

Procedural Aspects of Students' Council Election

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Notification

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- Order (Procedure for Election, Authority for Conduct of Election, Mechanism for Conduct of Such Elections, Code of Conduct for Candidates and Election Administrators, and Grievances Redressal Mechanism in Respect of Election to Students' Council)

Uniform Statutes

1. Uniform Statute Number 5 of 2018 Dt. 26 Oct 2018 – Maharashtra Public Universities (*functions and duties of Students Council in University, Colleges and Recognized Institutions*) Uniform Statute, 2018.
2. Uniform Statute Number 6 of 2018 Dt. 26 Oct 2018 – Maharashtra Public Universities (*Procedure for conduct of business of meetings of Students Council in University, Colleges and Recognized Institutions*) Uniform Statute, 2018.
3. Uniform Statute Number 7 of 2018 Dt. 26 Oct. 2018 – Maharashtra Public Universities (*Nomination of Students from National Service Scheme, National Cadet Corps, Sports and Cultural Activities on Students Council*)

Authority for Election

- Principal For College
- Director For Recognized Institution
- Director, Students' Development in case of University Department & University Students' Council

Election Programme

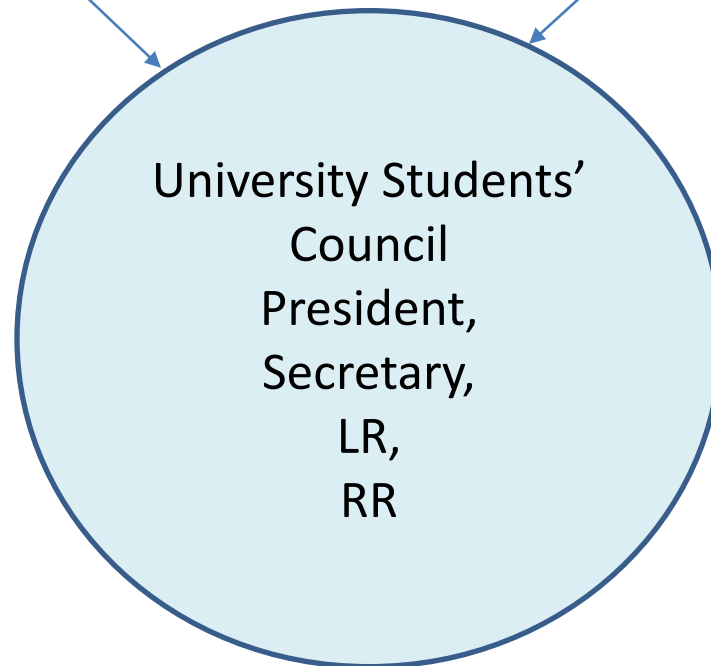
- Director, Students' Development shall prepare the election programme in consultation with VC on or before 31st July.
- Formation of University Students' Council on or before 30th Sept.
- Drawing lots for reservation for each college according to section 99(3)(d) of MPUA-2016
- University Department Students' Council and College Students' Council elections to be held on the **same date as per a common schedule**
- Minimum gap of **10 clear days** between official publication of University Students' Association and election of University Students' Council.

University Department
Students' Council.

President, Secretary,
LR,RR,CR

College Students' Council

President, Secretary,
LR,RR,CR



Eligibility to contest

- Full time regular student admitted for the full time approved course.
- Passed all heads in previous years without ATKT.
- Readmitted student not eligible.
- Upper age limit 25 years as on 30th September.
- For reserved category post– Valid Caste Certificate required at the time of filling of nomination.

Disqualification

- Completed 7 academic years from the first entry to higher education.
- Has been punished by the competent authority for indulging in unfair means in any university exam or for committing any misconduct.
- Convicted for an offence involving moral turpitude.

Procedure of Election

- College – A teacher to be nominated as Election Officer by the Principal or Director.
- University – A teacher to be nominated as Election Officer by Director, Students' Development in consultation with PVC.

Procedure of Election

- Publication of list of electoral college for (class and college) – Provisional and Final.
- **Voting by ballot.** Ballot paper shall mention names in alphabetical order beginning with surnames.
- Separate ballot boxes for Class Representative, President, Secretary, Lady Representative and Reserved Category Representative.
- A student willing to contest election shall submit the nomination in the Form 'A' appended with this Order along with non-refundable fees of Rs. 50 per nomination form.
- A candidate cannot contest election for **more than one position** at a time.

Procedure of Election

- The election for University Department Students' Council and College Students' Council shall be held in accordance with the principle of **simple majority votes**.
- The counting of votes and declaration of results shall be completed on the **same day of voting** in case of University Departments Students' Council and College Students' Council.

Procedure of Election - USC

- As per section 99 (4) (b) (iv) of the Act, rotation for representative belonging to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribes or De-notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis) or Nomadic Tribes or Other Backward Classes or Special Backward Category for University Students' Council shall be decided and declared well in advance by the University.
- **Any candidate of such category**, who is member of the University Students' Association can contest the election for the University Students' Council as the representative of the respective Reserved Category.

