



## TU DUBLIN SU ELECTIONS



### TU Dublin Students' Union Election Regulations

January 2021

Approved by the Electoral Commission for Union Officer Elections

**It is the responsibility of Candidates, Campaign Managers and Campaign teams to read the regulations in full, ensure they are adhered to and to seek clarification where required, by emailing [elections.tudublinsu@gmail.com](mailto:elections.tudublinsu@gmail.com)**

1. Each candidate must be a member of the Union as defined by the Constitution i.e. candidates who are deemed fully registered students as defined by the University shall be entitled to run for election. Any students repeating externally are not eligible to run for election. The Electoral Commission reserves the right to verify the registration status of Candidates, Campaign Managers and proposers.
2. Candidates running for part-time positions must recognise that upon election - the taking up and holding of office is dependent on being a member of the Union, as defined in the Constitution.
3. Candidates may only run for one officership position at any given time.
4. The candidate shall be bound by the Budget Regulations as specified by the Commission.
5. Candidates must adhere to the Universities own rules and regulations
6. Candidates and their Campaign Managers are responsible for their own adherence to the Data Protection Acts (1988 and 2003)
7. It is the responsibility of each candidate to ensure that all relevant documentation and information is submitted when registering for election.
8. Candidates may withdraw their nomination form, up to 2 working days following the close of nominations. Please contact [elections.tudublinsu@gmail.com](mailto:elections.tudublinsu@gmail.com) to do so.
9. Candidates will be required to pay a deposit of €20 when submitting their nomination form. This will be refunded following responsible removal of candidate's election materials within 5 working days of the election count. In case of financial difficulty, please contact [elections.tudublinsu@gmail.com](mailto:elections.tudublinsu@gmail.com).\*
10. The candidate for position of overall President must appoint a campaign manager who must be a member of TU Dublin SU. The campaign manager **cannot** be a current member of the Executive Council, a full-time Union staff member, a candidate themselves, a member of the Electoral Commission or a Campaign Manager for any other candidate.
11. The Candidate and their Campaign Manager shall be jointly responsible to the Electoral Commission for the good conduct of the campaign, and for the actions of the members of



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the campaign team. The Campaign Manager must attend a **mandatory** training session as directed by the Electoral Commission or show good cause as to why they cannot attend.

12. All candidates and campaign managers must attend a meeting of election candidates following close of nominations, where nominations will be ratified by the Chief Returning Officer or their nominee.
13. All candidates for election must attend a “Meet the Candidates” session (candidates’ question time) or show good cause as to why they cannot attend. Where the position of President is contested, candidates must attend a Presidential Debate. Please refer to the Husting Standing Orders (Guidelines).
14. Election campaigning officially starts when nominations close. Candidates and their campaign managers are accountable under these regulations from this point until the count has been completed.
15. No member of a campaign team is eligible to work as Election Crew (Polling Clerk, Count Clerk etc.) during the Elections.
16. The use of Union, Clubs and Societies resources for election campaigning is strictly forbidden, save for those items allocated under the Budget Regulations. Candidates may not tag themselves or post on official Union social media.
17. Exclusion zones around polling stations will be clearly indicated, and these must be honoured.\*
18. Candidates and their campaign teams may not interfere with the campaign of any other candidate.
19. The Electoral Commission respects the right of free expression. The candidates should work together to create a positive environment that encourages and supports the right to mutual respect and dignity throughout the election period. Offensive or inappropriate material will not be tolerated.
20. Using Alcohol or items pertaining to gambling as campaign tools is strictly prohibited.
21. The counting of votes shall be held in public within 48 hours of polls closing. Votes for the offices of President and Post Graduate Officer shall be counted in one centralised location. Where voting is conducted online, counting of voting will take place electronically as soon as possible.
22. Any breach of these regulations may result in disciplinary action, as determined by the Electoral Commission. This may include, but is not limited to:
  - Fines
  - Budget Reductions
  - Fixed Period Campaign Bans
  - Disqualification



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23. Findings of election investigations may be made public at the discretion of the Electoral Commission.
24. The decision of the Commission on matters relating to elections shall be final, subject to an appeal to the Constitutional Tribunal and the law.

\*: Not applicable in case of online election.