Who's In the Room

USC Elections
- John Mcnair (Investigator)   - Dane Ferry (Manager, Government Services)   - Select EGB Members   **Email for Questions:**   - Use the webform   - dane.ferry@westernusc.ca

Bog & Senate Elections
- Amy Bryson (University Secretary)   - Caroline Whippey (Associate University Secretary)   **Email for Questions:**   - elections@uwo.ca

Candidate Attendance

MANDATORY (Failure to complete will void your candidacy)

Board of Governors and Senate Elections

Amy Bryson, University Secretary
Caroline Whippey, Associate University Secretary

Governance

- Governance in higher education refers to structures and processes (the means) by which the institution manages and conducts its business.
- It is the system of rules we have in place to guide the who, what and how of making decisions for the university.

Western

University of Western Ontario Act & Bicameral Governance

BOARD

SENATE

The Act:

- Specifies composition of both bodies
- Sets out responsibilities and powers
- Provides for links between the two bodies
  - ☐ Membership
  - ☐ Approval Authorities
  - ☐ Advisory Capacity

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/about/UWO_act.html

Role of the Board of Governors

- Provides for the governance, conduct and management of the University (except regarding academic policy, which is Senate's responsibility), including:
    - Property and Facilities
    - Financial and Investment matters
    - Fund Raising

- Strategic direction

- Appoints the President

Western

Duties & Liabilities

- The law imposes duties and liabilities on directors and officers in order to cause them to behave in certain ways:
  - ☐ Fiduciary duty
  - ☐ Duty of care
  - ☐ Statutory liabilities
- Members are also held to the <u>Principles of Engagement for Members of the Board of Governors</u>

Responsibilities of Senate

- Academic Governance

- Curriculum and Academic Policy matters
    - Cyclical program reviews
    - Admissions standards, courses of study and degree qualifications
    - Examinations
    - Conditions for awarding of scholarships, awards and prizes

- Convocation
    - Confer degrees/honorary degrees
    - Award diplomas, certificates

Western

Advice & Recommendations to Board

Senate provides advice to the Board of Governors on:

- Annual Operating & Capital Budgets
- Administrative policies that affect teaching, learning, and research environments

Senate makes recommendations to the Board of Governors on:

- Establishment or termination of academic units
- Establishment of chairs, scholarships, fellowships, etc.
- Affiliation with other institutions
- Long-range strategic and campus plans

Submitting Nominations

- You must submit your nomination form AND emails from your three nominators by 11:59pm today, Friday January 16.

- Elections information for Board and Senate is linked from the Secretariat:
  - Board: https://uwo.ca/univsec/board/elections.html
  - Senate: https://uwo.ca/univsec/senate/elections.html

- Review the Election Procedures for the Board & Senate before submitting your nomination. They set out the requirements and process for the elections and while similar, they are not identical.

