in intent and meaning and any interpretation, modification, nullification, or removal of a part of these rules shall have no bearing on these rules as a whole or any other part.

§ 1.03 To facilitate the election process, these rules may be corrected or amended as necessary after their initial release. However, a candidate’s past action cannot become a violation solely as the result of a change in the rules. Further, a change in the rules cannot change a past violation into a permitted action.

Article II: Dates and Times

§ 2.01 The election will be conducted from Wednesday, March 7 through Thursday, March 8, 2018. Official voting will begin on March 7 at 12:00:01 AM and will last through March 8 at 11:59:59 PM.

§ 2.02 The 2018 elections will be conducted using an online ballot. As such, no dedicated polling locations or absentee ballots will be utilized. The official election information website is http://studentelections.illinois.edu. The official voting website is http://vote.illinois.edu.

Article III: Campus Student Election Commission

§ 3.01 The Campus Student Election Commission (CSEC) is authorized to conduct elections and the referendum. All executive and regulatory authority not retained by the U-C Senate, the Illinois Student Government, the SORF Board, or the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs pertaining to student elections and the referendum rests with the CSEC. Members of the CSEC are prohibited from maintaining any affiliation with candidates and may be required to certify neutrality upon demand.

Article IV: Organization Elections Rules, University Policy, Laws, and Regulations

§ 4.01 The rules specific to each organization holding elections are incorporated by reference into these rules. When these General Rules conflict with organization rules, the organization’s rules apply.

§ 4.02 All candidates must comply with all University policies. The Student Code (http://studentcode.illinois.edu) is incorporated by reference into these rules. The Campus Administrative Manual (http://cam.illinois.edu/) is incorporated by reference into these rules.

§ 4.03 All candidates must comply with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations, including but not limited to ordinances of the City of Champaign and the City of Urbana. City
ordinances apply while on University property unless State or Federal law exempts or supersedes an ordinance.

**Article V: Individual Candidates**

**General Rules**

§ 5.01 To be a candidate for any office, a student must meet the following minimum academic and enrollment criteria. Additional or modified academic and/or enrollment criteria may apply to specific offices.

1. Be enrolled at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign campus making satisfactory progress toward an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree.
2. Be enrolled full-time in an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree program.

§ 5.02 Candidates must complete a petition of a sufficient number of signatures if so required by the office sought. Petitions are done electronically. Paper petitions are not accepted unless it can be shown that an electronic petition creates an undue hardship. When an exception is granted for a paper petition, an electronic spreadsheet of the NetIDs of the signatories must also be submitted.

§ 5.03 All candidates must complete mandatory candidate education that reviews the offices up for election and the election rules.

§ 5.04 Candidates must meet any and all additional requirements specific to the office of interest in order to be a candidate.

§ 5.05 Any student who will not be physically present at the Urbana-Champaign campus for either the Fall 2018 or Spring 2019 semester may not run for Student Trustee, ISG Executive, U-C Senate, or SORF board, or even though the student will be present for the other semester.

§ 5.06 Any student who is not physically present at the Urbana-Champaign campus for the Spring 2018 election season but will meet the requirements of § 5.05 may still run for office. Such a student must designate one, and only one, student who is physically present on campus to serve as an agent with full right to act on behalf of the student abroad, in the context of these rules. Such a relationship should not be assumed to create a legal principal-agent relationship or power of attorney and does not so unless the law so provides.

**Student Trustee**

§ 5.07 The CSEC administers, on behalf of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (VCSA), the annual election of the Student Trustee from the Urbana-Champaign Campus to the Board of Trustees of University of Illinois.
Candidacy

§ 5.08  A candidate for student trustee must be a resident of the State of Illinois. A student is a resident if either:

1. At the time of application, the candidate is currently domiciled in Illinois, has been domiciled in Illinois since 01 January 2018 and will be domiciled in Illinois through 30 June 2019, inclusive; OR
2. At the time of application, the candidate meets the specific residency provisions in the University of Illinois Trustees Act (110 ILCS 310) and will continue to meet them through 30 June 2018, inclusive.

