

# USG Elections 101

**Intro to Elections Process**

**Future Info Session Dates: 11/29; 11/30**

**Sign in: [bit.ly/elections101](https://bit.ly/elections101)**

# Our Goals

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**Accessibility &  
Representation**

**Ethical, Fair, and  
Equal Treatment**

**Candidate  
Wellness**

# Highlighted Changes to USG Elections Process

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Overall theme: efficiency, efficacy and fairness

- Changes to voting:
  - Ballot order **randomized**
  - Option to **abstain**
  - Voter Information guide available
  - Write-in deadline extended
- Ethics and conflicts of interest
  - Direct repercussions for current USG-member campaign involvement
  - Confidentiality and compartmentalization of information and responsibility

Changes to campaign timeline:

- **Intent to Run** due Sat, Dec 2 at 4PM
  - Signatures no longer required
- **Point of No Return:** Wed, Jan 3, 2018
- Voting pushed back to Week 6, Tues-Fri
  - More time for endorsements and visits
  - More time between campaign periods
  - Four days of voting

# Overview of this Info Session:

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- ❑ Campaigning Rules
- ❑ Candidate Resources
- ❑ Election Timeline
- ❑ Elections Commission
- ❑ Elections Code
  - ❑ Changes from past years
- ❑ Q & A

# Positions:

**President/Vice President**

**Senators**

**Campaign Team/ Volunteers**

**Elections Commissioner**

**Elections Interns**

# Campaigning

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## Team

- Campaign Manager
- Campaign Team

## Campaign Period I

- Campaign Announcements
- Social Media

## Campaign Period II

- Physical Campaigning

## Correspondence

## Hearings

- For code violations
- Elections Commission

# Strikes & Violations

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7 strikes per candidate

# Elections Commission

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*A board of 8-10 undergraduate students determining and oversees all disciplinary matters in the USG Elections*

- Functions independently of USG and rest of Elections team
  - Commissioners decide sanctions in response to complaints raised

Determines:

1. If a violation occurred
2. How many strikes it warrants
3. Appropriate sanctions

Changes to Elections Commission:

- Elections Auditor
- Hearing times



# Elections Code:

The elections code outlines all major rules and violations of the elections process. This code can be found on the USC USG website.

**IV.C.** Current elected executive officers should refrain from providing any advice, coaching or assistance to any candidate or ticket. Should a candidate's status be revealed to an executive officer prior to public campaign announcements, this knowledge shall be disclosed to the Elections Commission immediately.

**IV.C.1.** If at any point, advice or mentorship was provided to a candidate, the current elected executive officer must disclose the information provided to the Elections Team.

**IV.C.2.** Elections Team will consider the timeliness of the disclosure and weight of the information provided by the elected executive officer to determine if sanctions are necessary.

**IV.C.3.** The Director of Elections and Recruitment shall provide the means to dissipate the same information to all candidates if deemed necessary

**IV.D.** Any candidate who is a member of the Judicial Council or the Elections team must resign from their position upon submission of the candidate application.

**IV.E.** Under no circumstance can a candidate or campaign team leverage their time volunteering at a polling booth to coerce or suggest that a voting students should vote for a specific candidate or slate.

**IV.E.1.** If a voting student requests advice for which candidate to vote for, the USG member in charge of the polling booth should direct them to the official Candidate Guide to further learn about candidates' official platforms .

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## **Article V: Candidate Eligibility Requirements**

**V.A.** All candidates must be undergraduate students who can verify that they will be a full time student at USC for the entire duration of the term and be enrolled in a minimum of 12.00 units as outlined in the USG Bylaws. Candidates may not study abroad during their Fall or Spring term while in office.

**V.B.** Candidates must fulfill all academic requirements stated in the USG Constitution and Bylaws, and must have and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.500 from USC or their most recent institution.



**USC Undergraduate Student Government 2018 Elections Code  
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# Upcoming Dates

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## Saturday, December 2, 2017:

- Intent to run application accepted on a rolling basis from 10AM to 4PM
  - Running mate/slate members
  - Campaign Team
  - Preliminary question responses

## Wednesday, January 3, 2018:

- Point of No Return
  - Candidates finalize platforms, candidate statements, and questions responses

# Timeline

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- **Dec. 02, 2017:** Intent to Run Application due by 4 p.m.
- **Dec. 05,, 2017:** Elections Commissioner Application Opens
- **Dec. 15, 2017:** Elections Commissioner Application closes
- **Jan. 03, 2018:** Point of No Return
- **Jan. 25, 2018:** Public Campaign Announcements
- **Feb. 13-16, 2018:** Voting (4 days)

# Resources

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- Comprehensive **Candidate Guide**
- Timeline for candidates extended by **2 weeks**
- Candidate **Check-ins** & **Campaign Manager** Meetings
- **Candidate Wellness** forum
- Campaigns will be **reimbursed** by USG
- Accessibility assistance: email [usgelect@protonmail.com](mailto:usgelect@protonmail.com)
- Website: [usg.usc.edu/elections](http://usg.usc.edu/elections)

# Q&A



# Questions? Contact us!

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**Make sure you  
signed in!**



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