Western

Contact Us

If you have questions about the Board of Governors or Senate elections, contact the Secretariat Elections Team!
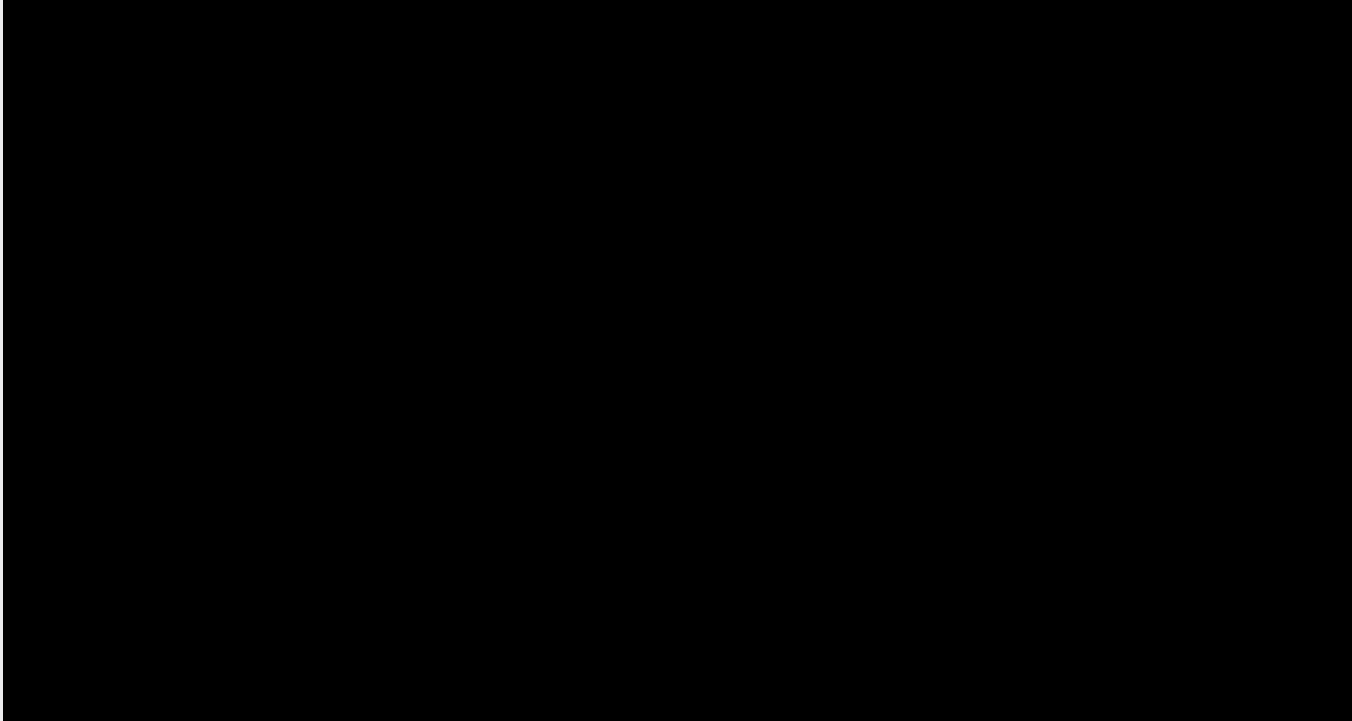
elections@uwo.ca

Western

Disclaimer:

*While the USC, the Elections Governance Board and it's Partners endeavors to make the All Candidates Meeting as comprehensive as possible, it is not possible for us to review all USC election policies, rules, procedures and mandates. It is the **responsibility of each candidate** to thoroughly review Bylaw 2, The Electoral Code and all other relevant USC and Western Policies.*
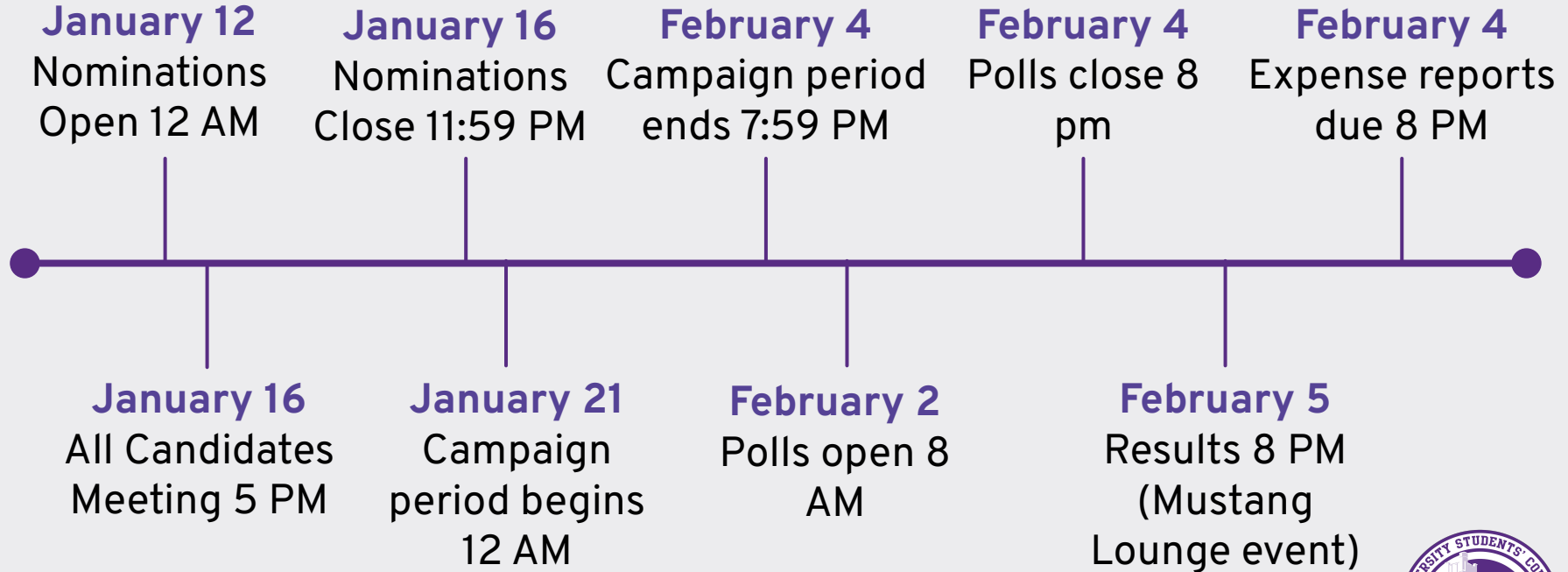
A Quick Word From Our Current USC President...