§ 5.09  A candidate for student trustee must be enrolled full time for each Fall and Spring semester during the term of office. § 3-301 of the Student Code considers full time to be:

1. For Undergraduate Students and Professional Students, 12 credit hours
2. For Graduate Students, 12 credit hours or 8-11.9 credit hours with an assistantship of 25%-67% time.

§ 5.10  A candidate for student trustee must be have a Grade Point Average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale calculated following § 3-103 of the Student Code.

§ 5.11  The minimum number of signatures required for a petition under § 5.02 is one hundred fifty (150).

Campaigning

§ 5.12  The limit on campaign finances for candidates for student trustee is seven hundred fifty dollars ($750).

Voting

§ 5.13  In the event of a tie, the CSEC shall hold a run-off election between the top two candidates in accordance with the election code. The details for the special election shall be determined at a Public Appeals Review Hearing. All affected candidates will be invited to attend.

ISG President & Vice President

§ 5.14  The CSEC administers, on behalf of the Illinois Student Government, the annual election of students to the Office of the Executive (the Student Body President and Student Body Vice President) in accordance with the election rules in the ISG Constitution, Transition Document, and in consultation with the ISG.

Candidacy

§ 5.15  For purposes of registration, candidacy, voting, and all other matters, the Office of the Executive shall be considered a joint ticket. A ticket must include a different candidate
for President and Vice President. No individual may run on more than one ticket, nor may any individual run for both offices on a single ticket. The individuals on the ticket shall be jointly liable for each other, and the disqualification, resignation, or removal of one member of the ticket shall void the ticket as a whole.

§ 5.16 Both candidates must be University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign students in good academic standing with grade point averages of 2.5 or higher. Per ISG Judiciary Case 1.03 Lindwall et al. v. CSEC, this rule has been invalidated as of 21 February 2018.

§ 5.17 Both candidates must be enrolled full time for each Fall and Spring semester during the term of office. § 3-301 of the Student Code considers full time to be:

1. For Undergraduate Students and Professional Students, 12 credit hours
2. For Graduate Students, 12 credit hours or 8-11.9 credit hours with an assistantship of 25%-67% time.

§ 5.18 The minimum number of signatures required for a petition under § 5.02 shall be one hundred fifty (150). Students signing petitions may be from any degree program.

Campaigning

§ 5.19 The limit on campaign finances for candidates for executive tickets is seven hundred fifty dollars ($750).

§ 5.20 Tickets shall be allowed to garner and publicize endorsements of their candidacies.

Voting

§ 5.21 In the event of a tie, the CSEC shall hold a run-off election between the top two candidates in accordance with the election code. The details for the special election shall be determined at a Public Appeals Review Hearing. All affected candidates will be invited to attend

U-C Student Senator/ISG Senator

§ 5.22 The CSEC administers, on behalf of the Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials, the annual election of students to the Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus for all colleges and schools except where the Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials has authorized another entity to conduct the election for a specific college or school.

Candidacy

§ 5.23 No candidate may be a candidate for the Senate “at-large,” but must be a candidate for a voting unit. This shall not invalidate a student’s candidacy when a voting unit is an entire college or school.

§ 5.24 A candidate’s voting unit shall be determined by the degree program code in the student’s record within the Banner ERP system at the time of application, or if verification is not
possible, as on record in the registration census data used to compile the Division of Management Information Final Statistical Abstract. No other method of assignment to voting units shall apply or may be used.

§ 5.25 A candidate enrolled in a second-degree program may choose the degree program to apply to the candidate’s application. When a candidate is in a degree program of multiple majors and such majors are across voting units, the candidate may choose the major by which his/her voting unit is determined.

§ 5.26 A candidate who changes degree programs remains a candidate of the original degree program. At the candidate’s option, they may withdraw from the election in the original voting unit and reapply under the new voting unit. A new petition may be necessary.

