

HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY

THE PREMIER LIFE SKILLS UNIVERSITY

Graduate Student Government Association

CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS ACT

Enacted December 2025

The following are the official rules and procedures governing all Graduate Student Government Association elections.

Article I. Eligibility for Elected Executive Officers

Article II. Eligibility for Appointed Executive Officers

Article III. Eligibility for Program Representatives

Article IV. Eligibility for Voting Students

Article V. Elected Executive Officers

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ARTICLE I. Eligibility for Elected Executive Officers.

All candidates for executive offices within the Graduate Student Government Association must:

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0, or higher, at the time of the appointment;
2. Have served previously as elected or appointed officers, committee chairs, or program/organization representatives;
3. During the current academic year, up to the time of elections and not after the election period, must have attended at least five (5) open meetings of the Graduate Student Government Association;
4. For candidates seeking the position of Graduate Student Government Association President, the candidate must have attended High Point University for a minimum of three (3) semesters;
5. Any of the above requirements may be waived by majority vote of the sitting Executive Council.

ARTICLE II. Eligibility for Appointed Executive Officers.

All candidates for appointed executive offices within the Graduate Student Government Association must:

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0, or higher, at the time of the appointment;
2. Have attended at least two (2) Graduate Student Senate meetings of the Graduate Student Government Association, which may include the meeting of induction;
3. Have the recommendation of an existing Executive Officer;
4. Any of the above requirements may be waived by majority vote of the sitting Executive Council.

ARTICLE III. Eligibility for Program Representatives.

All candidates for appointed program representatives within the Graduate Student Government Association must:

1. Have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0, or higher, at the time of appointment;
2. Have attended at least two (2) Graduate Student Senate meetings of the Graduate Student Government Association, which may include the meeting of induction;
3. A recommendation appointment from the respective graduate program academic dean or program director/chair.

ARTICLE IV. Eligibility for Voting Students.

1. Have a grade point average of 2.7, or higher, at the time of the election;

2. Be enrolled full time as a graduate student at High Point University;
3. Have paid the student activities fee.

ARTICLE V. Elected Executive Officers.

The following members of the Executive Council of the Graduate Student Government Association shall be elected by the graduate students of High Point University according to Article VI, Section I of the Graduate Student Government Constitution:

1. President
2. Executive Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer

ARTICLE VI. Appointed Officers.

The following members of the Executive Council of the Graduate Student Government Association will be jointly recommended by the respective outgoing officers and the incoming President of the Graduate Student Government Association, and shall be confirmed by both the elected members of the Executive Council and the Graduate Student Senate according to Article VI, Section I of the Graduate Student Government Constitution. Additional positions may be appointed at the discretion of the President of the Graduate Student Government Association:

1. Graduate Student Engagement Chair
2. Service and Philanthropy Chair
3. External Communications Chair
4. Professional Development Chair
5. Finance Chair

ARTICLE VII. Campaign Materials.

1. With regard to campaign materials:
 - a. All campaign materials must be brought to the GSGA Advisor and approved before it may be used for campaigning;
 - b. Campaign materials may only be posted on designated boards throughout campus;
 - c. Posters must not exceed 24"x36" and may not be posted on entrance floors in Residence Halls and no banners may be used;
 - d. Campaign materials may not be posted on wooden doors, painted walls, glass, University structures, furniture or furnishings;
 - e. There will be no mass email campaigning allowed;
 - f. Failure to abide by these rules will result in removal from the election at the discretion of the Executive Vice President;
 - g. The Executive Vice President has final authority over the entire election process;

- h. In the event that the Executive Vice President is a candidate, the President of GSGA will oversee and have final authority.
- 2. With regard to negative campaign materials:
 - a. All campaign materials must demonstrate civility and must otherwise be consistent with the goals established for educational support services and campus life at High Point University;
 - b. There will be no slander and libel allowed toward other candidates. The elections must remain respectful toward other candidates and the Executive Council;
 - c. Any negative campaigning and hearsay observed should be documented through video or pictures and sent to the Executive Vice President in a timely manner via the Campaign Violation Report Form;
 - d. Failure to abide by these rules will result in removal from the election at the discretion of the Executive Vice President;
 - e. The Executive Vice President has final authority over the entire election process;
 - f. In the event that the Executive Vice President is a candidate, the President of GSGA will oversee and have final authority.
- 3. With regard to the use of Social Media (i.e., Facebook, X, Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, etc.):
 - a. If any social media is employed by a candidate, the Executive Vice President must have full access to posted or published information. For example, if a Facebook group/event is created, HPU GSGA must be made an administrator group/event itself;
 - b. Failure to abide by these rules will result in removal from the election at the discretion of the Executive Vice President;
 - c. The Executive Vice President has final authority over the entire election process;
 - d. In the event that the Executive Vice President is a candidate, the President of GSGA will oversee and have final authority.

