

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION
2020 Election Bylaws

I. PURPOSE

The Student Bar Association Election Committee hereby enacts these by-laws to ensure free and fair elections are held for all SBA officials.

II. ELIGIBILITY

Students who meet the following criteria are eligible to campaign for an SBA position:

- A. Students in good standing, as defined in the William S. Boyd School of Law (UNLV Boyd Law) Student Handbook, are eligible to run for office.
- B. No student scheduled to graduate or expecting to transfer before the expiration of a term of office shall be eligible to run for that office.
- C. No person shall be allowed to seek more than one office during a single election.
- D. All students wishing to file for a position as an SBA Office shall meet all requirements of the SBA Constitution for that position. Upon filing, the candidate must affirm they have read the SBA Constitution and the 2020 Election Bylaws. Affirmation of reading of these documents must be confirmed by signing a statement of understanding and agreeing to abide by all applicable rules and regulations.

III. CAMPAIGNING

Campaigning for SBA positions shall be limited to the following:

A. *Candidate Petition*

- i. Each student interested in running for an SBA position must submit a completed and signed Candidate Petition by the deadline set by the Elections Committee.
- ii. Due date(s) for the Candidate Petition will be made known to each candidate at least one week prior to its submission deadline.
- iii. Students who are at the Legislative Session or otherwise spending their semester off campus and can't collect physical signatures must complete the following steps:
 - a. Use the document language provided by the Elections Committee exactly, inserting only the missing information for which position you are running for.
 - b. Email your constituents directly using the template language only. (do not submit through the infoserv or risk immediate disqualification) You can find mails on the MyBoydLaw directory.

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- c. Your constituents who agree to e-sign your petition will need to fill their information into the template and email you and the Head of the Elections Committee.

- iv. If a student does not fall into the off-campus category for this semester, that student must collect petition signatures in person to have a valid petition.

B. Candidate Statement of Interest

- i. Due date(s) for candidate Statement of Interest (SOI) will be made known to each candidate following the acceptance of his/her Candidate Petition submission.

- ii. Candidates must submit their SOI by the due date to have it included in the email to their constituents.

- iii. The SBA Election Committee shall make all candidate SOIs available to potential voters.

C. “Meet the Candidates” Forum

- i. The SBA Election Committee shall publicize and hold a “Meet the Candidates” event for all candidates.

- ii. The Election Committee shall give at least a five-day notice to candidates, informing candidates of time, place, and time limits on speeches.

- iii. Executive Board Candidates are required to attend all forums. Candidates unable to attend the forum must provide the reason for absence to the Election Committee at least 24 hours in advance in order to receive approval for the absence.

- iv. **Video submissions:**
 - a. Candidates appearing at the forum via a video must limit that video to **two minutes**.
 - b. Candidates must submit their videos at least 24 hours in advance of the forum.

D. Campaign Message Restrictions

Candidates may not, under any circumstances, use “smear campaign” tactics in any campaign messaging. This means false, slanderous, or dubious accusations against other candidates; this conduct is strictly prohibited and grounds for immediate disqualification.

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E. Campaign Material Restrictions

- i. Candidates may display no more than 10 flyers in the areas designated in Section III(F)(i).
- ii. Candidates may not cover another candidate's flyers.
- iii. Candidates may not hand out any more handbills (i.e. flyers, brochures, etc.) than the total number of constituents voting for their given positions.
- iv. Candidates are solely responsible for picking up any of their handbills not placed in recycling containers.
- v. Candidates are permitted to campaign on social media websites both through individual communications and through general, mass communications.

F. Campaign Material Posting Restrictions

- i. Candidates shall post flyers and campaign materials in only the following designated areas:
 - a. the student locker room walls, bulletin boards, and ends of lockers (***but not any locker door***);
 - b. the student lounge bulletin boards; and
 - c. if a candidate chooses to campaign at a table, they may display a poster or flyer on the table.
- ii. All candidates may post their SOI in the areas designated in this section.

IV. LOBBYING WITH STUDENTS

Candidates are free to lobby with students subject to the following restrictions:

A. Tabling

Candidates may table at UNLV Boyd Law with the proper tabling reservations.

B. Phone Communications

Candidates may accept phone calls from students wishing to know more about them, but candidates—as well as their volunteers and assistants—***may not, under any circumstances***, call or text potential voters to request their vote or to request potential voters to change their vote.

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C. Email Communications

- i. Candidates—as well as their volunteers and assistants—***are not permitted*** to contact potential voters via UNLV Boyd Law’s e-mail infoserv.
- ii. Candidates—as well as their volunteers and assistants—***are not permitted*** to e- mail students individual e-mail accounts to request their vote.
- iii. Candidates are ***restricted to using*** posting areas, tabling opportunities, social media, and the forums to solicit votes only.

D. Campaign Volunteers & Assistants

- i. Guidelines & Procedures: Constituents who volunteer or otherwise assist with a candidate’s campaign must adhere to these Bylaws and any supplemental regulations placed on said candidate.
- ii. Violations: Any violations of the Bylaws or guidelines by those volunteering or assisting a candidate will function as a violation directly from said candidate. The Elections Committee will execute disciplinary actions accordingly.

V. CAMPAIGN BUDGET

- A. Candidates may spend—or allow to be spent through donors, sponsors, and supports—no more than \$75 on their campaign.
- B. The \$75 cap includes a reasonable retail estimate of all campaign materials, such as—but not limited to—posters, flyers, and tabling materials.
- C. All receipts must be made available upon request of the SBA Election Committee within 24 hours of request.

VI. VIOLATIONS OF ELECTION BYLAWS.

- A. The Elections Committee—and, when deemed necessary, with the advice and consent of the SBA Executive Board—determines penalties for violating SBA these election bylaws.
- B. The Elections Committee may consult the SBA Executive Board when it cannot otherwise resolve the matter, or when all its members are unable to provide their insight and recommendations.

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- C. Penalties may include delays in campaign activity, public sanctions, or disqualification.

VII. CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS.

- A. Before providing input for any given proposed or active candidate, each member is asked whether they can impartially weigh in on decisions regarding the named candidate.
- B. Any candidate who has a legitimate grievance regarding an Elections Committee member should report such a grievance to the SBA Advisor, Frank Durand.

VIII. MONITORING OF VOTING AND CAMPAIGNING.

- A. The elections votes are collected and vetted by the law school administration.
- B. Candidates' names will appear on the ballot in alphabetical order, under the position each candidate is running for.
- C. Elections will be held on the UNLV Boyd Law Portal website.
- D. Each member of the SBA, as defined by the SBA Constitution, is permitted to cast their ballot for one candidate in each race they are permitted to vote in.
- E. Election results will be e-mailed to the UNLV Boyd Law e-mail info-serve after the election results are announce at Barrister's Ball for spring elections, and on the next business day following the day that the voting period ended for the fall elections.
- F. Individual vote totals are not disclosed in the elections results.
- G. A simple majority is needed to elect a candidate to the office they are running for.
- H. In the case of a candidate not receiving a simple majority, a run-off will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest vote total.