§ 5.27 It shall be at the discretion of the Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials to require candidates to complete a petition. If no specific rules are made regarding petitions, then petitions shall be required and the minimum number of signatures required for a petition under § 5.02 of the General Rules shall be fifty (50). Students signing petitions may be from any degree program.

§ 5.28 Unless prohibited by the Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials, a student’s certification of satisfactory progress towards a degree by the student’s academic dean may be fulfilled by evidence of good academic standing in the Banner system following the completion of the college-level reviews of academic standing.

Campaigning

§ 5.29 The following are additional Campaign-Free Zones for candidates seeking election to the Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus:

- The first floor of the Illini Union.
- The Undergraduate Library tunnel.

§ 5.30 The limit on campaign finances for candidates seeking election to the Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus is two hundred twenty-five dollars ($225).

Voting

§ 5.31 Each voter shall be permitted to vote in each election held for representative seats within the college of the student’s primary degree program. Votes may be cast for up to the number of seats to be elected within each voting unit. Cumulative voting is not permitted. Vote allotments may not be reallocated across voting units.

§ 5.32 A voter with a second-degree program may choose the voting unit in which the voter wishes to vote; however, there shall be no obligation to accommodate a choice in voting units for multiple majors within a single degree program.
§ 5.33 The CSEC may be required to remit a list of the voting units selected by persons who were able to choose a voting unit to the Committee on Elections and Credentials if requested to do so by that committee.

§ 5.34 In the event of a tie, the CSEC shall hold a run-off election between the top two candidates of any given seat in accordance with the election code. The details for the special election shall be determined at a meeting of the Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials. All affected candidates will be invited to attend.

**SORF Board Member**

§ 5.35 The CSEC administers, on behalf of the Student Organization Resource Fee (SORF) Board, the annual election of the voting student membership of the SORF Board.

**Candidacy**

§ 5.36 A candidate for SORF Board must be an Undergraduate candidate or Graduate/Professional candidate. No candidate may be a candidate for the SORF Board “at-large.”

§ 5.37 A candidate’s classification under § 5.36 shall be determined by the degree program code in the student’s record within the Banner ERP system at the time of application, or if verification is not possible, as on record in the registration census data used to compile the Division of Management Information Final Statistical Abstract.

§ 5.38 A candidate enrolled in both an undergraduate degree program and a graduate/professional degree program shall be classified as a Graduate/Professional candidate.

§ 5.39 A candidate who changes degree programs maintains his/her original classification. At the candidate’s option, the candidate may change classifications by reapplying but is not required to re-petition.

§ 5.40 A candidate must not be on academic probation as defined in § 3-110 of the Student Code.

§ 5.41 A candidate must agree to the SORF Board policies, including viewpoint neutrality, on an electronic form.

§ 5.42 The minimum number of signatures required for a petition under § 5.02 of the General Rules shall be fifty (50). Students signing petitions may be from any degree program.

§ 5.43 No otherwise-eligible student shall be denied candidacy for failure to complete mandatory candidate education if, alternatively, the student attended a SORF Meeting, SORF Workshop, or SORF Election Event.

§ 5.44 Unless prohibited by the SORF Board, a student’s certification of satisfactory progress towards a degree by the student’s academic dean may be fulfilled by evidence of good academic standing in the Banner system following the completion of the college-level reviews of academic standing.
Campaigning

§ 5.45 The limit on campaign finances for SORF Board candidates is two hundred twenty-five dollars ($225).

Voting

§ 5.46 In casting the eight available votes, students may vote for any mix of undergraduate and graduate/professional candidates, including only undergraduate students or only graduate/professional students.

§ 5.47 In the event of a tie in which the breaking of the tie results in one or more candidates not being elected to the SORF Board, the current Board will evaluate the candidates who are the subject of the tie through a process determined by the Board and vote to break the tie.

Article VI: Student Referendum

§ 6.01 The CSEC administers, on behalf of the VCSA, any and all referenda submitted to a vote of the students of the Urbana-Champaign Campus at the University of Illinois. A referendum is a non-binding question or issue put on the ballot for vote by the student body. Referendum questions are advisory.

