

## Section 1 - Authority and Applicability

### Authority

This Electoral Code is approved by Senate and published by the Returning Officer pursuant to the [Senate and Academic Board Elections Policy](#) ('Elections Policy').

### Applicability

This Code applies to all elections conducted at The University of Queensland under the Elections Policy. This Code applies to all nominated candidates and their representative agent/s.

## Section 2 - Conduct of Candidates

During an Election Period, a candidate must:

1. Act honestly in making any representation.
2. Avoid conduct that may reasonably be perceived to compromise a free and fair election.
3. Avoid influencing or affecting another person's election choices by giving, promising, or offering an Inducement of any kind to anyone (excludes genuine policy promises made publicly).
4. Avoid making frivolous or vexatious complaints against an opponent.
5. Avoid behaviours that may reasonably be perceived as discrimination, harassment, and intimidation or bullying.
6. Comply with relevant policies of the University relating to conduct and elections, in particular those outlined in Section 6 – Related Policies and Procedures.
7. Follow all reasonable directions of the Returning Officer, Chief Operating Officer, a Security Officer of the University or any other person authorised by the Returning Officer.
8. Make all reasonable efforts to ensure their agent/s are aware of, and observe the standards of conduct set by this Code.

## Section 3 - Campaigning

1. Campaigning for an election is only permitted during the Election Period.
2. A candidate and/or agent must not leave campaign materials and paraphernalia (e.g., leaflets, posters or badges) in the University's libraries, lecture theatres, tutorial rooms or in other University buildings.
3. A candidate and/or agent may distribute campaign materials if they are taken by a person directly from the candidate and/or agent.
4. A candidate and/or agent must not affix to any surface or erect any election related signs on a University campus (including posters, leaflets and stickers) unless approved by the Returning Officer.
5. A candidate may be required to reimburse the University for all reasonable costs associated with:
  - a. Cleaning of discarded election materials on University buildings and land; or
  - b. Removing unauthorised election signs, posters, leaflets or stickers on University buildings and land.
6. A candidate and/or agent is prohibited from directly or indirectly offering inducements of any kind to encourage voting or to encourage a vote to be cast specifically for a candidate.
7. A candidate and/or agent must not provide any polling facility, instruments or devices (virtual or physical) that enables or assists people to cast their votes.
8. A candidate and/or agent may apply to hire University facilities during the election campaign pursuant to established University policies and procedures. For example, a candidate may hire a teaching space or

meeting room for campaigning during an election at the rate set by the University. The candidate must pay the cost associated with the hire of the facility.

9. Unless authorised under this Code or another University policy or procedure, a candidate and/or agent must not, in the conduct of the candidate's election campaign:
  - a. Use University resources; or
  - b. In any way disrupt staff or students or others from undertaking their normal activities at the University.

## Section 4 - Non-compliance

1. If a candidate fails to comply with this Code, the Returning Officer may:
  - a. Issue a written warning to the candidate;
  - b. Impose sanctions on the candidate, including restricting campaigning for a period of up to 3 calendar days; or
  - c. Refer the candidate's conduct to the ad hoc Senate Electoral Committee for determination.
2. Complaints about the behaviour of individuals (including a candidate) during an election should be made in accordance with Part Q of the Elections Policy.
3. Referrals to the ad hoc Senate Electoral Committee are considered in accordance with Part S of the Elections Policy or other UQ Policies.

## Section 5 - Definitions

Any terms not specifically defined in this Code have the meaning provided in the Elections Policy.

Term	Definition
Campaigning	<p>The advocacy or advertising of a candidacy, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• public verbal advocacy of a candidate;</li><li>• distribution of Campaign materials, including electronic distribution and social media;</li><li>• posting of Campaign signs or flyers or social media posts;</li><li>• activities on UQ campus or otherwise.</li></ul> <p>The announcement or public declaration of an intention to be a candidate in an Election does not, of itself, constitute Campaigning.</p>
Election Period	<p>The period between the Returning Officer calls for nominations and the close of the Voting Period.</p>
Inducement	<p>In the context of this Code:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• includes a bribe, or anything given, promised, or offered by a candidate or their agent/s that persuades or encourages someone to do something</li><li>• excludes genuine policy promises which are publicly made.</li></ul>

## Section 6 - Related Policies and Procedures

A candidate should be familiar with and comply with the University's policies and procedures that relate to integrity and conduct, use of University facilities, use of email and social media, and University elections. These include, but are not limited to:

- [Acceptable Use of UQ ICT Resources Guideline](#)
- [Communications and Public Comment Using The University of Queensland's Name Policy](#)
- [Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Behaviours Policy](#)
- [Email and Bulk Messaging Procedure](#)



- [Senate and Academic Board Elections Policy](#)
- [Staff Code of Conduct Policy](#) and [Guideline](#)
- [Student Code of Conduct Policy](#)
- [Student Integrity and Misconduct Policy](#) and [Procedure](#)
- [Third Party Hire of UQ Land, Buildings and Facilities Policy](#)
- [Use and Management of UQ Land, Buildings and Facilities Policy](#)