

Allegheny Student Government

2021-2022 ASG PRESIDENTIAL/VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in Allegheny Student Government (ASG)! The following information will outline the basics of the president/VP positions, go over campaign rules, and provide election deadlines and materials. This election season will be very abnormal given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and for that reason, petitions and debates will be found/take place entirely online, as opposed to in-person. We also encourage all candidates to campaign via social media. These changes will make elections more accessible for student candidates choosing to study remotely because of this pandemic—**no student should force themselves to attend Allegheny in-person just for an election.**

Responsibilities of the President:

The executive power will be vested in the President of Student Government. The President will hold office for a period of one year. This person will be elected together with the Vice President on a single ticket.

- (1) The President may submit legislative recommendations to the ASG Senate and will supervise the execution of all legislation.
- (2) The President of ASG will chair a committee for the purpose of drawing up a budget proposal. The committee will consist of the President, the President-elect, the Treasurer, the Financial Controller, and the Finance Committee of ASG.
- (3) The President will serve as a liaison between the student body, the administration, and the faculty.
- (4) The President will appoint, subject to approval of the Senate, a Cabinet to assist and advise him/her/them. Members of the Cabinet may not hold positions in the legislative or judicial branches of ASG. The President and Vice President, immediately after winning election, are responsible for developing a cabinet application. This must be made available to the student body by **March 22**.
- (5) The President may designate the Vice President to assume presidential duties which they are unable to perform for a short period of time, and may request the assistance of the Vice President and the Cabinet as they deem appropriate.
- (6) The President will perform any other duties designated to him/her/them by the Constitution and bylaws.
- (7) The President has the authority to dismiss any Cabinet member.

Responsibilities of the Vice President:

- (1) The Vice President will chair, and prepare the agenda for, the General Assembly (GA) meetings (the weekly meeting of both the Senate and Cabinet).
- (2) The Vice President will assist the President as they request.
- (3) The Vice President will perform any other duties designated to them by the Constitution or the By-Laws.

Pre-Election Responsibilities:

- (1) Students must register their candidacy through the Google Form [petition](#). They must then submit a platform detailing one's reasons for running, a short biography of each ticket member (in terms of their involvement on campus), and a ticket photo by 5pm on **February 10th** to appear on the ballot. All must be submitted in **PDF form**. These must be emailed to, and approved by, the Attorney General.
- (2) Students not already in ASG must attend at least one GA meeting via Zoom, and notify Jack Parker or Emma Godel of their attendance via Zoom direct message.

Campaigning:

- (1.) The sum of \$50 shall be made available for the General Election to the top two tickets from the Primary election. There will be a \$100 dollar limit on the total campaign expenses for any given ticket.
- (2.) Candidates will be permitted to campaign in any manner deemed fair and ethical by the Student Voting Committee (Rules and Communications + Press). Any questions concerning campaign practice may be directed to the Secretary of Student Voting. Each ticket will be held responsible for anyone acting on their behalf.
- (3.) If there are any other questions, please refer to the Bylaws and Constitution of the Allegheny Student Government or contact Jack Parker/Emma Godel (parkerj2@allegheny.edu / godele@allegheny.edu).

Rules for Campaigning:

- (1) All candidates will campaign in accordance with the Posting Policies of Allegheny College. There are copies of this policy on the third floor of the Campus Center in the Student Life Suite.
- (2) All candidates must wait until all of their materials have been approved by the Attorney General (or proxy if necessary) to begin campaigning, as to allow all candidates to be recorded and accounted for. Formal approval will be emailed to each candidate.
- (3) **Exception to Rule #2:** in order to obtain petition signatures, announced candidates are allowed to post their candidacy on social media before materials are approved. The rules for that action are as follows:
 - a. Candidates' names can of course be identified, but cannot be explicitly "pro-candidate". In other words, candidates may only mention the need for signatures, but cannot mention why they are the ideal candidate.
 - b. Candidates must mention in said post that signing a petition \neq an endorsement or pledge to vote for that candidate
 - i. Sample post aligned with rules: "My name is Jane Doe, and I'm running for ASG president with Chompers as VP! We need 50 signatures to appear on the ballot by February 10th. Students are welcome to sign multiple petitions for different candidates—signing ours does not mean you are obligated to vote for us."

- ii. Sample post not aligned with rules: “My name is Jane Doe, and I’m running for ASG president with Chompers as VP! We need 50 signatures to appear on the ballot by February 10th. We’re the best candidates for the job—we’re going to do xyz to benefit the student body. Be sure to vote for us!” (This would be considered formal campaigning and is illegal prior to getting materials approved)
- (4) No mass emails of any kind will be tolerated. All candidates who are found to have sent mass emails will be removed from the ballot.
- (5) Candidates may not produce negative campaign materials targeting opponents.
- (6) Candidates may not bribe students, or offer “material goods for the explicit exchange of a vote” in favor of the candidate, according to the Constitution.
- (7) Alcohol may not be provided at any event involving a candidate, even if individuals are of legal consumption age.
- (8) ASG members, **whether running for office or not**, are not allowed to endorse candidates in their capacity as ASG members (e.g. “as ASG Chief of Staff, I endorse Jane Doe”).
- (9) Candidates may not remove/destroy/otherwise tamper with other candidates’ promotional campaign materials. The only exception is the removal of materials after the election.
- (10) Candidates are prohibited from influencing students in any way during the act of voting on WebAdvisor (e.g. physically forcing someone to vote a certain way, or verbally speaking in favor of/against a certain candidate).
- (11) All campaigning methods will be reviewed by the Student Voting Committee. All practices deemed unacceptable will result in removal from the ballot.
- (12) Candidates will need to take down all campaigning flyers, posters, and other materials by **March 24th**.
- (13) Any complaints of unfair election or voting practices may be presented to the Chief of Staff/Assistant Secretary of Student Voting, Emma Godel, or the Attorney General, Jack Parker. Any information needs to be sent to godele@allegheny.edu or parkerj2@allegheny.edu within 24 hours of the infraction.

Important Dates:

- (1) February 10th, 2021 – All candidacy declaration petitions, platforms, student bios, and photos are due by 5pm. They can either be left in the Student Government Office (CC Room 316) or emailed to parkerj2@allegheny.edu, or godele@allegheny.edu.
- (2) March 1st-3rd – Primary Elections will be held on WebAdvisor, if at least three tickets are declared. The polls will open at 8am on March 1 and end at 5pm on March 3.
- (3) March 10th – Presidential Debate between the two highest-placing Primary Election tickets.
- (4) March 15th-17th – General Elections will be held on WebAdvisor. The polls will open at 8am on March 15 and end at 5pm on March 17.
- (5) March 19th – Winners announced by 5pm.

- (6) March 22nd – President/VP-elects must make their cabinet application available to the student body.
- (7) March 24th – All campaign posters/physical materials must be taken down.