Referendum Questions

§ 6.02 Any student, individually or on behalf of a group, may petition that a referendum be placed on the ballot. Questions may be proposed at any time during the academic year. To be a sponsor of a referendum question a student must meet the following minimum academic and enrollment criteria:

1. Be enrolled at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign campus making progress toward an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree.
2. Be in-residence for the semester(s) in which the question is submitted, petitioning is conducted, and voting is conducted.

§ 6.03 All questions must be registered with the CSEC. Registration must be done before collecting any signatures. The electronic submission form for the current academic year is at https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/8569588. If the electronic submission form is not available, questions may be e-mailed to the CSEC to initiate the process.

§ 6.04 The sponsor of a referendum question must submit the text of the question to the CSEC for approval. The approval of the referendum question must take place before gathering any signatures. There must be a title, not to exceed fifteen (15) words, by which the measure will be commonly referred to or spoken of, the text of the proposed question, not to exceed forty (40) words, and a summary, which serves as an explanatory statement of the chief purpose of the measure, not to exceed seventy-five (75) words in length.
§ 6.05 A referendum question must not be a survey question, must be stated in the affirmative if possible, must be answerable with single and unmodified “yes” or “no” choices, and shall embrace but one subject and matter directly connected therewith.

§ 6.06 The CSEC will evaluate all referendum questions. This evaluation process may include questions to the sponsoring party that address compliance with laws, ordinances, regulations, University policy, or the election rules.

§ 6.07 Failure to provide responses to inquiries by the CSEC may result in rejection of the submitted question.

§ 6.08 In general, the entire process of bringing a question to the ballot, which includes petitioning, must be completed in the course of the one semester in which the question is submitted, and this period is independent of the semester in which the question may appear on the ballot. Sponsors are entitled to the time advantage provided by early initiation of the referendum process. The CSEC may impose deadlines prior to the end of a semester in order to accommodate the question review and petition validation processes.

§ 6.09 A question that has fulfilled all requirements for placement on the ballot shall automatically be set for placement on the next available Spring semester ballot and cannot be voluntarily deferred to a later ballot. A question can appear on an earlier Fall semester ballot in accordance with § 6.10.

§ 6.10 A sponsor may, at the time of submission, seek placement of a question on the Fall semester ballot if the Fall semester ballot is to occur earlier than the next available Spring semester ballot and all deadlines for the Fall semester ballot can be met. A sponsor who seeks placement of a question on the Fall semester ballot and fails to complete all requirements for the Fall ballot must restart the referendum process and cannot re-use petitions pertaining to placement on the Fall semester ballot.

Referendum Placement

§ 6.11 Referendum questions pertaining to the renewal of student initiated fees under § 3-505 of the Student Code are subject to automatic placement on the ballot. Any other referendum question is subject to the rules herein.

§ 6.12 Placement of a question on the ballot requires one of the following:

1. An Act of the Illinois Student Government adopted by vote of a majority of the entire membership of the ISG Assembly; OR
2. A petition as set under § 5.02 containing signatures of five (5) percent of the total number of students eligible for nomination and election to the U-C Senate, which may be estimated from data reported on the Division of Management Information Final Statistical Abstract.
§ 6.13 Petitions must be completed using a web form administered by the CSEC. Hardship exceptions under § 5.02 may be granted in extenuating circumstances.

§ 6.14 Validation of signatures will be done using enrollment data from the University’s data warehouse.

§ 6.15 A signatory to a referendum petition has the right to revoke his/her signature by furnishing notice to the CSEC or to a sponsor, who must forward the notice to the CSEC.

§ 6.16 The CSEC shall enforce the right of the Illinois Student Government to exercise the motion to reconsider or the motion to rescind with respect to sponsorship of a referendum question, except in cases where such action is taken after the ballot is finalized in which case the original action of the Illinois Student Government shall be enforced.

