

Student Representative to the Board of Governors

Application Packet

Please submit your complete application electronically to studentgovernment@truman.edu no later than **11:59 PM on Friday, October 27th, 2023**. Please fill out, print, and submit the required release form to the Office of Student Affairs SUB 3100, located on the upper level of the Student Union Building, also by 5:00 PM Friday, October 27th, 2023.

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for taking an interest in becoming the next Student Representative to the Truman State University Board of Governors. As a member of the Board of Governors, the University's highest policy making body, the Student Representative plays a vital role in the protection and advancement of student interests, representing the student body on University policy issues such as tuition, student fees, personnel, and construction projects.

To serve as the Student Representative to the Board of Governors you must be a full-time student and a resident of the state of Missouri. Further, **you must be willing and able to serve as a full-time student until January 1, 2026.** The position is a significant time commitment. The Student Representative also serves as a non-voting member of the Student Government and as such is strongly encouraged to attend weekly meetings of the Student Government.

Please be aware that there are several stages of the application process. The first is the initial application, which must be submitted electronically to studentgovernment@truman.edu no later than 11:59 PM on October 27, 2023. You must also fill out, print, and submit the [Disclosure and Authorization Regarding Investigation for Employment release form](#) and the [Background Check release form](#) to the Office of Student Affairs, located on the upper level of the Student Union Building, Room 3100 also by 5:00 PM on October 27, 2023. The search committee will review applications, and contact a select number of applicants to be interviewed. Following interviews, the committee will choose the two or three most qualified candidates and will present these names to the Student Government for discussion and approval. Upon approval, these names will be sent to the office of the Governor of Missouri. The Governor's office will set up a time to interview the two or three candidates. The Governor will then choose the candidate whom he feels is the most qualified for the appointment. Finally, the Governor's appointee must be approved by the Missouri State Senate following a hearing in front of the Missouri State Senate Gubernatorial Appointments Committee and then an open hearing in the Missouri State Senate.

The following pages detail the requirements you must fulfill to receive consideration. If you have questions, please contact Ella Schnake, the current Student Representative to the Board of Governors, at ers6535@truman.edu or (816) 536-5616. Please know that the entire application is highly confidential and no member of the committee will make any part of your application public knowledge. Thank you for your interest in this position, and best of luck throughout the application process.

Respectfully,

Ella Schnake

Student Representative to the Board of Governors

Colleen O'Reilly

President of the Student Association

Information on the Truman State University Board of Governors

Truman State University is officially governed by a Board of Governors (BOG) that meets approximately six times a year. There are currently ten members of which seven are voting members. The other three members are comprised of two out of state members and a student representative. The BOG deals with such issues as the following:

- Approving the annual budget
- Approving all expenditures over \$100,000
- Selecting President and General Counsel
- Approving all capital improvements i.e. building renovations over \$100,000
- Purchasing land
- Approving tuition, room and board, and student fees
- Interpreting and changing the University's Code of Policies

Ella Schnake, the current student representative to the Board of Governors, has duties that include the following:

- Attending and participating in all meetings of the BOG. This includes reviewing the agenda and preparing for the meeting ahead of time so she is capable of vocalizing the student opinion in an effective manner. This includes informing the Student Government of upcoming agenda items during Student Government meetings to have a better understanding of how the student opinion should be vocalized.
- Reporting to the Student Government and its Executive Committee (each meets once a week), serving as a source of information and a perspective.
- Attending University functions as a representative of the BOG.
- Seeking out student opinion, concerns, and questions and expressing these appropriately to the BOG and the University administration.
- Serving on various committees that dealt with subject matter pertinent to students
- Working with the Board and the administration to address issues facing the University on a variety of matters of a lower concern for students

Application Requirements

The Board Of Governors Slate Selection Committee highly recommends you read the following documents prior to submitting your application:

- [Truman State University Strategic Plan](#), 2021-2025
- The Truman State University [Student Conduct Code](#)
- The Truman Student Government [Constitution and Standing Rules](#)
- Recent Truman Student Government [Resolutions and Executive Orders](#)

For the initial application, you must fill out, print, and submit the required release forms to the Office of Student Affairs SUB 3100, located on the upper level of the Student Union Building, by 5:00 PM on October 27, 2023.

The following materials must also be turned in electronically to studentgovernment@truman.edu by no later than 11:59 PM on October 27, 2023:

- General information sheet contained in this packet.
- A professional resume not to exceed two pages.
- The names and contact information of at least two references the selection committee can contact.
- A typed personal statement, 200-400 words in length, indicating your interest in this position.
- A typed reply of 1-2 paragraphs to each of the following prompts, which should total no more than 6 pages, (single spaced, Times New Roman 12pt font, 1 inch margins):

1. Why did you decide to attend Truman State University?
2. What does the liberal arts and sciences mission mean to you and why is a liberal arts and sciences education beneficial?
3. Please discuss the unique qualities, experiences, activities, and perspective that make you qualified to represent the student body and the taxpayers of Missouri on the Board.
4. Identify one of Truman State University's biggest strengths and one of its biggest weaknesses. How or what is the best way to preserve this strength? How or what is the best way to address this weakness?

5. How would you handle a situation where your personal beliefs differed from the beliefs of the majority of the student body?

7. Are you willing and able to make this committee your first priority for the next two years (behind your education, only) by fulfilling your responsibilities as they are laid out, and to handle Board of Governor responsibilities as they arise? How do you plan to do this?

8. How do you envision your relationship with the Student Government?

9. How would you utilize administration during the duration of your appointment? What other campus groups and organizations would you utilize? How do you feel about collaborating with other campus departments and organizations to acquire the student opinion to the best of your ability?

10. How do you plan to understand legalities and general Truman historical documents well enough to answer on-the-spot questions in order to be able to represent Truman to the best of your ability at all possible times?

11. How do you see yourself communicating with the Board of Governors? Are there any unique traits you possess that could make you effective in communicating with the Board of Governors?

12. The Student Representative does not bring forward specific issues or legislation to the Board, but instead comments on the resolutions presented to the Board by the administration or Student Government. However, there are a variety of avenues for Student Representative to partake in a more active role on pertinent issues. In your opinion, what are the three biggest issues facing Truman students currently, and is there a particular process you would use to escalate the item for the Board's consideration?

Student Representative to the Board of Governors General Information Sheet

Name:

Local Address:

Permanent Address:

Primary phone number:

Email:

Major/s:

Minor/s:

Cumulative GPA:

Expected Graduation Date:

Do you plan to study abroad or complete an off-campus internship in the next two years:

Missouri State House district:

Missouri State Senate district:

Political Party (optional):

Please discuss any issues that an extensive background check could raise. The committee would rather you make an honest assessment of previous mistakes then knowingly withhold information about your past (if none, put "N/A"):

By affixing my signature below I certify that the information I have provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

When you are submitting this application electronically, filling in your name and the date on the above lines will assume the same degree of commitment as a written signature.