

## Rules of the 2020 S.S.A. Election

Election will take place from 8:00pm April 16th to April 17th 8:00pm

1. Clerk of Elections will work with the Visibility and Outreach Council to publicize the availability of the senator and executive candidate packets via posters, e-mail and electronic medium beginning upon timeline and rules approval.
2. Both senator and executive Candidates will self-nominate as per the application process to be placed on the ballot. Nominations will open on Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 12:00pm and will be accepted until Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 12:00pm. All other candidates will be "Write-In Candidates" after this date.
3. If there are any changes to the Bylaws of the Stout Student Association that affect senator or executive positions, all candidates will be notified of the changes by the Clerk of Elections and given an opportunity to rescind their candidacy, or to self-nominate for a different position.
4. Voting will take place electronically via ballot that will be sent out through an all campus e-mail using Qualtrics. The Clerk of Elections shall work with the Applied Research Center to create a secure survey.
5. The Clerk of Elections will create information pieces for the executive candidates that have submitted applications within the above date, to be posted on S.S.A. social media, which will include:
  - In order to be placed on the page this information must be received by Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by 12:00pm. The information shall include: (All information must be completed via CONNECT form)
    - The candidates name
    - Year in school
    - Major, minors and concentrations
    - Campus involvement
    - S.S.A. involvement
    - Community involvement
    - Personal statement no longer than 150 words
    - Candidate picture; the picture must be submitted by the applicant.
    - Candidates may not have links to external sources on their webpage.
6. The Clerk of Elections shall work with the Visibility and Outreach Council to coordinate all marketing efforts for the elections, including but not limited to: Digital signage in the MSC, Posters, Social Media Posts and Stoutonia Ads.
7. The Ballot shall then be organized by positions beginning with executives then senators. Ballot order will be assigned based on the order of which candidates declare their candidacy and submit their documents, then followed by write in candidates.
8. The order of offices available on ballots will be the order in which they are listed in the Bylaws.

9. Campaigning (promotional material, meetings, person-to-person, etc.). All rules apply to "Write-In Candidates" as well as in ballot candidates
  1. You may not campaign prior to March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  2. Campaigning will not take place within classrooms; including, but not limited to, speeches, campaigning material placement, and campaigning give away items. Buttons can be on backpacks and clothing but not be distributed in-class. Awareness of the S.S.A election can be advertised as well, but no mention of candidates can be made or alluded to unless requested.
  3. No mass-emails sent via classroom e-mail lists/from Canvas
  4. No door to door soliciting in the dorms or off-campus
  5. No placing pamphlets on vehicles.
  6. No spray chalk or paint chalk can be used.
    1. Normal sidewalk chalking is allowed, but must be approved through MSC reservations.
  7. Campaigning will not take place within the Involvement Center and Stout Student Association Office in the MSC.
  8. Posters may be posted in University Buildings until April 30<sup>th</sup>. All posters must be removed by the candidates by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
    1. See Involvement Center Desk or their CONNECT page for proper locations and methods to hang posters in University Building.
  9. Removal or vandalism of opposing candidate's posters or campaign materials is, subject but not limited to, grounds for removal from the elections.
  10. Candidates may not utilize any S.S.A funds, supplies, telephone lines, or computers for campaigning purposes.
  11. Candidates may not spend more than \$500 on campaigning materials. Candidates must file a financial report with all spending by 11:59 P.M. on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Campaign materials include any type of medium including candidate's name, image, or other identifiers to any candidate.
  12. Donations cannot be accepted by any candidate.
  13. Slam campaigns and inappropriate language, nudity, or pornographic images are not allowed and is, including but not limited to, grounds for removal from elections.
10. The S.S.A. Election Debate is set on Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7 pm in Huff's Lounge by the Clerk of Election and all candidates including Write-In Candidates are invited to participate in the S.S.A. Election Debate.
  - a. Ballot Candidates will be automatically included in the S.S.A. Election Debate.
  - b. Write-In Candidates must notify the Clerk of Elections by Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM with their intentions to participate in the Debate.
11. Results will be released within one week of April 16<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk of Elections shall work with the Applied Research Center and Advisor of the S.S.A. to tally the exact count of votes. The results will be sent out to all students electronically via e-mail.
12. Any questions, concerns, comments, or sanction violations, please contact the Clerk of Elections at [ssapresident@uwstout.edu](mailto:ssapresident@uwstout.edu).

### **Qualifications for Each Position:**

**All candidates:** shall be in good academic standing with the University and submit evidence of such status to the Clerk of the Election Committee for approval via letter of good academic standing.

**The President:** shall have been enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Stout's academic program at least two semesters and are required to enroll in a minimum of two consecutive semesters after elections.

**The Vice President:** shall have been enrolled in the University of Wisconsin-Stout's academic program at least one semester and must enroll in a minimum of two consecutive semesters after election or appointment.

**The president or vice president:** shall hold no other major office in any University Organization that may institute bias as indicated by the Organizational Affairs Committee, or they may not hold more than two executive positions within any two organizations recognized by the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

**All other Officer Positions:** are required to enroll in a minimum of two consecutive semesters after elections.

### **Candidate Application Process:**

Complete CONNECT application to be placed on the ballot:

1. Contact Information
2. Major, minor, concentration
3. Year in School
4. Campus Involvement
5. S.S.A. involvement
6. Menomonie community involvement
7. Position Running for
8. Personal Statement
9. Upload Photograph
10. Upload or drop off 100 student signatures (50 signatures for senator positions) in Room 118 (Stout Student Association Office) of the MSC

### **Election Misconduct Sanctions:**

Each rule for the 2020 election carries with it a penalty if it is found or reported to be violated; they are outlined as follows. All sanction reports will be reviewed by the Clerk of Elections.

Rules 9.1-9.9

- Minus 10 votes per candidate per reported incident.

Rules 9.10-9.11

- Minus 20 votes per candidate per reported incidence

Rules 9.12-9.14

- Removal from the ballot