§ 6.17 Petitioning may occur in circumstances where a referendum question is complex, and all supporting materials are incomplete. However, in such cases, the petition form shall expressly state the nature of the situation, require signatories to confirm their understanding of the incomplete information and expressly provide.

Voting

§ 6.18 A referendum may be held only once every fall semester and only once every spring semester. No referendum will be held during the summer sessions.

§ 6.19 All referenda will require a simple majority of those voting to pass, except for questions to reorganize the Illinois Student Government.

§ 6.20 The implementation of any passed referendum is the responsibility of the student government, and other relevant campus groups and administrators. The CSEC shall hold no responsibility in regard to referendum other than the administration of the vote.

Campaigning

§ 6.21 Sponsors have no restrictions on the acquisition of campaign assets or the use of money for goods and services for campaigning beyond University policy, laws and regulations.

§ 6.22 The CSEC may request the disclosure of the amount of funds sourced from University funds, including but not limited to student-initiated fees.

Article VII: Campaigning

Campaigning Defined

§ 7.01 Campaigning shall be defined as any action by a person in a non-private manner that deliberately or inadvertently promotes a candidate or referendum question OR conveys information or opinion about a candidate or referendum question, including a position within a referendum question.
§ 7.02 The display or presence of anything that accomplishes the above definition of campaigning is considered campaigning and not solely the placement or transmission of the tangible or intangible item.

Limitations

§ 7.03 All campaigning should be conducted on an individual basis.

§ 7.04 Candidates and their agents shall not make defamatory remarks in the public or on social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Reddit, etc.) about another candidate or encouraging others to make such remarks; foster prejudice against another candidate because of membership in a protected class; or remove, destroy or mutilate another candidate's campaign materials or encourage others to perform such acts.

§ 7.05 Candidates may use University branding and copyrighted materials provided that activities do not present the candidate as a representative or agent of the University. Use of University branding and copyrighted materials is subject to University policy (see III-16 of the Campus Administrative Manual).

§ 7.06 Campaigning is prohibited at all times in any University computer lab, whether publicly accessible to students or for private use of a University unit.

§ 7.07 Campaigning is prohibited within fifty (50) feet of any University computer lab or any publicly accessible University computer. This includes the use of bulletin boards.

§ 7.08 Campaigning is prohibited in classrooms when class is in session; this includes pre-class or post-class announcements, except that instructors may generally publicize the entire election and voting. Clothing that serves as campaign material should be covered up or not worn in the classroom. Campaigns may use general purpose classrooms after standard class hours as permitted by University policy and wear campaign attire at these times.

§ 7.09 Campaigning by means of chalking is permitted when in compliance with § 2-407 of the Student Code. The use of “Spray Chalk” and similar paints, chalks, inks, etc. that do not wash away with rain is strictly prohibited. Regular (i.e. washable) sidewalk chalk may be used only on surfaces approved by the University. Chalk is strictly prohibited on all vertical surfaces, buildings, walls, planters, doors, trash receptacles, steps, fountains, benches, tables, signs, poles, columns, bus stops, light posts, and trees.

§ 7.10 Campaigning within residence halls is strictly prohibited with the exception of bulletin boards, unless the individual wishing to campaign has obtained a canvassing permit in the Office of the Dean of Students (300 Turner Student Services Building) and the Office of Residential Life, (300 Clark Hall). See § 2-407 of the Student Code for more information. Students need to go to the Office of the Dean of Students first and then will be directed to the Office of Residential Life.
§ 7.11 Campaign materials may only be affixed to general University bulletin boards other general use / “free will” spaces. They should NOT be placed on doors, walls, windows, trees, sidewalks, or trash cans, nor may they be affixed to the ground. Improperly posted materials will be removed at the violator’s expense and may result in University disciplinary action for violation of § 2-407 of the Student Code. Posting in any location controlled by University Housing requires completion of a Posting/Flyer Authorization Form.