General Election Information

Key Dates - President, Senate, BOG, Council

January 12
Nominations
Open 12 AM

January 16
Nominations
Close 11:59 PM

February 4
Campaign period
ends 7:59 PM

February 4
Polls close 8
pm

February 4
Expense reports
due 8 PM

January 16
All Candidates
Meeting 5 PM

January 21
Campaign
period begins
12 AM

February 2
Polls open 8
AM

February 5
Results 8 PM
(Mustang
Lounge event)

Key Dates - VPEA & VPUA

January 16
All Candidates Meeting 5 PM

January 22
Nominations Open 12 AM

February 6
Nominations Close 11:59 PM

February 11
Campaign Period Begins 8 AM

February 25
VP Delegate Q&A 6:30 PM

February 26
Polls Open 8AM

February 27
Campaigning Ends 7:59AM

February 27
Polls Close 8 AM

February 27
Expense Reports Due 8AM

February 27
Results 12 PM

NOMINATION FORM
FACULTY COUNCILLOR
of the University Students' Council (herein the "USC")

Nominations close:
Friday, October 3, 2025 at 11:59 P.M.

THIS FORM IS NOT VALID UNLESS COMPLETED IN FULL AND SUBMITTED VIA ONLINE UPLOAD (https://westernusc.ca/get-involved/usc-elections/candidates) THROUGH THE CANDIDATE PORTAL ON THE USC ELECTIONS WEBSITE BY **11:59 P.M. on October 3, 2025.**

If you experience issues with your submission, email electionsgov@westernusc.ca and dane.ferry@westernusc.ca

Please note:
A candidate may only run if they are a full time or part time student as outlined in the USC By-Law.

REQUIRED INFORMATION:

Name (Last, First): _____

Preferred Name (Optional): _____

Gender Pronoun (Optional): _____

Phone Number: _____

Student Number: _____

UWO Email (@uwo.ca): _____

Faculty: _____

Preferred Email: _____

London Address: _____

Constituency: _____

Nomination Information

- What's in the package?
  - Candidate information
  - Nominator Signatures
    - President = 50
    - VPEA/UA & Faculty Presidents = 25
    - Councilors = 5
  - Acknowledgements/Waivers
- Where do I find the forms?
  - USC website under Get involved ➔ Elections ➔ For Candidates (multiple locations)
- How to submit
  - **USC President, VPEA/UA, Select Council Positions:** USC Website➔upload your nomination forms button
  - **BOG** ➔ secretariat Website
  - **Senate** ➔ secretariat Website
- Common mistakes (missing signatures, late submissions, incomplete forms)

Candidate Responsibilities

Relevant Election Policies

- **USC Electoral Code:** Steps for processing, reviewing, and publicizing election violations.
- **By-law #2: Elections By-law**: Rules and regulations for candidates and the Elections Governance Board (EGB).
- **Elections Governance Board Balloting Procedure:** How the ballot works for fall By-Elections and Spring General Elections
- **Elections Governance Board Campaign Finance Procedure:** How to track and submit campaign expenses.
- **Elections Governance Board Nominating Procedure:** Outlines the nomination process for students wanting to be candidates in elections.
- **Elections Policy on Dual Degree Students:** Explains procedures for candidates or voters registered in two faculties.
- **Western's Student Code of Conduct**: Outlines the behavioural expectations for all students and the process for handling violations when they arise.

