

Campaign Violations and Penalties

This document is in accordance to the [SUS Code of Procedures, Section XV](#)

The Elections Committee, composed of Election Administrators, will determine penalties for violations of the Elections Policy based on the contents of this document. The Committee are the sole judges of the interpretation of this document. For clarifications or concerns, please contact elections@sus.ubc.ca and cc (copy) pres.assist@sus.ubc.ca

The first (1) listed penalty is given to a first time offense. The second (2) is given to a second time offense, or a failure to comply with the first penalty. In the case of a third (3) time offense, or a failure to comply with a second penalty, a third will be imposed, and so forth. The last penalty will be given again if the escalation of penalties are reached.

Penalties are active from the time the candidate is notified to the end of the penalty period. Multiple penalties given at the same time will stack cumulatively. If the penalties add up to be greater than or equal to the rest of the voting period (i.e. 48 hours when only 24 are left,) then the candidate is **barred (forbidden) from campaigning.**

Each infraction is sorted into a Tier. Higher Tiers have more severe penalties; the most severe being disqualification. Candidates may also face disqualification if a candidate who is barred from the campaign commits another infraction. The Elections Committee will discuss and vote on disqualification, requiring $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to remove a candidate from running. Disqualified candidates will be immediately notified by email.

When a candidate is **barred from campaigning**, they (and everyone included in their campaign) must adhere to the following.

- Cannot post anything related to the election on social media
- Disable or delete their Facebook event for the allotted time
- Cannot give away physical handouts (flyers, pamphlets, etc) related to the election
- Cannot write on the boards of classrooms/learning areas
- Cannot verbally campaign to potential voters
- Cannot use any form of private messaging to spread campaign awareness

Inquiries? Email elections@sus.ubc.ca

The candidate is responsible for all aspects of their campaign. Penalties will be recorded in The SUS Registry of Electoral Offences and will be publicly available. All candidates will automatically be notified via email of all penalties imposed by the Elections Administrators. Failure to comply with the penalty will result in penalties.

Conflicts of Interest, as stated in the Election campaign guidelines, are existing relationships between candidates and Committee Members. Existing relationships include (but are not limited to): friendships, relationships, co-workers, employer/employee, co-chairs. Committee members involved in conflict will abstain from any voting actions regarding the Candidate.

Candidates will have the opportunity to declare conflicts of interest at the **All Candidates Meeting**. Failure to declare is listed as an infraction below. Abuse of Conflict of Interest is also listed below.

Candidates that appeal a penalty must still adhere to the penalty during an ongoing appeal process.

Prohibited Methods of Campaigning

- Any and all methods of paper campaigning
- Mass private messaging/emails
- Use of the mailing list of a club, or a governing body at UBC
- Paying a social media site (Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, etc) and advertising on their ad spaces ●
- Door-to-door campaigning
- Boothng in Student Residence

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TIER 1 (low)		
Violation	Description and Examples	Penalty
Creation of private/public Facebook groups, or similar online groups, for campaigning.	- Public events, with EA's invited, are not included.	Campaigns cannot run unless an EA is invited. 1. A warning will be issued Candidate cannot campaign for 2. 24 hours 3. Additional 48 hours

Campaigning outside of the campaign period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All forms of campaigning before the start of the scheduled campaign period 	<p>1. A warning will be issued</p> <p>Candidate cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 24 hours 3. Additional 48 hours
Inappropriate contact with EAs or SUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Privately enquiring with EA's or SUS for the betterment of a campaign - Contacting EA's or SUS outside of given hours 	<p>1. A warning will be issued.</p> <p>Candidate cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 24 hours 3. Additional 48 hours
Campaigning in restricted areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Campaigning within 5 meters of a public computer during voting period - Using their own personal/campaign volunteer computer as a voting station - - Restricted areas also include all UBC dorms (first year dorms, private rooms, study spaces, common areas) - "Door-to-door" campaigning is prohibited - Boothing in dorms is prohibited 	<p>Candidates will be asked to move at least 5 meters away or to put away their personal computer AND</p> <p>1. A warning will be issued</p> <p>Candidate cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 24 hours 3. Additional 48 hours

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Conflict of interest: failure to declare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct conflict of interest (according to AMS) include standing relationships between committee members and candidates (family, co-workers, friends) 	<p>1. A warning will be issued.</p> <p>Candidate cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 24 hours 3. Additional 48 hours
Campaigning does not comply with Social Distancing methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Failure to adhere to BC health social distancing policy - Inappropriate campaign measures that danger the health and safety of fellow 	<p>1. A warning will be issued.</p> <p>Candidate cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 24 hours 3. Additional 48 hours