§ 7.12 § 2-407 of the Student Code allows for the distribution of materials inside University buildings within common areas, other than residence halls, provided that such distribution does not impede traffic flow or disrupt University business such as classes, laboratories, meetings, or office work. Distribution means that individuals physically hand/offer materials to other individuals who may accept them or refrain from receiving them. Leaving a stack of materials to be picked up, or placing materials on vacant seats, empty spaces, etc., is considered littering, not distribution. Distribution by means of placement of materials in mailboxes is not permitted, but this does not prohibit the use of paid bulk mailings through the U.S. Postal Service.

§ 7.13 Offices and areas throughout the University of any kind may be designated as Campaign-Free-Zones. It shall be a violation to engage in campaigning in such a zone, which shall be treated as if the zone were a classroom with a class in session. The following are campaign-free zones, in which all campaign activities are prohibited:

- The interiors of University classrooms, auditoriums, museums, theatres, lecture halls, business offices, department offices, sporting facilities, and retail shops.
- Non-public areas of otherwise public buildings (e.g. Illini Union Hotel).
- Administrative offices of the Illini Union on the Second Floor of Illini Union North.
- The Student Government Complex on the Second Floor of Illini Union South.
- The SP&A/ILC wing of the Second Floor of Illini Union South.
- The Office of the Dean of Students (300 Turner Student Services).
- The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (121 Swanlund).
- The Office of the Campus Senate (228/232 English).
- McKinley Health Center.
- Any area in which an approved Campaign-Free Zone sign is posted.

Additional campaign-free zones may apply to specific elections.

§ 7.14 Candidates may not disrupt normal print media circulation; candidates may not remove newspapers, magazines or similar media from distribution racks and distribute these items instead of permitting persons to independently acquire them from the distribution racks.

§ 7.15 Candidates may only use University premises when the reservations are made by the candidate as an individual student. An organization may only make the reservation when it is required by the reservation policy, and an endorsement from the organization is then required.
§ 7.16 When a classroom or similar space is used after normal academic hours for the business of a campaign and such a space was previously reserved following University policies and processes, then such activities are exempt from § 7.13 for the duration of such business.

Use of Information Technology

§ 7.17 Any campaigning using electronic means must be conducted on an individual basis.

§ 7.18 Any bulk-messaging of any kind must comply, as reasonably as possible, with anti-spam laws and regulations.

§ 7.19 The use of MASSMAIL for campaigning is prohibited. Email+ is a permitted bulk-messaging tool.

§ 7.20 The Policy on Appropriate Use of Computers and Network Systems at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign applies to student elections and the referendum and will be enforced (see VIII-1.1 of the Campus Administrative Manual).

§ 7.21 Candidates are expected to use their illinois.edu e-mail address for all election matters, including campaigning. Candidates are reminded that correspondence with the CSEC is considered University business and may be subject to public disclosure under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Activities of Organizations

§ 7.22 Candidates may receive endorsements from any organization of a type listed items (a) through (e) in the Classification of Organizations (§ 2-301 of the Student Code), which includes Registered Student Organization, Registered Organizations or University units. Candidates may not represent endorsements without possession of a written, signed communication from the head of the organization, for which a copy should be provided to the CSEC.

§ 7.23 Candidates may neither 1) permit an organization to campaign on a candidate’s behalf nor 2) use an organization’s resources in support of campaigning without receiving a formal endorsement. A formal endorsement is a signed communication from the head of the organization. If the candidate is the head of the organization, then the next executive shall substitute for the head. A signed communication may also be fulfilled by an electronic form approved by the CSEC.

§ 7.24 If an organization engages in campaigning (e.g. e-mailing, social media posting) and violates the election rules, then the violation is still enforceable on the candidate for whom campaigning is done.

Article VIII: Campaign Finances

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§ 8.01 Candidates shall account for any and all of the following campaign assets:

1. All goods and services acquired in exchange for consideration (money, goods or services).
2. Any other tangible or intangible, including right of use, assignable to a candidate which can be separated from the candidate and assessed a monetary value.