Note: All USC policies are maintained in the official USC Policy Manual. The manual is updated regularly, and the most current version is always available on the USC website.

Relevant Regulations

For USC Elections

- **EGB Regulations**: Clarifies certain elements of USC elections policy
- **Campaigning In Residence Regulations**: Rules for campaigning in residence halls.
- **USC Space Usage Regulations for Campaigning**: Provides specific information about elections boothing and events in UCC.

Note: This information is updated regularly, and the most current version is always available on the USC website (under USC elections ➔ for candidates➔ what rules do I need to follow and candidate resources).

For Board of Governors elections, please see the Secretariat's website for their guidelines.

For Senate elections, please see the Secretariat's website for their guidelines.

Candidate Responsibilities

Primary Responsibilities

- Overseeing and coordinating your volunteers' actions broadly.

- Running a fair, ethical, and good-faith campaign.

- Keeping an up-to-date volunteer list (names, emails, phone numbers)

- Ensuring all campaigning, materials, and events comply with USC, UCC, and University policy along with and municipal/provincial/federal laws.

Campaign Basics:

- Respect the space & community

- Don't use privileged resources

- Ensure you are getting appropriate pre-approval for materials, events and spaces

Overview: Campaigning Guidelines

General Do's and Don'ts

Do	Don't
- Design compliant posters and materials to display. - Have campaign teams/volunteers - Host approved campaign events - Run campaign social media pages - Campaign During the designated campaign period up until the voting period ends.	- Campaign in USC offices, Clubs Spaces, Council Chambers or otherwise excluded spaces. - Cross campaign (ie. endorse other candidates or be a volunteer on any other teams) - Campaign in any non-usc spaces without appropriate permissions. - Use/abuse a course or club platforms and mailing lists - Ask for USC executives or staff endorsement - Engage in otherwise prohibited activities.

Campaign Material Content

May Not Include
• USC or University logos.
• Any copyrighted material or images without permission.
• Content that violates Western's Code of Student Conduct (eg. alcohol, drugs, nudity or related imagery).
• Content that is identical/similar to another candidate's materials from the last 4 years.
• Purple (or any shade that can be reasonably mistaken for purple).

Should...
• Be unique to your campaign, not a recreation of anyone else's from the last four years.
• Respect other candidates and the election process (ie. avoid smear campaigns).

• Be distributed only with consent:
  ○ Don't hand flyers to someone who refuses.
  ○ Don't drop flyers randomly on various surfaces:

Volunteers

A Volunteer Is…

Anyone who assists with your campaign (paid or unpaid). An individual or a group who engages in coordinated activities such as:

- Posting/sharing your content in a coordinated way (ie. a designated social media coordinator)
- Putting up posters or handing out flyers
- Staffing events or tables

Who cannot be a Volunteer?

- USC Executives, AVPs, Interns, Coordinators (unless on unpaid leave). Non-governance staff are typically exempt and can serve as volunteers.
- USC/University staff using job resources (mailing lists, offices, staff time)
- Other candidates (cross-campaigning is prohibited)

Rules

Candidates should Keep an **up-to-date list** of volunteer names, emails, phone numbers:

- Must be submitted to the EGB within **8 hours** if requested.
- Update list within **6 hours** of changes.

Volunteers must follow all USC, University, and legal rules
- Misconduct by volunteers = potential penalties for the candidate

No prescribed limit to the number of volunteers, recommended maximum of 50 volunteers.

Social Media Usage

Pre-Campaign

- Candidates *may* create new campaign pages/accounts (e.g., "Sam for Councillor"). Cannot use existing personal or professional accounts.
- Must clearly identify the candidate (no anonymous accounts)
- Candidates/volunteers can prep content but *may not* post content, set a profile photo, or share election-related news on campaign media accounts.
- The account should not be searchable prior to the start of the campaign period.

