

ELECTIONEERING GUIDELINES

The election guidelines below are distributed for the upcoming 2024 election cycle.

Since the freedoms of speech and assembly are essential to intellectual development, Texas State affirms its commitment to the free expression of ideas as embodied in the constitutions of the United States and the State of Texas; however, these freedoms are subject to reasonable restrictions so they will not interfere with the University's academic mission and other programs.

From time to time an area on the university's campus is designated as a polling place for national, state, or local elections. The policies in UPPS 07.04.02 apply to signs and electioneering near these polling places during early voting periods and on election days. The LBJ Student Center has been designated as the polling place for February 20 – March 1 for early voting election and on March 5 for Election Day.

The Department of Student Involvement & Engagement designates one or more places near the polling place where persons may place signs for or against any candidate, measure, or political party. As provided in state law (Election Code § 62.013), these signs must be at least 100 feet from the outside door through which a voter may enter a building in which a polling place is located.

The designated areas will be large enough to accommodate a reasonable number of signs. In order to accommodate all signs, the Department of Student Involvement & Engagement may limit the number of signs that may be placed in the designated areas by a candidate or by the proponents or opponents of a measure being voted on at the polling place. The Department of Student Involvement & Engagement has designated the LBJ Student Center Mall, LBJ Student Center Bus Loop, Quad Area, and Bobcat Trail as the locations for signs at the LBJ Student Center polling place.

The persons who place these signs may begin placing signs beginning at 5:00pm on Monday, February 19th and must remove them immediately after the election has ended.

During the time a polling place on campus is open for voting, a person may not electioneer for or against any candidate, measure, or political party within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which an early voting polling place is located. Individuals cannot advertise either by signs, personal belongings, or hold political meetings in the LIB Student Center during early voting days. (Election Code § 85.036). Please be aware that individuals who do not adhere to the election guidelines will be asked to leave the premises.

We ask that any individuals that will be on campus inform Student Involvement & Engagement by submitting an Electioneering Request Form in order to ensure the following:

- Guaranteeing a designated space as per the Electioneering Request Form
- Maintaining security, health, and safety for person and property on campus
- Preserving an academic atmosphere. Classes meeting in their setting should not be disrupted, quiet is necessary in areas assigned for study, social, recreational, and developmental programs and other university activities should not be disrupted
- Controlling pedestrian and vehicular traffic so that free movement and free entry and exit from university facilities are permitted.

Candidates <u>may not</u>: (1) disrupt classes or other university activities; (2) violate state law or any university policies, including those in Section 02 of the <u>UPPS No. 07.04.02</u>; (3) post signs or electioneer inside university buildings; or (4) post messages on campus electronic message boards.

If there are questions or concerns about the guidelines, contact Student Involvement & Engagement_s at 512-245-3219.

SOURCES: University Policy and Procedure Statement No. 07.04.02 Election Code 62.013 Election Code 85.036