ARTICLE VIII. Election Procedures.

For all elections conducted by the Graduate Student Government Association, the Executive Vice President shall enforce the following procedures:

- 1. Applications will be available online through an electronic form at least one (1) week prior to the beginning of the election period;
- 2. A candidate may not run for a different position, in any circumstance, once the application is approved;
- 3. The Executive Vice President will hold a mandatory meeting for all approved candidates to review campaign regulations;
 - a. Campaigning will be allowed immediately following this meeting;
 - b. Failure to attend this meeting will result in disqualification;
- 4. Debates shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Executive Vice President;

5. Campaigning must end at 11:59pm on the night before vote begins and voting will begin at 12:01am the following day;
6. All current material that is posted can remain through the election voting process, but no new material may be added once voting begins;
7. The voting period for elections will be three (3) days and available 24 hours per day;
8. Voters will follow provided directions to cast an online ballot via an electronic system;
9. Only qualified voters will be presented with the link to vote;
10. All positions shall be elected by the candidate receiving the most votes;
11. In the event of a perfect tie, the Graduate Student Senate shall determine the winner;
12. Results shall be certified and emailed by the Executive Vice President to all involved parties within 24 hours after voting closes;
13. Each candidate shall be allowed one (1) request for a re-count of the ballots and official election results and ballot counts are available to all candidates at the conclusion of the election;
14. The Executive Council may revise the election schedule for cause, subject to confirmation by the Graduate Student Senate and provided they are completed four weeks prior to the first day of examinations to allow sufficient time for orientation and planning;
15. Once voting has concluded and the election is certified, the elected members of the Executive Council shall appoint non-elected members of which are all subject to confirmation by the Graduate Student Senate;
16. The Executive Vice President or the GSGA President has the right to call a meeting of all candidates given a 24-hour advance unless either the GSGA President or University Official deems it necessary to have an emergency hearing.
 - a. Failure to attend results in immediate disqualification of the candidate;
17. The Executive Vice President has final authority over the entire election process;
18. In the event that the Executive Vice President is a candidate, the President of GSGA will oversee and have final authority;
19. If the President is a candidate, the Advisor of GSGA will oversee and have final authority.

ARTICLE IX. Appeal Process.

In the event of an appeal by a candidate, the following procedures will be followed:

1. The candidate requesting an appeal must contact the Executive Vice President within forty-eight (48) hours following the certification of the election;
2. The Executive Vice President will coordinate the appellate process by scheduling an appellate board hearing consisting of the following:
 - a. GSGA President;
 - b. Office of Student Life Representative or GSGA Advisor;

- c. The candidate requesting the appeal;
3. Dissatisfaction with the outcome of the election is not grounds for appeal, instead basis for appeal must meet one of the following:
 - a. Evidence of tampering with election results;
 - b. Evidence of misconduct from the Executive Vice President;
 - c. Evidence of misconduct from the participating candidates;
 - d. All other appeals will be accepted at the discretion of the GSGA Advisor.

ARTICLE X. Unexpired Terms.

In the event of an unexpired term for an election position (i.e., President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer), the Graduate Student Senate will hold an election. An announcement for the election must be made two (2) weeks before the election in the Graduate Student Senate. The position will be elected by the Graduate Student Senate by majority vote. The newly elected official will take office at the next Graduate Student Senate meeting.

ARTICLE XI. Suspension of the Campaigns and Elections Act.

The Campaign and Elections Act may be suspended by unanimous vote of the Executive Council. The Graduate Student Senate is to be notified at the next Graduate Student Senate meeting.