During Campaign

- Posts, shares, events, and online promotions are allowed
- Must comply with all other rules (no privileged resources, no misrepresentation)
- You can post campaign content up until voting starts — but no coercion, no fake/redirected links etc.

Campaigning During Voting Period

Allowed	Not Allowed
- Continue normal campaigning (posters, social media, conversations, events). - Distribute campaign materials in a compliant manner. - Share voting information in **neutral language** (ex. "Voting is open! Here's the link").	- Coercion, intimidation, or interference with voting - Fake links or misleading directions to the polls. - Attaching "vote for me" messages directly to voting links ❌ "Vote today at [link] for Sam!" ✅ "Voting is open today at [link]." - Campaigning within sightline of designated polling stations (only applies to physical voting).

Events

What Counts As An Event?

Any gathering, activity, or booking organized by a candidate or their campaign for the purpose of promoting their candidacy.

Examples:

- **Tabling/Boothing** – Candidates may reserve tables in the UCC Atrium (presidential candidates get priority, others are first-come, first-served)
- **Classroom Speaking** – Allowed only with the instructor's permission at the start or end of class
- **Election Forums** – The USC itself only hosts the mandatory All-Candidates Meeting. Candidates may participate in **other forums**, like the *Gazette Debate* (encouraged but not official).
- **Other On-Campus Events** – Must follow proper booking and safety approvals. Hosting without approval is considered a moderate offence.

General Rules

- **No campaigning before the official campaign start**
- **Restricted areas** – No events/campaigning in USC offices, club spaces, Council Chambers, or during Council/Committee meetings
- **Booking required** – All on-campus events must go through the proper booking process (UCC reservations, classroom permissions, etc.)
- **Noise limits** – Campaign event music/noise must not exceed permitted decibel levels or disrupt classes/business operations or polling stations.
- **No cross-campaign events** – Candidates cannot host events on behalf of multiple campaigns or slates
- **Volunteers** – Any individual helping with an event counts as a campaign volunteer, and candidates are responsible for their actions.
- **Polling restrictions** – No campaigning or events within sightline of a polling station

Campaigning in the UCC

Boothing (Atrium Tables)

- Tables reserved for Presidential candidates typically available Mon–Fri, 9:00 AM–4:30 PM in UCC (locations may vary or rotate) as available.
- Each candidate assigned a daily table spot by USC Reservations.
- Boothing is allowed for all candidate types, presidential candidates are given priority booking, others are first-come, first-served as availability permits.
- Notify USC Reservations if you won't use your table that day (email infosource@westernusc.ca or call 519-661-3722)
- Max 2 people per table at a time (including the candidate).

Physical Materials & Displays

- Poster, banner and display case requests should be reserved through the poster patrol page/form.
- Banners may be attached to the front of tables only.
- Standing displays = max 3 ft. wide × 8 ft. tall (behind table, no blocking traffic).
- No posters taped to walls, floors, glass, or columns.
- No food/drink giveaways (except small pre-wrapped candy, those are generally allowed).
- No helium balloons, glitter/confetti, open flames, or strong scents.
- No open flames candles, or incense → any decor has to be fire retardant.
- Music is generally not permitted at campaign tables (SOCAN Fees may apply).

Solicitation Rules

- Passive marketing only: stay within ~2 ft. of your table.
- No canvassing lineups, shouting, or calling to passersby.
- No PA systems or megaphones.
- All activities at your table must be pre-approved through USC Reservations/EGB (ie. no activity that may constitute a health and safety violation).

Campaign Finances

Spending Limits

- USC President → $1500
- VPEA/VPUA → $400
- Faculty President → $400
- Divisional Candidates (Councillors) → $200
- Board of Governors & Senate → $100

How to Claim:

- Submit all original, qualifying, itemized receipts and a completed expense tracker to dane.ferry@westernusc.ca by the deadline(s).
- Penalties for late, inaccurate or incomplete submissions.
- Disqualified candidates are not eligible for reimbursement.

