



ELECTIONS CODE
of the
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
of
ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

Ratified 4/10/2023

PRELUDE

The Elections Code shall specify regulations and procedures for student elections within the Student Government Association of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and the Office of Student Affairs. These codes shall include all necessary and amended sections of the Constitution and the By-Laws that pertain to the elections of SGA.

ARTICLE I: GENERAL RULES

Section 1:

Any person who wishes to become a candidate for office must complete and submit an official application through the Office of Student Affairs with approval from the SGA Election Committee before the deadline decided by the Office of Students Affairs.

Section 2:

All candidates must use their actual names on the ballot for the election. If a candidate uses a preferred name that is different from their legal first name, they may optionally provide their preferred first name to appear on the ballot in the following format: Legal First Name (Preferred First Name) Legal Last Name.

Section 3:

All candidates and campaigns will be subject to institutional policies. This includes, but is not limited to, campus facility rules, faculty syllabi, intellectual property law, and the student code of conduct. Violation of any Institutional policy by a candidate or campaign worker may, at the discretion of the Elections Committee, result in that candidate's disqualification.

ARTICLE II: ELIGIBILITY

One's eligibility to run for election to SGA is subject to the qualifications and requirements of the SGA Constitution and By-Laws of ABAC.

ARTICLE III: ELECTORATE & VOTING

Section 1: Electorate of the President, Vice President, Judiciary, and Executive of Bainbridge

The President, Vice President, Judiciary, and Executive of Bainbridge shall be voted by the entire student body of ABAC.

Section 2: Electorate of Senators

Senators shall be voted for by the students of their respective schools.

Section 3: Voting Procedures

The elections for each position in SGA shall be overseen by the Election Committee and the Office of Student Affairs. The positions of President and Vice President shall be elected using the system of an electoral college for elections. The positions of Judiciary, Executive of Bainbridge, and Senators shall use a majority-rule/popularity system for elections.

Section 4: Electoral College System

A set of 33 electoral votes, with each school having a base of 2 votes due to the senator positions of SGA and 25 electoral votes disbursed by enrollment numbers of each respective schools, will be used to govern the election of the positions of President and Vice President. The Election Committee will evaluate the allocation of the 25 electoral votes to each school from the previous year's election by looking at current enrollment numbers of each school provided by the Registrar's Office.

Section 5: Electoral Vote Allocation Guidelines

For a candidate to receive the number of electoral votes from a respective school, they must receive a simple majority (the highest number of votes cast for any one candidate exceeds the second-highest number) of votes cast. The equation used to allocate the 25 electoral votes is dictated below:

$$\frac{25 \text{ Electoral Votes}}{\text{(Total ABAC Student Enrollment / Enrollment of Respective School)}} = \text{Total of Electoral Votes Respective School Receives}$$

Section 6: Majority-Rule/Popularity System

For the offices of Judiciary, Executive of Bainbridge, and Senators, a simple majority (the highest number of votes cast for any one candidate exceeds the second-highest number) system shall be used to determine positions.

ARTICLE IV: SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SGA Applications shall be released a month before elections take place. The week of campaign and elections of SGA shall take place the week of the first student body meeting after Homecoming Week where students will announce their SGA candidacy. The following three days shall be used for campaigning and host the debates of President and Vice President. The Vice-Presidential debate shall take place one day after the announcement of SGA candidates, with the Presidential debate following the day after. On the fifth day of the week, elections shall open and will close at the end of the ABAC business day. Announcements of election results shall be released via email to the student body.

ARTICLE V: RUN-OFF ELECTION

In the event that there is a tie in any of the SGA Elections, a run-off election will be organized and conducted by the Office of Student Affairs.

ARTICLE VI: CAMPAIGNING

All candidates must adhere to the following rules and regulations (failure to comply may result in disqualification). Candidate must attend the candidate interest meeting with the SGA Advisor and sign the form acknowledging understanding of the rules:

1. All candidates must follow the principles set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and meet the eligibility requirements set forth in the SGA Constitution.
2. All posted campaign materials must be approved by the Dean of Students. To expedite this process, you may send a flyer to deanofstudents@abac.edu. Once your material has been stamped, you may copy and post it. Postings must be on bulletin boards approved for student use.
3. Candidates are prohibited from using any ABAC office materials. You must supply your own copier, paper, markers, etc.
4. Banners or bedsheet signs and location must be approved by the Dean of Students.
5. Do not place flyers on vehicles.
6. Mass emails are not allowed using the campus email system.
7. All posted materials must be removed 24 hours after voting closes.
8. Tampering with another candidate's campaign material is not allowed.
9. Students may not set up computers and ask other students to vote for them.
10. Any candidate representing the college in a negative light and/or found in violation of any of these rules is subject to disqualification from the election and may receive sanctions for violating the Student Code of Conduct.

ARTICLE VII: OATH OF OFFICE

Elected SGA members must take the following Oath of Office before officially assuming an office or filling a vacant position:

I, _____ do solemnly swear to persevere in my duties as a representative for the students of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, to work for a better student government and to maintain the dignity of the office during my term. I do solemnly swear to execute my office faithfully and honestly and to respect and preserve the Constitution and By-Laws on which our Student Government is founded.

ARTICLE VIII: ELECTION OUTCOME

In all SGA elections, the candidate with the majority of allotted votes shall be elected to the respective office. Majority rule in elections is defined as the candidate with the most votes cast in favor.