

**USG Election Guidelines**  
*Spring 2022 USG Student Council Elections*

The annual election of USG SC Institutional Representatives (IR) will occur each spring semester in order to elect two **undergraduate** IR's from each of the following partner institutions: Salisbury University, Towson University, UMBC, University of Baltimore, University of Maryland, Baltimore, University of Maryland, College Park, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, and University of Maryland Global Campus.

All USG Student Council Candidates must:

- Be enrolled in an undergraduate program offered at USG.
- Be enrolled minimum of 6 USG on site credits and have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average in their program at the time of their candidacy.
- Be in good academic and judicial standing with their respective institution.
- Be able to fulfill all IR requirements as outlined in the USG SC By-laws.
- Be available to attend a full day summer retreat, barring extenuating circumstances.
- Maintain minimum candidate eligibility requirements each semester that they are serving as an IR.

*Campaign Regulations*

All candidates are responsible for adhering to election policies. Candidates are responsible to uphold election policy from the time they submit their candidate application.

- Confirmed candidates may begin formal campaigning activity at 9am on April 11, 2022 following the close of the candidate application pending candidate confirmation. Technological campaigning may begin immediately upon confirmation of the candidate.
- Formal campaigning is defined as any written or printed statement supporting any candidate including but not limited to emails, flyers and text messages.
- Technological campaigning includes but is not limited to the usage of Facebook, AIM, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, and e-mail for the purpose of promoting one's candidacy.
- All confirmed candidates who submit a flyer will be featured on CSEF social media and the Student Council bulletin board. Candidates may utilize personal resources for campaigning purposes but the total amount should not exceed \$100 and these funds will not be reimbursed.
- All candidates will also have the opportunity to participate in a Candidate Forum prior to elections.
- Candidate material may be shared on websites and social media so that voters can view resumes and statements of interest.

*Polling*

- The Center for Student Engagement and Financial Resources (CSEF) may sponsor virtual polls to promote voting. No candidates may lead/work at the polls.
- No person working at the polls may actively or passively endorse a candidate while working the polls.
- Candidates may not set up independent virtual voting stations to encourage voting or allow students to use the candidate's personal property to cast their vote.

### *Voting*

- All students enrolled in an undergraduate program hosted at USG during the election period will be eligible to vote in the USG-SC elections.
- All eligible voters will be emailed a ballot which they can complete and submit at any time during the voting timeframe.
- Ballots will include all confirmed candidates of the voters respective institution and require that the voter choose the two candidates they would like to serve as their institution representatives.
- Each enrolled student is permitted to cast only one vote.

### *Outcome*

- The 2 IR candidates receiving the highest number of votes per institution will be declared elected.
- In the case that an institution fails to fill one or both IR seats, at-large representative(s) may be appointed by the current seated student council within one week of the close of the election.

### *USG Election Policy Violations*

The complete USG election policy can be accessed through the USG Student Council candidate webpage. If a USG Election Policy rule is violated USG reserves the right to suspend campaign privileges or disqualify candidates from the USG election cycle. In the event that a potential conduct violation is identified during the USG election the respective program director, coordinator, and/or designated institution representative will be notified immediately so that they can determine whether a violation of their home institution conduct policy has occurred.

### **Election Timeline Spring 2022:**

**March 7th** - Candidate Applications available through each respective program office and online

**March 7th - April 15th** - Candidate verifications sent to CSEF on a rolling basis

**April 9th** - FINAL Candidate application deadline

**April 11<sup>th</sup> - April 27<sup>th</sup>** - Confirmed candidate campaigning

**April 20th - April 27th** - Elections held online

**May 2nd** - Winners announced

**May 9th** - IR position acceptance due

**May 19th** - New Council installed at transition event

### **Stipend Structure**

To be paid at the conclusion of each semester to elected Institutional Representatives as long as obligations are met and verified by an end of semester performance review. Compensation is based on the estimated time commitment of each role calculated at current student staff rate.

**President** - \$1,000 per semester (5 hours/week)

**Vice President** - \$750 per semester (3-4 hours/week)

**Secretary, Treasurer, and two sub-committee chair positions** - \$500 per semester (2-3 hours/week)

General representatives (10) - \$375 per semester (1-2 hours/week)