Definitions

- **Fair Market Value**: Typical price, without special concessions or discounts, that is available to all persons who approach a person or company that sells, or deals in, that product or service.
  - Ex, If a print shop charges $100 for posters to the public ➜ FMV is $100.
- **Expense**: Costs incurred by, or on behalf of a candidate for goods, privileges, or services used in their election campaign.
  - Ex. $100 to print posters, that $100 is an expense
- **Contribution:** Anything a candidate receives at a discount or for free, for the purposes of campaigning.
  - Ex. posters normally cost $100, but a friend prints them for free, the contribution is $100.
  - Contributions are <u>not reimbursable</u>.

Note: Spending Limit = Expenses + Contributions

Example 1

- Your order for campaign posters would normally cost $50, but instead you receive them for $0 from a friend who owns a print shop.
- You must then record and report this as a **contribution** of **$50** worth of goods and services towards your Spending Limit.

Example 2

- Your order for campaign scarves would normally cost $100 but the vendor agrees to sell them to you for $50.
- You must record and report a **contribution** of **$50 in goods and services** and record and report an **expense** of **$50 in goods and services.**
- Both contributions and expenses are weighted equally when calculating your Spending Limit.
- Exceeding the spending limit, even through excess contributions, is subject to penalty.

Example 3

Spending Limit for Senate Candidate = $100

- Posters Printing: $40 paid → **$40 Expense**
- Buttons from a local shop: Normally $30, but you only paid $10 →
  - **$10 Expense**
  - **$20 Contribution** (the discount you got)
- **Free** website domain: Normally $15, given free by a friend →
  - **$15 Contribution**

Totals:

- Expenses = $40 (posters) + $10 (buttons) = **$50**
- Contributions = $20 (button discount) + $15 (domain) = **$35**
- $50 + $35 = **$85** ($15 under spending limit)

Expense & Contribution Examples

Acceptable	Not Acceptable
- Printing costs (posters, banners, rave cards, flyers) - Supplies for campaign (markers, paper, apparel, signs) - Promotional attire (t-shirts, buttons, scarves) - Paid advertising (Facebook ads, Google ads, posters) - Website/domain name costs - Food for campaign launches or volunteer rallies - Space rentals to host events (with some exceptions) - Bar cover/wristbands (*without alcohol included*)	- Alcohol or alcohol vouchers - Drugs or drug-related items - Long-term or fixed assets (e.g., laptop, printer, camera) - Contributions of cash (policy prohibits cash donations) - Anything that cannot be properly documented with a receipt

Special Considerations

- If an item was used during the campaign period, but not entirely consumed, the entire cost must be expensed

- Candidates will have to declare expenses and contributions for making campaign material and media available to the public. i.e. domain names, paid advertising

- If a professional, including a campaign volunteer, who would normally charge for a service provides a service to a candidate for free, the value is considered a contribution

- Do not accept or record cash contributions

Reimbursements

Formula: Reimbursements= eligible expenses - outstanding loans

Key Rules:

- No reimbursement for **contributions**
- Only **eligible expenses** with original receipts will be reimbursed
- Disqualified candidates are not eligible for reimbursement
- The EGB may **reduce reimbursement** if a candidate:
    - Does not intend to be elected, and/or
    - Runs solely to discredit another candidate

Process & Oversight:

- The **Manager of Election Finance** keeps reimbursement records for 30 days after balloting closes
- Expenses must be **verifiable with original receipts**
- Non-acceptable expenses may result in **penalties or denial of reimbursement**
- Any "flagged" expenses will be reviewed by the Board for approval

Tracking and Submitting

- Use official expense tracker (mandatory)
- Keep/submit all original receipts
- Submit by the deadline (end of the balloting period):
  - President, Faculty Presidents, Councillors, Senate, BoG candidates: Submit by **February 4th at 8 PM** to dane.ferry@westernusc.ca
  - VPEA, VPUA candidates : Submit by **February 27 at 8 AM** to dane.ferry@westernusc.ca
- Late submission = penalties (loss of reimbursement, demerits)
- Reimbursement cheques will be available at Infosource (UCC Atrium) typically within 14 days of the announcements of results. Candidates will receive an email when cheques are available.
  - Bring your student card or photo ID for pickup

