

SENATE BILL
[NUMBER - *SB-F23-004*]

PRIMARY AUTHOR(S)	Abby Choy (President Pro Tempore) Vivek Patel (2022-2023 CNAS Senator) Alexandria Arias (Elections Director)
SECONDARY AUTHOR(S)	Ray Khan (CHASS Senator) Lama Yassine (2020-2021 Elections Director) Tricia Sarmiento (2021-2022 Elections Director)
SPONSOR(S)	
TITLE	Candidates' Senate Meeting Requirement

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this amendment is to ensure all elected legislative candidates attend at least one Senate meeting in order to better prepare them for the commitment they will make to the Senator position if they are elected. Many Senators have quit in the past due to the gap between their expectation and reality of being an ASUCR Senator. Attending a Senate meeting will provide candidates with proper exposure to the duties of an ASUCR Senator.

THE ASUCR SENATE HEREBY AMENDS CHAPTER VII OF THE ASUCR BYLAWS AS FOLLOWS,

CHAPTER VII

Part 1: Individual Candidacy

Item 1: Eligibility Requirements

Section A. Eligibility for Candidacy

1. Definition
 - a. A candidate shall be defined as any member of the Associated Students of UC Riverside seeking for an elected office and meeting the candidacy requirements.
2. General Requirements

a. The candidate shall meet the following requirements by the time of petition filing deadline:

- i. Currently registered as a full-time student with a minimum of two quarters at UC Riverside;
- ii. Has a minimum of 2.5 cumulative grade point average;
- iii. All elected members of the ASUCR Executive, Legislative and

Judicial branches shall be required to abide by the rules set forth in the UCR Academic Integrity Policy and Standards of Conduct. Those found responsible for violating any of the above standards will be dismissed and their position will be considered vacant. There shall be no waiver granted to this clause. Vacancies shall be filled according to the elections bylaw.

b. The candidate must complete the additional requirements for filing procedures and mandatory candidacy workshop as prescribed in Part 1 of the Elections Code.

c. The candidate shall not run in the election with prior knowledge of inability to complete their full term.

d. No person shall be a candidate for more than one office.

e. Members of the Judicial Branch shall be ineligible to run in an election during their two-year term in office.

3. The Committee has the explicit right to review any and all candidates in order to ascertain that they are qualified for office, and to disqualify any person from candidacy. If the Committee determines that a candidate is not qualified according to these bylaws, the candidate may appeal to the Judicial Branch. The Judicial Branch may overrule the Elections Committee decision of disqualification by a majority vote.

Section B.

Candidacy eligibility for an ASUCR Executive Cabinet elected position shall be regulated as follows-

1. As defined in the Constitution, the Executive Cabinet shall be comprised of the President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Internal Affairs, Vice President of External Affairs, and the Vice President of Finance.

2. Only candidates with the required three consecutive quarters of ASUCR experience by the time of assuming office shall be eligible to run and take office in the Executive Cabinet. Any Student censured without waiver shall be considered ineligible.

3. One year experience shall be defined as serving in an ASUCR capacity (including Executive Cabinet members, Executive Assistants, Interns, Fellows, Directors, Senators,

Senate staff members, Judicial Council members, Senate Ex-officio member, student employees and members of any ASUCR subordinate committee) for three continuous academic quarters. A student may also qualify for Vice President of Finance by serving as Accounting Intern/Assistant for ASUCR Accounting Office for the same time frame.

4. All Presidential candidates must have at least three consecutive quarters of experience within an ASUCR capacity, preferably an elected position. There are no exceptions to this requirement.

5. Executive Vice-President, Vice President of Campus Internal Affairs, Vice President of External Affairs and Vice President of Finance candidates must have at least three consecutive quarters of ASUCR experience, preferably an elected position. Potential candidates that do not have this experience in ASUCR, prior to the candidacy-filing deadline, may petition to be exempt from this requirement to the ASUCR Elections Committee. The Elections Committee must approve the petition with a majority vote.

Section C.

Candidacy eligibility for an ASUCR Legislative Branch elected position shall be regulated as follows-

1. As defined in the Constitution, the Legislative Branch shall consist of the President Pro Tempore and all Senators.

2. All candidates planning to run for an elected role within the Legislative Branch must adhere to a prerequisite requirement of attending at least one (1) Senate meeting (either in-person or online) after they register as a candidate and prior to the start of the elections campaigning period.

a. At the end of said Senate meeting, the candidates' attendance will be officially documented. This will be the responsibility of the Elections Director or, in their absence, the President Pro Tempore or Executive Vice President. This documentation is to confirm that the candidate was present throughout the entirety of the meeting.

b. The Elections Director is granted discretion in the choice of record-keeping method, which can include but is not limited to:

- i. Electronic Records
- ii. Paper Records
- iii. Other methods deemed appropriate

Item 2: Filing Procedures

Section A.

Filing for candidacy for an ASUCR elective position shall be regulated as follows-

1. Candidacy is hereby defined as one individual seeking election to one office;
2. No more than one (1) person may file for office under any given candidacy;
3. The candidates' declaration form shall be collected at the time of filing and the ASUCR Executive Director, a staff member with access to the student record program (SIS+), shall review each application to ensure that all appropriate information has been given and that the candidate is eligible to run in the election. This information must include, but is not limited to-
 - a. The name, major(s), college, and class level of each candidate;
 - b. The student identification number of each candidate;
 - c. The office to which each candidate seeks election;
 - d. The exact wording and spelling of the candidate's name and how the candidate wishes it to appear on the ballot;
 - e. All of the student organizations that the candidate has been, is, or reportedly will be involved with.
 - f. 150-word maximum candidate biography that expresses the candidates' reason for filing for candidacy, their campaign stance(s), goals while in office, and qualifications
 - g. Three words that summarize the candidates' campaign stance(s)
4. Any person who has failed to submit the necessary information on their candidacy petition forms by the deadline stated in the senate-approved elections timeline shall not be certified as a candidate.
5. All candidates are required to read and comprehend the ASUCR Constitution and the description of their position, as stated in the ASUCR Constitution and Bylaws prior to filing for candidacy, and should be able to summarize the duties of their position.

Item 3: Mandatory Candidates Workshop

1. There shall be a mandatory candidate's meeting, which all individuals must attend to become potential candidates.

2. Any potential candidate who is not present at this meeting shall be disqualified from running in the election. The Director may waive this requirement if the potential candidate makes adequate arrangements prior to the meeting. It will be at the discretion of the Elections Director whether or not to allow proxies.
3. All potential candidates shall be duly informed of the meeting, which will be determined by the Director.
4. The Director shall direct the meeting, and the following information must be given to each individual during the course of said meeting-
 - a. All forms pertinent to the election and information regarding their usage including candidacy signature sheets for each respective college and position for verification of campaigning.
 - b. All procedures pertinent to the election, including the appeals process and the timeframe within which the Elections Director will notify candidates of their campaign violations strikes per Part 3, Item 7, Section B;
 - c. The dates for opening and closing of campaigning;
 - d. Provisions for publication of candidate statements in the Highlander Newspaper and on the elections website;
 - e. A copy of the posting policies;
 - f. Eligibility requirements for all positions according to ASUCR constitution and bylaws;
 - g. Position terms/durations: nine (9) months vs. twelve (12) months, and payroll stipulations.

Victoria Ngyuen
Executive Vice President

Signed Legislation can be found in the ASUCR Office

SUBMITTED ON - *October 13, 2023*
COMMITTEE APPROVED ON - *October 13, 2023*

VOTE COUNT - 7-0-0
SENATE APPROVED ON - *November 1, 2023*
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