

Student Government Elections: Student Senator Application

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your decision to run for elected office within the EIU Student Government for Spring 2013. As a member of the EIU Student Government, you can play an intricate part and role to effect change and make things happen on behalf of the EIU Student Body.

The first step to becoming an elected member of the EIU Student Government is carefully reviewing and completing the following information and documents contained in the EIU Student Government Candidates Election Packet as follows:

- ***2013 Basic Time & Eligibility Requirements*** (p. 3)
- ***2013 Elections Timeline*** (p. 4)
- ***2013 Elections Guidelines*** (p. 5)
- ***2013 University Posting Policy*** (p. 6)
- ***2013 Violations of Elections*** (p. 7)
- ***2013 Candidate's Intent to Run Form*** (p. 8)
- ***2013 Candidate's Petition*** (p. 9-11)

The EIU Student Government Association is available to assist you in your understanding of the requirements, responsibilities and regulations that govern your candidacy for elected office. However, please understand that as a candidate for office you are responsible for understanding and adhering to all requirements outlined in this packet. To insure that you are placed on the elections ballot as a candidate, please complete and return the *Candidate's Intent to Run Form*, *Candidate's Platform Essay* and the *Candidate's Petition* **NO LATER THAN – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20**. *If you should have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.*

Kaci L. Abolt
2012-2013 EIU Student Body President
E-mail – klabolt@eiu.edu

*** Note: Grievances may be filed no later than 3 days following the unofficial election results. See details on p. 7**

BECOME A PART OF IT!

ARE YOU SURE? Remember To...

1. Read through this packet carefully, and decide if EIU Student Government is right for you. Please review the EIU Student Government meeting schedule in this packet. All meetings are required unless your absence falls under the guidelines for absences located in the SGA by-laws.
2. Complete all forms contained within the *Candidate's Elections Packet*. *Incomplete forms will not be considered*. When all procedures are fulfilled it will be up to your peers to vote you into office. Election results will be tallied and unofficial results will be read at the Student Senate meeting on April 3. If you are ratified, you will be seated as a member of the Executive Board.

SGA FACTS

What is the EIU Student Government?

The EIU Student Government Association is a representative assembly elected by the EIU student body. Executive Members of EIU Student Government serve for a term of one academic year. Elections are held each spring semester in April. The purpose of the EIU Student Government is to represent the EIU student body .

What is the Structure of the EIU Student Government?

The SG is made up of the 3-Branches of Government – **Executive** (*President, Executive Vice President, Vice President Student Affairs, Vice President Academic Affairs*), **Legislative** (*Speaker of Senate, 30- Senators*) and **Judicial** (*(7) Student Supreme Court Justices appointed by the Student Body President*)

What's in it for YOU?

1. Gain career related experiences
2. Learn and practice leadership skills such as communication, delegation, goal setting, budgeting and programming.
3. Develop inter-personal and social skills by working with EIU administrators, staff and students leaders across the campus.
4. Make a difference on campus and impact the EIU community.
5. An opportunity for personal reward and achievement.
6. Make lifelong friends.

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2013 Basic Time & Eligibility Requirements

Basic Time Commitments

- Weekly Senate Meetings, Wednesday evenings at 7pm
- Weekly Committee Meetings
- 2 Office Hours per week
- Must visit an RSO each month as a Senate Liaison
- Must complete the Student Government Diversity Requirement

Basic Position Duties

- Shall maintain a GPA of 2.5, and be a full-time student and in good disciplinary standing with the University.
- Shall attend weekly Student Senate Meetings.
- Shall attend a weekly committee meeting as deemed necessary by the committee chair.
- Must complete two office hours per week in the Student Activities Center or an approved outside office hour.
- Must attend a Student Government retreat at the beginning of each semester.
- Must complete the Student Senate diversity requirement. (See Constitution.)
- Must attend a meeting of an RSO once a month.

2013 SGA Election Timeline

Monday, February 18	Election Pack available in the Student Activity Center and the Student Government Website (http://castle.eiu.edu/~stdtgov/)
Wednesday, March 20	Intent to Run form (page 8) and Candidate Petition (page 9-11) Student Activity Center (MLK Jr. Union, 2 nd Floor) by 4pm (<i>Ballot order will be determined by when the completed packet is turned in</i>)
Thursday, March 21	6:00PM Candidate Meeting *Required for Everyone Sullivan Room, 3 rd Floor, MLK Jr. Union (<i>Individual head shot pictures will be taken</i>)
Monday, March 25	7:00PM Executive Debate *Required of Exec Candidates Charleston/Mattoon Room, 3 rd Floor, MLK Jr. Union
March 25-29	Interviews with DEN, Time/Date TBA
Monday-Tuesday, April 1-2	Online Elections begin at 12:00AM Monday- 11:59PM Tuesday (Link is sent to all students)
Wednesday, April 3	Unofficial results at the Student Senate Meeting Arcola/Tuscola Room, 3 rd Floor, MLK Union 7:00PM
Wednesday, April 10	Official results, Seating of New Senators, Speaker Elections *Required for Everyone Arcola/Tuscola Room, 3 rd Floor, MLK Union 7:00PM <i>Candidate Campaigning ends at 7PM ALL campaign materials must be removed</i>
Wednesday, April 17	Inauguration for Executives, Senator/Exec Training/Transition *Required for Everyone Grand Ballroom, 7:00PM

*Elected officers and Senators will meet with their outgoing position the week of April 17-24 for detailed officer transition. In addition all elected Executive Candidates and Senators should plan to attend Panther Service Day on Saturday, April 20.