Expense Tracker: Summary Tab

USC Expense Tracker 2026	
Candidate Name	
Category of Candidate (Position Sought)	**Divisional Candidate (Faculty Councillor)** ▾
Total Eligible Spending Limit	$200.00
Total Expenses Incurred to Date	$ -
Total Contributions to Date	$ -
Total Eligible Spending Remaining	$ 200.00
Total Reimbursement Amount, to be approved	$ -
(before applicable fine deductions)	

1. Update the "Candidate Name" cell
2. Select your category using the dropdown cell
3. **Don't Update the <u>Green</u> Highlighted Cells**

Expense Tracker: Record an Expense

Receipt #	Date Expense Incurred and/or Contribution Received	Business/Store Name where expense was incurred or contribution received	Nature of items/supplies purchased	Name of individual who purchased the items	Fair Market Value of Item	Total Expenses (incl. taxes) - Value from receipt	Total contribution (discount/donation)	If contribution received, please provide the name and contact information of the invidual who provided the contribution (i.e. email, address, or telephone #)	Use this cell any other notes regarding the expense/contribution
2026-1	January 21, 2026	Walmart	Sign making supplies	John Doe	$ 60.43	$ 60.43	$ -		
							$ -		
							$ -		
							$ -		
							$ -		
							$ -		
							$ -		
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1. Record the information in the fillable cells
2. **Don't Update the Green Highlighted Cells**
3. If you use all the rows, please download a second copy of the tracker and continue tracking expenses there.

Common Mistakes

- **Record at Fair Market Value:** Always record contributions at what the good or service would normally cost on the open market.
- **No Cash Contributions:** Cash is **not permitted** as a campaign contribution.
- **Track Contributor Details:** You must record the **name and contact info** of anyone who provides a contribution.
- **Discounted Goods or Services:** If you receive something at a special discount **not available to the public**:
  - Record the **expense** as the amount you actually paid.
  - Record the **contribution** as the difference between the fair market value and what you paid.

Who Handles Violations?

The Elections Governance Board (EGB)

- Independent body that oversees USC elections compliance
- Ensures fairness, transparency, and consistency in elections

Who is on the EGB?

- **Elections Investigator** → An independent professional retained by the USC to review allegations, gathers evidence, makes recommendations to the EGB members (EGBM's) regarding elections violations.
- **Elections Governance Board Members** → Up to six (6) student board representatives appointed to deliberate on evidence, assign demerit points, issue sanctions.

What They Do:

- Receive and review alleged violations (from online form)
- Investigate and assess evidence
- Decide outcomes: warnings, demerits, reimbursement penalties, or disqualification

Reporting a Violation

How to Report a Violation:

- Allegations submitted via **online submission form** (available on westernusc.ca/get-involved/uscelections/) located on both candidates and voters pages using the "report a violations" button.
- Anyone can submit (students, staff, other candidates, EGB members)
- Results contestations and any post voting allegations must be submitted within 4 hours of polls closing at the latest.

What to Include:

- Name & contact information of the complainant (the person filing the complaint)
- Name of respondent (the person whom the complaint is about)
- Incident details (ie. description, dates, times, locations, witnesses)
- Supporting evidence (photos, screenshots, etc.)
- Contact information for follow-up
- Acknowledgments of completeness, accuracy, and understanding of procedures, rights and limitations of both the complainant and the EGB.

What Happens After Submission?

Submission

- Must be filed online within **24 hrs** of incident/discovery
- Hard deadline for final complaints: **4 hrs after balloting closes**
- Must be filed through submission form using violations portal with all required information.

Review & Threshold

- Independent Investigator screens complaint
  - **Within 48 hrs**: complaint classified as mild, moderate, or severe
- Frivolous or non-compliant submissions may be dismissed
- Candidate **AND** respondent notified when complaint legitimacy is verified

Investigation Timelines (approximate)

- Mild: **24 hrs**
- Moderate: **1–2 days**
- Severe: **3–4 days**

Decision & Notification

- EGB votes on outcome, they meet daily to review and triage complaints.
- If violation is found: **written decision posted within 24 hrs**
- If no violation: both complainant & candidate notified, no further action required

How Violations Are Assessed

Criteria Used to Evaluate a Violation:

