

1.0 Authority and Applicability

1.1 Authority

This Electoral Code is approved by Senate and published as an addendum to the *Senate and Academic Board Elections Policy* ('Elections Policy').

1.2 Applicability

This Code applies to all elections conducted at The University of Queensland under the *Elections Policy*. This Code applies to all nominated candidates and their representative agent/s.

2.0 Definitions

Campaigning The advocacy or advertising of a candidacy, including but not limited to:

- public verbal advocacy of a candidate;
- distribution of campaign materials, including electronic distribution;
- posting of campaign signs or flyers; or
- use of other electronic means for distributing campaign materials, including use of social media.

Inducement In the context of this Code, anything offered by a candidate or their agent/s that persuades or encourages someone to do something.

3.0 Related Policies and Procedures

A candidate must be familiar with and comply with the University's Policies and Procedures that relate to the following:

- [Integrity and Misconduct](#)
- Use of University facilities
- Use of email and social media
- Code of Conduct
- Senate Rules and by-laws
- [University Elections](#)

4.0 Conduct of Candidates and Agents

During an election, a candidate and/or the candidate's agent must:

- 4.1 Act honestly in making any representation.
- 4.2 Not engage in conduct that is misleading, deceptive or may reasonably be perceived to compromise a free and fair election.
- 4.3 Not influence or affect another person's election choices by giving, promising, or offering an inducement of any kind to anyone (excluding genuine policy promises made publicly). This includes encouraging a person to provide candidates or their agents with receipt of vote emails confirming how a person voted in an election.
- 4.4 Not make frivolous or vexatious complaints, including complaints about or against another candidate.
- 4.5 Not behave in a way that is, or could reasonably be perceived as, discriminatory, harassing, intimidating or bullying.
- 4.6 Not provide any unauthorised polling facilities, instruments or devices (virtual or physical) that enable or assist people to cast their votes.

- 4.7 Comply with other relevant Charters and Codes of the University relating to conduct and elections.
- 4.8 Follow all reasonable directions of the Returning Officer, Chief Operating Officer, a Security Officer of the University or any person authorised by the Returning Officer.

5.0 Campaigning

- 5.1 Campaigning for an election is only permitted during the period following notice of election to the date on which the result of the election is declared by the Returning Officer.
- 5.2 A candidate and the candidate's agents must not distribute or leave campaign materials and paraphernalia (e.g. leaflets, posters or badges) in the University's libraries, lecture theatres, and tutorial rooms or in other University buildings.
- 5.3 A candidate and the candidate's agents may distribute campaign materials if they are taken by a person directly from the candidate or the candidate's agents.
- 5.4 A candidate and the candidate's agents must not affix to any surface or erect any election related signs including posters, leaflets and stickers on a University campus including on buildings, equipment, furniture, trees, and similar, unless approved by the Property and Facilities Division.
- 5.5 A candidate may be required to reimburse the University for all reasonable costs associated with:
 - 5.5.1 Cleaning of discarded election materials on University buildings and land; or
 - 5.5.2 Removing unauthorised election signs, posters, leaflets or stickers from University buildings and land.
- 5.6 A candidate and the candidate's agents are prohibited from directly or indirectly offering inducements of any kind to encourage voting or to encourage a vote to be cast specifically for a candidate (excluding genuine policy promises made publicly).
- 5.7 A candidate and the candidate's agents may apply to hire University facilities during the election campaign pursuant to established University policy and procedures. For example, a candidate may hire a teaching space or meeting room for campaigning during an election at the rate set by the University. The candidate and the candidate's agents must pay the cost associated with the hire of the facility and meet all the University's conditions of hire.
- 5.8 Unless authorised under this Code or another University policy, a candidate and the candidate's agents must not, in the conduct of the candidate's election campaign:
 - 5.8.1 Use University resources; or
 - 5.8.2 In any way disrupt staff or students or others from undertaking their normal activities at the University.

6.0 Non-compliance

- 6.1 If a candidate or their agent fails to comply with this Code, the Returning Officer may take any action set out in section 2.16 of the Elections Policy, including:
 - 6.1.1 Issuing a written warning to the candidate or their agent or both the candidate and the candidate's agents, as circumstances require; or
 - 6.1.2 Imposing sanctions on a candidate, including restricting the candidate and the candidate's agents from campaigning for a period up to 3 calendar days specified by the Returning Officer; or
 - 6.1.3 Referring the candidate's conduct to the Senate Electoral Committee for determination.

- 6.2** Complaints about the behaviour of individuals (including a candidate) during an election should be made in accordance with section 2.17 of the Elections Policy.
- 6.3** Referrals to the Senate Electoral Committee are considered in accordance with section 2.19 of the Elections Policy.
- 6.4** Candidates are responsible for their agents' actions and conduct arising out of or connected with the agents' campaigning for the candidate's election.
- 6.5** If a candidate's agents are University students or staff, those agents must comply with:
- 6.5.1 this Code and any sanction imposed under this section 6;
 - 6.5.2 University policies regulating the conduct of University students or staff, as applicable to the status of the agent.
- 6.6** If a candidate's agents are not University students or staff, the candidate must:
- 6.6.1 provide a copy of this Code to the candidate's agents;
 - 6.6.2 direct in writing that the candidate's agents comply with this Code and observe and comply with any warning or sanction issued to the candidate; and
 - 6.6.3 if requested by the Returning Officer, provide a true copy of the written direction to the candidate's agents to the Returning Officer not later than three business days from the request.
- 6.7** A failure by the candidate to comply with section 6.6 without lawful excuse, may also be non-compliance with this Code.