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Elections Guidelines

From The Elections Reform Act

Title VI- Eligibility Requirements for Candidates

- I. Candidates must be enrolled in the University during the semester they seek office.
- II. A person may not occupy any two or more of the following offices simultaneously.
 - a. Student Body Executive Officer
 - b. Student Senator
 - c. Student Supreme Court Justice
 - d. Member of the Student Body Elections Commission
 - e. Chairperson or Vice Chairperson of the University Board
 - f. Voting member of the Apportionment Board, Judicial Board, or Student Publications Board.
- III. Candidates seeking office as a Student Body Executive Officer must be enrolled in the University a minimum of one semester prior to seeking office.

Title IX – Campaigning

- I. Campaign materials may be posted or distributed and other campaign activities carried out, in accordance with University Policy:
 - a. Notices for mailbox distribution must contain the resident’s name or “occupant”, the room number, and hall.
 - b. Candidates may not take actions to remedy posting violations aside from reporting the violations to the Commission.
 - c. Campaigners must honor “No Campaigning” signs on the door of residence hall rooms. Campaigners may not knock or slip materials under these doors.
 - d. Campaigning is prohibited in all Dining Centers.
 - e. Candidates are responsible for removing all posted literature within 48 hours following the election.
 - f. No chalking is permitted on University grounds.
 - g. No campaigning is permitted in any University computer labs or in Mary J. Booth Library.

University Posting Policy

No announcements, advertising, signs or printed matter may be placed on the interior or exterior walls, windows, or doors of any building (except in residences as permitted by Office of University Housing and Dining policy, in individual offices, or on designated posting areas), on trees, lampposts, trash containers, fences, sidewalks, grounds or equipment of the University. Advertising on parked vehicles, without prior written permission from the Campus Scheduling Office, is prohibited.

Bulletin boards are maintained by the University for academic use, for University business, or for other authorized purposes. The privilege of using such facilities for the promotion of co-curricular activities, for other events of interest to the University community, or for commercial purposes, is provided on a space available basis, subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

Registered student organizations or off-campus public service organizations may post, with advance approval from the Campus Scheduling Office, items which promote on-campus co-curricular activities or other events of educational or public service interest to the University community, provided that unrestricted bulletin boards are used in accordance with this policy. A list of boards available for such purposes is available from the [Campus Scheduling Office](#). Postings must include the name of the primary sponsoring department, Registered Student Organization, or other entity permitted to post on campus. Postings are limited to one per board, should not exceed 11"x 27", and are not to be placed over other current posters. Standard desktop staples, thumb tacks, or push pins are to be used; the use of tape or commercial staple guns is prohibited. Posted materials will normally be removed within 30 days or after the event. The use and placement of banners, sandwich boards, or other signs are subject to prior approval by the Campus Scheduling Office.

Each Residence Hall has a designated board for public posting. Any posting on this board must be approved through the Campus Scheduling Office. Once approved, the poster can be placed by the individual receiving the approval. Only one poster per individual can be placed at each posting location.

The advertising of commercial products, services, or off-campus businesses will be restricted to specified bulletin boards in limited locations, a list of which is available from the Campus Scheduling Office, unless otherwise approved by the Assistant Director, Campus Scheduling or designee. University bulletin boards may not be used to publicize events or activities which are unlawful or in violation of the Student Conduct Code.

Distribution of non-commercial handout literature is permitted outside of buildings, subject to reasonable time and place, and manner restrictions. Distribution of commercial handout literature is prohibited on campus without prior permission from the Campus Scheduling Office.

*** Note: Grievances may be filed no later than 3 days following the unofficial election results. See details on p. 7**

Violations of Elections Guidelines

Any EIU student or Candidate for Office may challenge and file an election protest regarding alleged violations by a candidate's campaign, candidate's party, or the election process within 24 hrs. of the alleged violation and no later than 3 days of the Un-official Election Results, in the MLK Jr. Union - Student Activity Center by 4:00pm.

- A. Included in the protest must be the following:
 - 1. The violation(s)
 - 2. The violator(s)
 - 3. Citation of the specific rule(s) violated.
 - 4. Date and time of violation
 - 5. Other relevant circumstances of the violation or protest, and the signature of the protester.

- B. Alleged violations of the Election Rules will be subject to further review, investigation, and action by the EIU Student Supreme Court.

- C. Any violation of the Elections Commission regulations may also represent a violation of the Student Conduct Code and may be subject to review and referral to Judicial Affairs per University procedures defining said Student Conduct Code violations

- D. Defendants may appeal the decision of the EIU Student Supreme Court to the Office of Student Life within 24 hours of an official ruling or decision.

- E. After the protest/violation period has been observed, the Elections Commission will consider certification of the election results and forward its conclusions to the Student Body President and Student Government Advisor within 72 hours.

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Student Government – Intent to Run

I certify that I am a candidate for the position of _____ in the Student Government Association, that I am eligible to serve, that I intend to continue to be a student at Eastern Illinois University during the proposed term of office, and that, if elected; I will serve to the best of my ability.

If elected, I agree to serve the Student Body to the best of my ability and to fulfill the responsibilities of my position set forth in the Student Body Constitution.

Name _____

Signature _____

E# _____

Telephone # _____

Email _____

Address _____

GPA (cumulative) _____

Party Affiliation _____

Disclaimer: By signing these documents you are allowing the Student Activity Center to check your GPA.

Petition

PETITION FOR

(Student Body President, Executive VP, VP for Academic Affairs, VP for Student Affairs)

CANDIDATE NAME _____

E# _____

Candidates are required to complete this sheet and file it in the Student Activity Center before the provided date. **Signers of the nominating position must provide ALL of the requested information, or their signature will not be counted.** Those running for Executive positions need 100 signatures from 100 different students. Extra signatures are highly recommended.

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