

CAMPAIGN POLICY FALL 2011

A *campaign* is defined as: any form of communication used to elicit the support for one's own or another's candidacy.

There is a spending limit of **\$40 for Senate** and **\$30 for Class Council** campaigns. There is currently no official spending limit for Hall Council campaigns because they are often quite inexpensive. The Elections Chair reserves the right to request an expense report and receipts at any time throughout the campaign.

It is important to note that anyone assisting a candidate with his or her campaign must also follow all campaign rules.

The campaign period shall begin **Monday, September 5, 2011 at 12:01 a.m.** Candidates may not campaign before the campaign period begins. This includes the use of online media and social networking websites to elicit support. The campaign period ends **Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 10:00 p.m.**, the time at which voting closes. **All campaign materials must be removed within 48 hours of voting closure.**

Candidates may not harass others in any way to elicit support. This includes, but is not limited to, sliding items under residence hall doors, knocking on residence hall doors for campaign purposes, putting flyers on residence hall doors without permission, writing on residence hall whiteboards without permission, etc.

Candidates may not send mass emails for campaign purposes. Emailing campaign information to a student organization's mailing list may only be done with written permission from that organization's executive board. Email correspondence is an acceptable form of written permission. A candidate who is a member of a student organization's executive board must still receive approval from the entire executive board before sending campaign emails to the organization.

Candidates may only campaign in the following areas:

- Residence halls
- Dining halls
- Wilson Commons
- Athletic facilities
- Todd Union
- The "Painted Tunnel."

Candidates may not campaign in academic areas, including the following areas:

- Libraries (including Gleason and the IT Center)
- Buildings that are primarily used for classes
- University administrative offices

Any questions regarding the legality of campaigning should be directed to Alisa Johnson (ajohns45@u.rochester.edu). Questions regarding the legality of campaign initiatives should be

addressed **before** those initiatives are carried through. **For more information on campaigning in areas, refer to the “Can I Campaign Here?” Guide.**

Candidates may not remove or obstruct the view of other candidates’ campaign materials.
Candidates may not flyer over other candidates’ campaign materials.

Candidates may not include any profanity in their campaign materials. Furthermore, in accordance with Article V of the Students’ Association Constitution, campaign materials may not discriminate against any person because of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or political affiliation.

Candidates may not attempt to influence other students while they vote. This includes, but is not limited to, being in close proximity to the voting tables in Wilson Commons, being in close proximity to a student while he or she votes, etc.

The Elections Committee shall investigate all potential violations of campaign policies. If a candidate is found in violation of campaign policies, the Elections Committee shall levy appropriate sanctions according to the Elections Penalty Point System (below). The Elections Chair will notify all candidates of the potential violation and the ruling of the Elections Committee.

Elections Point Penalty System:

1. Campaigning in restricted areas (2 point per piece of literature)
2. Obstructing another candidate’s campaign literature (8 points per act of obstruction)
3. Spending more than allotted limit on a campaign (5 points per dollar over limit)
4. Submitting candidacy forms past the deadline (2 points per hour)
5. Campaigning before **Monday, September 5, 2011 at 12:01 a.m.** (25 points)
6. Failing to comply with posting guidelines or pertinent University policies (25 points per policy per building)
7. Failing to remove campaign literature determined in violation of enumerated campaign policies within 18 hours of the “send time” of the notification email (50 points)
8. Failing to comply with sanctions enumerated below (50 points)
9. Defacing or consenting to the defacement of another candidate’s campaign materials (50 points)
10. Deceiving the Elections Chair or members of the Elections Committee in any way about the facts pertaining to the election (50 points)

Sanctions:

- A candidate who accumulates 20-29 points shall not be allowed to campaign using online media or social networking websites.
- A candidate who accumulates 30-49 points shall not be allowed to campaign using any printed or online media.
- A candidate who accumulates 50 or more points shall be disqualified from this election cycle.