§ 8.02 Candidates shall account for the sources of money used to acquire campaign assets. Disclosure of names of individuals (natural persons, not legal persons) is not necessary, excluding the candidate himself/herself. Disclosure of the names of businesses and other solely legal persons may be required.

§ 8.03 The value of a campaign asset shall be the price paid for the asset if acquired through non-exclusive means; otherwise, the value of a campaign asset shall be the price at which a transaction would take place where the buyer is an ordinary student engaged in campaigning for office. Non-exclusive means the price is available to other students campaigning for the same office.

§ 8.04 The total value of all campaign assets should not exceed limits set in the election rules for specific offices. If the sum of a candidate’s assets and any violations exceeds the relevant limit, the candidate will be referred to the judicial body of the organization to which election is sought for potential disqualification.

§ 8.05 Contributions from or use of monies within University funds is prohibited.

§ 8.06 Accounting for monies and campaign assets shall be made on a Financial Disclosure Statement. The disclosure statement must include all assets including donated services, professional services personally rendered and tangible goods personally created or owned. The statement must also include the total of monies sourced from natural persons and the individual amounts of money sourced from non-natural persons.

§ 8.07 Failure to complete and file a Financial Disclosure Statement by the specified deadline or falsifying information on a Financial Disclosure Statement is a violation of the Election Rules and Procedures and will result in a violation, including the possibility of disqualification.

§ 8.08 If a student is a candidate for more than one office, then each value limit applies separately. The value of any campaign material for any office may be countable in whole or in part, against the limits of all offices for which the student is a candidate.

§ 8.09 The CSEC may establish specific instructions for completing the Financial Disclosure Statement which may include instructions on how to value or aggregate campaign items.

Article IX: Voting
§ 9.01 The electorate shall consist of all persons who are undergraduate, graduate, or professional students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign enrolled for:

1. At least one (1) credit OR
2. Zero (0) credits with documentation of intent to take or completion of a graduate college examination in the current semester or participation in an academic activity considered by the Graduate College to contribute towards full-time status. Persons in this status (#2) must request a ballot from the CSEC.

§ 9.02 If the rules for the election of an office modify the electorate from § 9.01, those specific rules shall apply.

§ 9.03 The voting system may be configured to screen eligible voters in an efficient manner, such as registration for the current term. When the voting system excludes an individual, that individual may request a provisional ballot if the student believes he or she was improperly excluded. With respect to the voting system improperly recording the vote of an ineligible person, such as a full-time employee taking classes, it may be presumed that this occurs with a sufficiently low frequency that such votes are immaterial to the results. This shall not preclude any voter’s right to contest the results.

§ 9.04 The ballot shall be administered on an electronic system. The voting system shall accept votes from 12:00:01 AM on the first voting day until 11:59:59 PM on the second voting day.

§ 9.05 Voters may vote at any computer with internet access to the University network.

§ 9.06 The ballot shall contain the following information:

1. The name of the candidate or the text of the referendum question.
2. Directions on proper voting procedures or clear configuration of how to vote.

Additional ballot requirements may apply to specific elections or to the referendum.

§ 9.07 A candidate’s name as on file with the University will be used on the ballot unless the candidate requests the use of a shortened first name or nickname.

§ 9.08 The elections homepage (studentelections.illinois.edu) and printed media from the CSEC shall list candidates in alphabetical order. The ballot shall list candidates in random or quasi-random order.

§ 9.09 A write-in vote shall only count once per ballot for each office, regardless of the number of times that a student is written-in on a single ballot. A write-in vote for a disqualified candidate shall be forfeited.

§ 9.10 If a voter chooses fewer candidates than the number of available positions, but the voter had the option to choose additional candidates, then these unused choices are forfeited.
§ 9.11 Voters shall not be able to cast more than one ballot. Voters found to have cast more than one ballot shall have none of their ballots counted.

