



**THE LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**  
**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**  
***ELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES***

## Election Procedures

1. Applications must be submitted by the date posted on the SGA website.
  - a. Candidates must meet the following qualifications in order to run:
    - i. Must have served at least two semesters in SGA.
    - ii. Must be at least a Junior and maintain good academic standing according to the Academic Policy Handbook.
    - iii. Must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.
    - iv. Must not have received any single offense greater than 12 points according to the Student Honor Code within the past two semesters at the time of their application.
2. Each approved candidate is required to attend the Candidate Orientation. The Commission will inform the approved candidates of the specific time and location of the meeting via email. Not attending the Candidate Orientation will result in disqualification.
3. While Election Rules are subject to change on an election by election basis, the Rules for each election will be final as of the end of the Candidate Orientation and will be distributed electronically via the SGA website.
4. Campaigning through the use of social media (including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.), campaign rallies, flyers, posters, shirts, etc, is allowed from the conclusion of the Candidate Orientation.
5. Tabling will be prohibited until Monday of Election Week.
6. All posters must be approved and stamped by the Office of Commuter Student Life in accordance with University procedure.
7. Posters may be tacked, stapled, or taped on the tack boards designated by Commuter Services, according to the rules and regulations found on Commuter Student Life's webpage. <http://www.liberty.edu/studentaffairs/commuting/index.cfm?PID=18385>
8. Candidates may put up posters in the residence halls, with RA approval. More information can be found on Page 29 of the On-Campus Living Guide. Posters may NOT be posted in any location except for campus tack boards and hall boards.
9. Candidates may make an announcement in hall meeting, with RA approval.
10. Each campaign will be given one table in Montview Student Union on a first come, first serve basis. Campaigns may only request extra tables through the Election Commission after

the Candidate Orientation. Candidates are prohibited from going directly to Events or through SGA channels to reserve tables and will be required to forfeit any previously reserved tables at the Candidate Orientation. The Election Commission reserves the right to approve or deny these requests.

11. Each campaign may have a table set up in SGA designated tabling areas on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Candidates may bring handouts, fliers, poster boards, laptops, speakers for music, and anything to give away, (i.e. candy, stickers, pins, etc.), provided that such items are in accordance with University policy. All tables must be torn down and packed up by 5:00 PM each day. Each candidate that requests a table must provide a time of arrival at that table. If the candidate does not arrive at the requested table by 15 minutes after the time requested, the table will be forfeited and become free for other campaigns to secure.
12. Campaigns are prohibited from using resources owned and supplied by departments of the school without prior approval from the Election Commission. If resources are offered by school departments to candidates, their respective campaigns and its volunteers, they cannot be accepted without the Election Commission having received and reviewed a list of these resources and giving their approval.
13. Candidates or campaign members may ask professors if they may give a brief in-class announcement to inform a class of their candidacy or campaign. Professors reserve the right to deny this request.
14. Campaigning (including tabling) is not permitted during Convocation or within 100 feet of the Vines Center 30 minutes before or after Convocation.
15. Physical campaigning such as handing out flyers and other campaign materials is not permitted in the Jerry Falwell Library but is allowed in the JFL Starbucks and the JFL Airlock.
16. Any violation of the above rules can result in a strike, with the judgement of the Election Commission. Three strikes will result in disqualification of the offending campaign and removal from the ballot, pending approval of the Senior Vice President for Student Affairs.

## Election Rules

1. Defamation, slander or negative campaigning towards other candidates is strictly prohibited. Candidates must refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges or verbal attacks upon the character or motives of fellow candidates, members of SGA as well as University administrators, faculty, staff, and the student body.
2. Any form of bribery or coercion is strictly prohibited. Giveaways are permitted, but campaigns are not allowed to use any language that communicates to an individual that their chances to win are dependent on their decision to vote one way or another.
3. All candidates must adhere to the Liberty Way.
4. Each candidate must be forthright, honest, and fully transparent in their communication with the student body, faculty and Administration of the University.
5. Candidates must maintain genuine honesty not to be compromised for the sake of personal gain or advancement.
6. It is the responsibility of the candidate to properly educate themselves with Election Procedures & Rules. Candidates are responsible for informing their campaigns, agents, workers, and volunteers of the Election Procedures & Rules, and all applicable University Policies. The candidate may be found responsible for the actions taken by their campaigns, agents, workers, and volunteers by the findings of the Commission.
7. Candidates are to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times.
8. Maintain respect for the University, its employees, members of SGA, the student body, and fellow candidates.
9. Candidates are prohibited from using SGA funds and resources during the course of their campaign.
10. Candidates are required to respect the procedures and policies of the Election Commission.

## Dates & Times

1. Filing Date: Friday, March 8, 2019
  - a. 5:00PM
2. Candidate Orientation: Wednesday, March 20, 2019
  - a. 7:00PM @ SGA Offices
3. Election Week: Monday April 15, 2019 – Wednesday, April 17, 2019
  - a. 8:00AM-5:00PM each day
4. Debate: Tuesday, April 16, 2019
  - a. 7:00PM @ Demoss 1284
5. Election Day: Wednesday, April 17, 2019
  - a. Voting: 12:00AM-5:00PM
  - b. Results: 6:00PM @ TBD
6. Inauguration: Thursday, April 25, 2019
  - a. 7:00PM @ TBD