



# FULL TIME OFFICER ELECTIONS 2026



# Election Rules, Principles and Guidance

Welcome to the Full-Time Officer Elections 2026! This handbook contains everything you need to know to stick to the rules, and run a fair campaign

## Key Election Dates

- Campaigning Begins: 13th March 2026 (9 am)
- Question the Candidates: 16th March 2026
- Voting Opens: 16th March 2026 (1 pm)
- Voting Closes: 20th March 2026 (1 pm)
- Expenses Deadline: 20th March 2026 (12 pm)
- Election Results Announced: 20th March 2026

## Election Rules & Regulations

All candidates must adhere to the Election Rules 2026, which ensure fairness and integrity. Breaking any rules can result in penalties or disqualification. Here are the key rules:

### General Principles

- Do not do anything that another candidate cannot do.
- Treat all other students and staff with respect. Candidates will be held responsible for the conduct and management of their own campaign and campaign team (if you have one).
- Do not campaign before 9am on the 13th of March.
- In order to make a complaint regarding candidate behavior and rules, please ensure you fill out the complaints form and email it to the Returning Officer at [sustudentvoice@glos.ac.uk](mailto:sustudentvoice@glos.ac.uk) before the close of voting (20th March, 1 PM).
- You must declare who is on your campaign team, and they must read the briefing and sign the sign the declaration. You will be held liable for any election rules they break.

1. You are not allowed to be a candidate if you have not submitted your manifesto by the deadline (11th March 2026, 12 PM).
2. You must attend the training day (Candidates Briefing on 11th March 2026). Otherwise, you will not be eligible to be a candidate.
3. Expenses must be submitted by 12 PM on the day of the count (20th March 2026). If you have overspent, you may be disqualified.
- All pre-existing rules, including Laws and University code of conduct are still applicable.

### Campaigning (after 9am on the 13th March).

- Candidates must not enter halls of residence, either to put up posters or canvass voters. Entering halls of residence is against Elections regulations.
- Candidates must not deface or remove any campaign materials belonging to other candidates.
- Candidates should ask prior permission from the lecturer if they wish to do a 'lecture shout'.
- No campaigning of any nature is allowed in the Libraries or within 3 metres of a university pc or polling station.
- Candidates must not 'bulk email' students or request that a member of SU or UoG staff should bulk email on their behalf.
- Candidates must not be seen to be close to students who are trying to vote at a polling booth. Any candidates suspected of coercion, or putting pressure on students to vote, will be at risk of being disqualified.
- You may not actively campaign within 3 metres of a student who is voting.
- Candidates may promote their campaign on the social network pages of other candidates, providing they have their permission to do so.

- Any negative or defamatory statements will be investigated. You must not copy another candidate's campaign.

### Where to put Materials

1. Candidates may place posters or flyers on GLASS AREAS ONLY at teaching campuses, using ONLY white tac.
2. Posters must NOT be placed on door vision panels, and cellotape must NOT be used.
3. You can ONLY hang banners in the designated campaign zones e.g., SU Spaces.

### Social Media Campaigning

- You are entitled to promote your campaign through social media after 9am on the 13th March.
- You must not:
  - Conduct yourself in a manner that is detrimental to the University or the Students' Union.
  - Make offensive or defamatory statements.
- You will be held responsible for false or offensive words spoken or written by you and your campaigners.
- Any assertions you make must always be backed up by evidence, so better to focus on your positives rather than your perception of a fellow candidate's negatives.

### Campaign Materials & Budget

#### What You're Provided With:

- Campaign T-shirt (to identify you as a candidate)
- Bed sheet for banners (decorate and hang in approved areas)
- White tac (for posters, no tape or glue allowed)
- You have a £30 election budget, you are responsible for purchasing materials and the SU will reimburse you.

### Budget Rules:

- Do not accept costly gifts or free services worth more than your budget.
- Receipts must be submitted by 12:00 PM on 20th March.

### Complaints Procedure

If you witness rule-breaking, you can submit a complaint.

#### How to File a Complaint:

1. Complete the SU Election Complaint Form.
2. Provide evidence (screenshots, photos, witness statements).
3. Submit via email to the Deputy Returning Officer by 20th March, 1:00 PM. Complaints are investigated, and outcomes are made public.
  - No anonymous complaints – Your name must be included.
  - Frivolous or false complaints will not be considered.

### Support & Contact Information

The SU team is here to help you throughout your campaign!

1. For election-related queries, contact the Deputy Returning Officer – [sustudentvoice@glos.ac.uk](mailto:sustudentvoice@glos.ac.uk)
2. Visit the SU Office for in-person support.
3. Final Advice: Enjoy the experience, campaign fairly, and engage with students positively. Good luck!

**Remember:** Win or lose, being this election is an incredible experience. You'll gain leadership skills, confidence, and the chance to make a difference in student life. Stay positive, stay fair, and give it your best shot!