§ 9.12 The candidate(s) receiving the highest numbers of votes will be declared the winner(s) of the election, unless specific election rules call for election by a method other than a plurality. If a write-in candidate wins, the write-in candidate must file the necessary information to confirm eligibility and must file a Financial Disclosure Statement. A write-in candidate cannot win if the student knowingly and intentionally avoided the balloted candidate process.

§ 9.13 Ties shall be broken by the rules specific for an office.

§ 9.14 Upon completion of tabulation, the CSEC shall announce the unofficial election results and publish the results on the CSEC website. The unofficial announcement must be made after the deadline for filing a formal election complaint, and before the CSEC hears any challenge.

§ 9.15 Public Polling Places, which are designated locations in which voting access may be publicly offered, may be established with permission of the CSEC. Public Polling Places are subject to regulations set by the CSEC. Campaigning is prohibited at any Public Polling Place within the radius set by the CSEC for the specific location, which may not exceed fifty (50) feet.

§ 9.16 Individuals and organizations other than the CSEC may not set up computers for voting unless authorized to administer a Public Polling Place.

Article X: Violations

§ 10.01 All persons affiliated with the University shall be permitted to seek action against a candidate for a violation, but no individual other than a member of the CSEC may enforce these rules.

§ 10.02 Any complaint, grievance or contest must be filed by the deadline in the Election Packet. All submissions should follow the violation form provided on the CSEC website. Email may be used when a form is not available. Failure to file a matter formally with the required information or failure to appeal within the prescribed time will void any claim and/or challenge.

§ 10.03 The CSEC shall have the power to enact enforcement irrespective of the filing of a complaint by a third-party. The CSEC shall have the power to exercise discretion in enforcement, and may dismiss complaints without right of appeal.

§ 10.04 Only violations of these rules by candidates and agents thereof shall be considered permissible for actions against candidates.
§ 10.05 Any infraction of laws, ordinances, regulations or University policy arising out of conduct related to elections may be considered a violation.

§ 10.06 Upon receipt of a complaint, the CSEC shall notify the candidate in question within 24 hours.

§ 10.07 The candidate will be required to submit a statement indicating whether the candidate accepts the complaint.

§ 10.08 If the candidate accepts the complaint, penalties will be applied and the candidate is expected to remedy the issues in the complaint. The extent of how the issues are remedied will be considered in the application of penalties. Once the complaint is settled it cannot be appealed.

§ 10.09 If a candidate does not accept the complaint, the complaint will be investigated. At the conclusion of the investigation, penalties may be applied. The candidate is expected to remedy the issues in the complaint. The extent of how the issues are remedied will be considered in the application of penalties, if done before the end of the investigation.

§ 10.10 The CSEC will review all complaints submitted before the deadline set forth in the Elections Packet and shall make a decision on those claims in a reasonable amount of time.

§ 10.11 Credibility of the supporting information and of the persons who provide the information related to a complaint may be incorporated in decisions. Enforcement actions require a simple majority vote.

§ 10.12 Correspondence and documents related to complaints may constitute public records under the law.

§ 10.13 The standard penalty for a violation shall be an assessment against the campaign finance limit of a candidate. Exceeding the spending limit results in disqualification.

§ 10.14 The CSEC may apply a penalty of disqualification for the most severe violations, an accumulation of violations of any severity, or for gross disregard for the election rules. If the ballot is not finalized, the candidate may be removed entirely from the ballot.

§ 10.15 The CSEC may also choose to censure a candidate at the relevant organizational meeting and/or fine the candidate a maximum of $150 payable to the University of Illinois general scholarship fund. No fine shall be imposed without the authorization of a University administrator.

§ 10.16 The CSEC may exercise discretion and leniency against a candidate in both enforcement and penalties for violations arising in the course of the candidate’s petitioning.
CSEC Members | 2017-2018 Academic Year

Student Members

Chair: Andrew J. Schuyler  
Vice-Chair: Mustafa Abdullah Jr.  
Secretary: Adam Gottschalk  
Parliamentarian: Nora H. McGuire

Faculty Advisors

Gina Lee-Olukoya  
Anna Tsai