	UBC students, staff, workers, etc.	
Unapproved forms of campaigning or campaign material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Campaigning in a way that is not explicitly listed or approved by EA's - Using paper campaign methods 	Candidate cannot campaign for 1. 24 hours 2. 48 hours Note: first warning is given at all candidates meeting

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TIER 2 (moderate)		
Violation	Description and Examples	Penalty
Use of SUS supplies, mediums, property, materials or resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes SUS-related social media accounts and websites - Does not include the SUS and Simply Voting website blurbs, and unmodified SUS Elections Logo 	Candidate cannot campaign for 1. 48 hours 2. The remainder of the campaign period
Formation of a party, slate or organization, endorsing other candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Candidates cannot campaign together, form a slate, party or organization - Using campaign materials that strongly resemble another candidate (colour, branding, design, appearance, slogan etc) - - Appearing on other candidate's campaign materials (flyers, handouts, websites, social media, promotional images, etc) 	Candidate must amend the situation AND cannot campaign for 1. 48 hours 2. The remainder of the campaign period

Endorsing other candidates, 3rd party endorsements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receiving endorsements from SUS, another student society or outside organizations - Receiving endorsements from a candidate in a SUS election - Endorsing a candidate in a SUS election - Endorsements include both public and private endorsements - Using your campaign to aid another campaign 	<p>Candidate must amend the situation AND cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 48 hours 2. The remainder of the campaign period <p>Note: All SUS members are forbidden from endorsing potential candidates</p>
Campaigning during SUS events or SUS work periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attempting to campaign during a SUS event, SUS meeting or Council - Using allocated meeting or event time of 	<p>Candidate must amend the situation AND cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 48 hours

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	<p style="text-align: center;">SUS members to further campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Included but not limited to: verbally promoting self, showing people campaign material 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The remainder of the campaign period
Disturbing another candidate's campaign, clear similarity to other candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impersonating other candidates - Disturbing/disrupting other candidate campaigns - Politically attacking other candidates - Includes removing another candidate's own campaign material 	<p>Candidate must amend the situation AND cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 48 hours 2. Candidate is immediately disqualified
Conflict of Interest: abuse of relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact seeking endorsement from EAs or Executives 	<p>Candidate must amend the situation AND cannot campaign for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 48 hours 2. Candidate is immediately disqualified

TIER 3 (severe)		
Violation	Description and Examples	Penalty
Defamation of other candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negatively ruining the public image of other candidates - Slander and gossip will not be tolerated 	Candidate is immediately disqualified.
Threats or bribery to voters, candidates, or SUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Physical or verbal assault on candidates, voters, or SUS - Intimidating candidates, voters, or SUS - Bribing candidates, voters, or SUS - Preventing candidates from running their campaigns - Preventing SUS from fulfilling their duties 	Candidate is immediately disqualified.
Exchanged or bought votes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promising to vote for another candidate on the premise the candidate votes for you/another candidate of choosing - Exchanging or buying votes for money/goods/benefits 	Candidate is immediately disqualified.

Other		
Violation	Description and Examples	Penalty

<p>Expenses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expenses exceed the allowed amount (\$55.00) - Written record of expenses not submitted by deadline - Purchases exceeding allowed amount cannot be used for the campaign period 	<p>At least 10% over budget: Low disciplinary action (Tier 1) determined by the Elections Committee</p> <p>At least 20% over budget: Moderate disciplinary action (Tier 2) determined by the Elections Committee</p> <p>Beyond 20% over budget: Severe disciplinary action (barred) determined by the Elections Committee</p> <p>(Note: since a record of expenses is collected at the end of the campaign period, there is no other way to prevent someone from spending lavish amounts of money)</p>
<p>Failure to comply with penalties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not fully adhering to a given penalty that has been communicated to the candidate - Ignoring a given penalty that has been communicated to the candidate - Not fully adhering to a given penalty during an appeal process 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The next penalty for the same offence will be imposed. 2. Candidate cannot campaign for the remainder of the campaign period 3. Candidate is immediately disqualified.
<p>Unlisted Violations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anything not listed in this document that the Elections Committee considers an infraction (by majority vote) - There is a violation that is not clearly defined in this document 	<p>The Elections Committee will determine the outcome of the matter with a majority vote.</p>