- **Scope**: how many students were affected
- **Influence**: how much it impacted fairness of election
- **Intent**: was it malicious, foreseeable, or accidental
- **Repetition**: did it happen more than once
- **Legality**: did it break policies, procedures or laws
- **Obstruction**: did the candidate/respondent try to interfere with the investigation

Demerit Points System:

- Each type of violation = a point value
- **Mild =** 1–2 points
- **Moderate =** 1–4 points
- **Severe =** 4+ points (or immediate disqualification depending on severity)
- **12 points** = disqualification

Violation Examples

Mild

- Campaigning or posting materials before the campaign period.
- Placing posters in unapproved or restricted locations.
- Using incorrect formats (e.g., posters larger than 11"x17").
- Failing to update volunteer lists on time.
- Sending campaign messages without unsubscribe option/consent.
- Tabling in an unreserved space.
- Using a personal email for campaign purposes.
- Leaving flyers unattended in public.
- Playing loud music at an event (not disrupting classes/polling).
- Misidentifying election deadlines/rules without misleading intent.

Moderate

- Continued campaigning in restricted areas after a warning.
- Cross-campaigning or endorsing another candidate.
- Sharing misleading but not defamatory information.
- Posting content that discredits the electoral process.
- Submitting inaccurate but not fraudulent financial reports.
- Repeated use of unapproved campaign materials.
- Using resources from previous USC/University roles (e.g., mailing lists).
- Failing to remove campaign materials after campaign ends.
- Implicit endorsements (e.g., amplifying another candidate's messages).
- Hosting joint campaign events.
- Misusing club/academic platforms (e.g., unauthorized posting in group chats).
- Sharing cropped or misleading screenshots of another candidate.
- Running an event without required booking/safety approvals.

Severe

- Voter intimidation or coercion.
- Harassment or discrimination.
- Ballot tampering or voter interference.
- Impersonation of voters, candidates, or EGB officials.
- Coordinated slating/party-style voting schemes.
- Bribery.
- Coordinated disinformation campaigns.
- Unauthorized access to election software/back-end systems.
- Campaigning in secured/confidential spaces without permission.
- Misusing or releasing student personal data.
- Creating fraudulent documents.
- Threats of harm related to elections.
- Sharing explicit/private content to intimidate another candidate.
- Using official USC channels to endorse/attack candidates.
- Tampering with investigation evidence or violating confidentiality.
- Doxing or using identity-based intimidation.

Potential Consequences

- **Official Warning**
  - For minor, first-time issues (may replace demerits once per candidate per cycle).

- **Demerit Points**
  - **Mild:** 1–2 points
  - **Moderate:** 1–4 points
  - **Severe:** 4+ points
    i. *Points add up across the campaign and stay on record.*

- **Loss of Reimbursement**
  - Partial or full loss if violations affect campaign finances or integrity.
  - Issued at the EGB's discretion depending on severity and repetition.

- **Disqualification**
  - Automatic at **12 demerit points** total.
  - Also possible for standalone **serious/severe violations** (e.g. human rights violations, ballot tampering).
  - **Note**: Does not take effect until the appeal window is closed or resolved.

Filing Appeals

How to Appeal

- Submit an appeal through the **USC Appeals Board** (accessed at westernusc.ca/get-involved/uscelections/) via the "file an appeal" portal
- For **regular violation decisions**, appeals must be submitted **no later than 4:30 p.m., two (2) days after the EGB's decision has been released to the candidate**.
- For **election or referendum results,** appeals must be submitted no later than **4:30 PM two (2) days after the results are released**
- Complainant must provide the following information:
    - Their name & contact info
    - Details about the original decision
    - Details about the reason for appeal (why the decision was unfair or outside EGB's authority)
    - Any supporting documentation
    - Acknowledgements

What Happens Next

- Within 48 hours, the Appeals Board reviews and qualifies whether it has jurisdiction to hear the case. They reserve the right to dismiss any case that does not fall within their terms of reference.
- If yes → formal hearing scheduled, typically within 24-72 hours of the appeal being filed
- If no → decision of the EGB stands

Final Decision

- Appeals Board ruling is **final and binding** (meaning there's no further escalation)

Candidate Attendance

MANDATORY (Failure to complete will void your candidacy)