



**FAIRMONT STATE  
UNIVERSITY™**

**Student Government Association**

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**

### **Dates to Remember**

**Election packet due..... August 28, 2022**  
**Voting ..... September 1-3, 2022**

### **Available Positions**

**House of Representatives..... 9 Open Positions**

**Senators..... Graduate (2)**

**Junior (1)**

**Freshman (2)**

# **COME JOIN OUR TEAM!**

## Got Questions?

- Stop by the SGA Office in the Falcon Center
  - Email [studentgovernment@fairmontstate.edu](mailto:studentgovernment@fairmontstate.edu)
  - Contact an Advisor

John Devault – Hardway Hall, Career Development Center or  
[john.devault@fairmontstate.edu](mailto:john.devault@fairmontstate.edu)

**NOMINATION FORMS SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED, THEN RETURNED TO AN SGA ADVISOR**

## ELECTION BASICS

### Why Should I Join Student Government?

Student Government is a great way to become involved on campus and in the community. You can help shape school policies and provide needed services to fellow students and the community. Additionally, we have a lot of fun, and it is a great way to get involved! Students involved in student organizations tend to do better in school – It's a fact!

### Who is Eligible?

- Students enrolled in at least 12 credit hours this semester.
- Students must have a minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA at the time of their nomination unless there is no credit hour requirement for the position.

### What do I have to do in Student Government?

All Student Government members upon winning their seat in Student Government Elections will be expected, regardless of position, to:

- Attend all weekly SGA meetings on Thursdays at 12:30-1:30 in 128 HB or attend online through the platform chosen by the executive board.
- Attend any special SGA meetings as called by the SGA President.
- Volunteer for various SGA sponsored events and community service initiatives.
- Serve on campus committees as appointed by the SGA President.
- Regularly check Email and Student Government Social Media sites for important communications.
- Attend any and all SGA Fall & Spring Retreat & trainings.
- Should be professional, responsible, reliable, articulate, and able to reach out to students to bring a student perspective where is needed.

*\* Extreme violation of institutional policies (local, state, federal law) may constitute removal from office or candidacy.*

## What SGA Positions are open?

### *\*Open to students of Freshman Rank (Under 29 Credits)*

- House of Representatives:** Will Elect 9 in fall  
Must be an FSU student. Will be considered an at large representative for FSU.  
This is an entry level position to Student Government. Help provide FSU specific point of views to SGA. *The term of office is from August to May.*
- Freshman Senator:** Will Elect 2 in fall- Must be considered a freshman at FSU.  
Completed fewer than 29 credits. No previous credit hours are required for this position.  
*The term of office is from August to May.*

### *\*Open to other students of various ranks*

- Senior Senator:** Will Elect 2 in fall  
Must have completed required credit hours for senior rank at FSU by the end of this semester. They must be invested in their classmates in order to bring their prospective to SGA and create the best experience possible for members of their respective classes. *The term of office is from August to May.*
- Junior Senator:** Will Elect 2 in fall  
Must have completed required credit hours for junior rank at FSU by the end of this semester. Will represent your class among SGA and will be expected to provide ideas for programming for your respective class. They must be invested in their classmates in order to bring their prospective to SGA and create the best experience possible for members of their respective classes. *The term of office is from August to May.*
- Sophomore Senator:** Will Elect 1 in fall  
Must have completed 24 credit hours at FSU by the end of this semester. Will represent your class among SGA and will be expected to provide ideas for programming for your respective class. *The term of office is from August to May.*

## How do I get on the ballot to run for Student Government?

Complete a nomination form and return it to the Student Government Advisor by the due date, available on the website at this link - [SGA Officer Nomination Form](#)

*All nominees must sign the nomination form stating they will comply with and immediately begin following SGA policies and procedures. Failure to affirm will prevent candidates from appearing on the ballot.*

## Who can vote?

All students! However, students may only vote for nominees who would directly represent them. The online voting system will set restrictions and only permit students to vote for whom they are eligible to vote. For example - a Freshman can only vote for the Freshman Senator.

# CAMPAIGN RULES

## When can I begin campaigning?

You cannot campaign until you have been officially nominated and completed a nomination form ([SGA Officer Nomination Form](#)). Specific dates to begin campaigning are listed on this document and the SGA website.

## What are the campaign rules?

Many of these rules are not Student Government rules but campus policy or City of Fairmont Code. Please read carefully and be respectful of these policies. Failure to adhere may lead to removal from the election ballot at the discretion of the Executive Board and Student Government Advisor.

- Posters, signs, and public notices or other campaign materials of any type may be displayed only on the general-purpose bulletin boards provided for that purpose on campus. No such notices may be displayed on any internal or external walls, doors, windows or any other surfaces including sidewalks and other walkways. Materials found incorrectly displayed will be removed by the Executive Officers, the Advisor and/or facilities directors.
- Within residence halls, candidates must follow residence hall visitation policies while campaigning and request permission to hang campaign signs from the Director of Residence Life and Housing.
- Within residence halls, students may choose to post campaign materials on their personal doors and windows. Candidates must ask permission of each student to post materials upon their doors or windows.
- Nominees are permitted to hang one banner in select locations on campus; however, each banner must be approved for content and display location by the Student Government Advisor (John Devault).
- Banners are limited to no larger than 39 inches by 75 inches, (6ft.3in. by 3ft.3in), the size of twin flat sheet and oriented horizontally.
- Requests for banners and signs in the Falcon Center must be directed to the Director of the Falcon Center (Robin Yeager) for approval based upon content and message. No handwritten signs will be approved. Please have a copy of your produced sign with you when making your request. Signs may not be posted on any wall in the Falcon Center, but can be posted on general use boards after approval.
- Posters, signs, and public notices or other campaign materials of any type are not permitted to be displayed on public property, which is not intended for public signage.
- Materials found incorrectly displayed will be removed without notice.
- Candidates may not create campaign websites linked to any Fairmont State websites.
- Students and candidates may not campaign using mass email to any part of the campus community.

- Students and candidates may not obstruct or interfere with other campaigns.
- Students and candidates must follow reservation policies of the campus when utilizing space and tables to campaign in campus facilities. Look at the website for how to make a reservation.

*\* Extreme violation of institutional policies and/or local, state, and federal law may constitute removal from office or candidacy on ballot.*

## **What you can do to campaign!**

Some students are stumped or frightened to violate the rules above, so we've witnessed general lack of how to campaign in the past. This section is added to the packet to aid students with ideas on campaign for their seat.

- Use your personal Social Media accounts or a Wiki page to campaign. Create a Facebook page and invite your friends and other students to vote for you or create a Twitter tag, such as #bobby4senate.
- Make memorable campaign posters. Successful campaigns in the past have been fueled from interest in a funny campaign slogan or sign. Use trending things to your advantage than just traditional posters (just remember to keep it appropriate for campus).
- Assemble an election team! You may feel weird talking with students by yourself and asking them for their vote so get your best friends to help shoulder your awkward burden.
- Utilize SGA social media
- See constitution for campaign expenditures (Article VI, Section IV, Clause A&B)

## **REMEMBER WHAT YOU ARE SIGNING UP FOR!**

**SGA ISN'T YOUR TYPICAL CAMPUS CLUB OR ORGANIZATION.  
YOU WILL HAVE IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER  
OF YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION.  
TO MAKE SURE YOU WILL FULFILL YOUR DUTIES YOU MUST  
SIGN THE NOMINATION FORM.**