

SGO Election Guideline Policy

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§ 101: Short Title

This Act may be cited as “the SGO Election Code.”

§ 102: Purpose of the Act

The general purposes of this Act are:

1. To provide the Student Government Organization with guiding rules, policies, and procedures concerning the election of officers and senators.
2. To achieve the preamble and purpose of the Student Government Organization constitution.

§ 103: Definitions

“Student Senate.” The Student Senate of the Student Government Organization as is outlined in the SGO Constitution.

“Senator.” A person serving in the role as Senator of the Student Senate of the Student Government Organization as defined in the SGO Constitution Article III.

“SGO.” Student Government Organization.

“General Members.” A member of the Student Government Organization as defined in the SGO Constitution under Article I .

“Study Abroad.” Participating in a full semester abroad, excluding Preview or Global Field Study courses.

§ 104: Election Board

Student Government Organization elections are overseen and managed by the Election Board.

The Election Board membership includes:

- (1) SGO Advisor(s);
- (2) VP of Campus Life/Dean of Students or designee;
- (3) Director of Student Engagement; and
- (4) the SGO President, Vice President, and Treasurer provided they are not seeking election.

§ 105: General Requirements of Candidates for SGO Officer Positions

To run for Student Government Organization President, Vice President, or Treasurer, a student must:

- (1) possess and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5;
- (2) be in good academic standing;
- (3) not be serving a sanction for a violation of the student code of conduct;
- (4) not be enrolled or intending to enroll to study abroad during the academic year for which the student seeks to serve as an SGO officer;
- (5) not be a resident assistant for campus housing during the academic year for which the student seeks to serve as an SGO officer; and
- (6) not serve as the president or chairperson of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee or the Student Programming Board during the academic year for which the student seeks to serve as an SGO officer.

§ 106: Student Senators Running for SGO Officer Positions

The Election Board shall place the name of a student senator seeking to run for President, Vice President, or Treasurer on the ballot provided the student senator completes an Intent to Run form and possesses the general requirements identified in § 105.

§ 107: General Members Running for SGO Officer Positions

The Election Board shall place the name of a general member of the Student Government Organization seeking to run for President, Vice President, or Treasurer on the ballot provided the member possesses the § 105 general requirements and satisfies the following requirements:

- (1) Completes an election petition where the member obtains 75 signatures of undergraduate students currently enrolled at Arcadia University; and
- (2) Receives an endorsement from the Election Board pursuant to § 108 of this Act.

§ 108: Election Board Endorsement of General Member Candidates

The Election Board may endorse a general member candidate after an interview where the Election Board evaluates the general member's:

- (1) commitment to the duties and obligations of the position sought;
- (2) knowledge of the SGO Constitution; and
- (3) outside obligations that may interfere with the ability of the member to complete the duties and obligations of the position sought.

The Election Board shall endorse the general member candidate unless the Election Board votes unanimously to withhold the endorsement and deny the general member access to the ballot.

§ 109: Procedures for SGO Officer Elections

1. The Election Board is to determine the date, time, and method of the election of SGO officers provided:
 - a. the election occurs in the spring semester;
 - b. the election is announced to the student body at least one week prior to the election polls opening; and
 - c. the election occurs over a three-day period.
2. Candidate debates, speeches, and messages to the student body.
 - a. In a contested election for an officer position, the Election Board may require candidates to participate in a debate. The SGO President or, if they are running for office, another officer shall organize the debate.
 - b. The Student Senate shall provide an opportunity for each candidate to deliver a video and written message to the student body that will be broadcast at a minimum via email.

§ 110: Campaigning for Officer Positions

1. A senator or general member of the Student Government Organization may announce their intention to run for an officer position at any time;
2. A senator or general member of the Student Government Organization may begin campaigning after petitions are due through the close of the election.
3. Candidates may not individually spend more than \$500 on campaign expenditures.
 - a) Candidates must disclose to the Election Board an expenditure within 48 hours of incurring the campaign-related expense.
4. Candidates are subject to the university policy on speech and expression.

§ 111: General Requirements of Candidates for At-Large Senator

To run for Student Government Organization At-Large Senator, a student must:

- (1) possess and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0;
- (2) be in good academic standing;
- (3) not be serving a sanction for a violation of the student code of conduct; and
- (4) not be enrolled or intending to enroll to study abroad during the Fall semester for which the student seeks to serve as an SGO officer;

§ 112: General Members Running for At-Large Senator

The Election Board shall place the name of a general member of the Student Government Organization seeking to run for At-Large Student Senator on the ballot provided the member possesses the § 111 general requirements and complete an election petition where the member obtains 50 signatures of undergraduate students currently enrolled at Arcadia University

§ 113: Procedures for the At-Large Student Senator Elections

The Election Board determines the date, time, and method of the election of SGO senators provided:

- (1) candidate petitions are due the second Friday of September; and
- (2) the election is held no later than the third week of September;
- (3) the election is announced to the student body at least one week prior to the election polls opening;
- (4) the election occurs over a three day period; and
- (5) the SGO Officers provide an opportunity for each candidate to deliver a video and written message to the student body that will be broadcast at a minimum via email.

§ 114: Campaigning for At-Large Senator Positions

- (1) A student may announce their intention to run for an at-large senator position at any time;
- (2) A student may begin campaigning after petitions are due through the close of the election.
- (3) Candidates may not individually spend more than \$150 on campaign expenditures.
- (4) Candidates must disclose to the Election Board an expenditure within 48 hours of incurring the campaign-related expense.
- (5) Candidates are subject to the university policy on speech and expression.

§ 115: At-Large Senator Election Results

The nine (9) candidates receiving the highest number of votes are seated as at-large senators.

§ 116: Interpretation

Any questions that may arise regarding this policy and the election process outlined herein shall be interpreted by the Election Board.