Procedure of Election - USC

- The Director of Students' Development shall prepare and publish the list of members of the University Students' Association which shall be the electoral college for electing the President, Secretary, Lady Representative and Representative of Reserved Category of the University Students' Council.
- **Any member** of the University Students' Association can contest the election for the post of President, Secretary of the University Students' Council.
- **Any female representative** of University Students' Association can contest the election for Lady Representative of University Students' Council.

Procedure of Election - USC

- Each affiliated college or recognized institution shall be the polling centre for election of the University Students' Council, where the members of the University Students' Association who are students of such affiliated college or recognized institution, as the case may be, shall vote.
- The election for University Students' Council shall be held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. Each elector shall have one transferable vote.
- The Election Officer shall appoint the polling officers for each polling centre for election of the University Students' Council.
- Such polling officer shall be from the district other than the district in which such polling centre is situated.
- The college or institution where such polling centre is established shall provide necessary facilities and support.

Procedure of Election - USC

- The Election Officer shall declare the list of voters at each polling centre who shall have to exercise their voting right only at such polling centre.
- The time span for actual voting shall be **four continuous clock hours** to be declared by Election Officer.
- The sealed ballot boxes along with relevant record shall be **immediately moved to the university** after the process of voting is over.

Procedure of Election - USC

- Each voter **must** carry valid identity card of the College or Institution or University Department, as the case may be, at the time of voting.
- The **special Identity Card** shall be issued by the Election Officer of College or Institution or University Department to the elected President, Secretary, Lady Representative and Representative of Reserved Category in the format prescribed by the University.

Procedure of Election - USC

- Scrutiny of voting papers.— All voting papers shall be scrutinized by the Election Officer or by such other person or persons as may be authorized by the Election Officer. The Election Officer may delegate his power in relation to scrutiny and counting of voting papers to any other person or persons under his control.
- **The candidate or his agent**, who shall be a voter of a particular constituency, duly authorized by him in writing on his behalf shall be entitled to be present at such scrutiny.
- When there are more polling centers than one, voting papers of all the **polling centers shall be first mixed up** and then scrutinized by the Election Officer or such other person or persons as may be authorized by the Election Officer.
- **Counting of Votes** - The counting of votes of election of University Students' Council shall start on the **third day** of voting and after the continuous process of counting, the result shall be declared.

Code of Conduct

- **No panels** of the candidates shall be formed for the purpose of election at any stage, whatsoever.
- The **maximum permissible expenditure** per candidate for the election of Class Representative shall be Rs.1000 and for the elections of President, Secretary, Lady Representative and Representative of Reserved Category shall be Rs.5000.
- Each candidate shall have to submit within two weeks of the declaration of the results, the **self attested statement of expenditure** in Form 'B' appended with this order along with the serially numbered self-attested copies of vouchers to the Election Officer.

Code of Conduct

- No candidate shall make use of any **symbol or logo or photo or image** of any political party, other organization and any other person, including any religious or caste or social organizations or persons during the election campaign.
- No candidate shall be allowed to carry out **procession or rally** in the college or institution or University campus during the election campaign.
- Entry to the College or institution or University campus without a **valid identity card** of that college or institution or University shall be strictly prohibited on the day of polling.

Code of Conduct

- The use of **public address system and vehicles** and any other conveyance for the purpose of election campaign shall be prohibited on the campus of the college or institution or university.
- The Election Officer shall notify the designated **display places** in the campus which can be used by the candidates for hoarding their posters. The allocation of space at such designated display places to the candidates shall be decided by the Election Officer. The size and form of poster shall be decided by the Election Officer.
- No candidate shall indulge in, nor shall abate any activity, which may aggravate differences or create mutual hatred, rivalry and tension among groups of students.

Code of Conduct

- No candidate and his supporters shall deface or cause any **destruction to the property** of college or institution or university in the manner whatsoever it may be.
- The entry to **any unauthorized person** on the campus of the college or institution or university and at the polling centre shall be strictly prohibited **during the entire process of election**.
- Each candidate shall undertake **to proactively support** and assist the Authorities in maintaining peace and harmony on the campus of the college or institution or university during the process of election.

Contravention of Code of Conduct

- Election Officer may initiate appropriate disciplinary action in addition to the **revocation of his candidature**. The aggrieved person shall be given due opportunity of being heard before taking the final decision in this process.
- The provisions of **Indian Penal Code** relating to “**Offences relating to elections**” shall be applicable to these students’ elections. Objectionable incidences may be reported to the police within twelve hours after alleged commission of offence for registering the case.
- It shall be the duty of all teaching and non-teaching staff of the college or institution or university to undertake any work, responsibility assigned by the Election Officer in the process of elections.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism.

- An aggrieved student or candidate may prefer an application for grievance redressal to the Grievance Redressal Authority against the decision of Election Officer during the process of election.
- Such application can be preferred within a period of **forty-eight hours** from the occurrence of the alleged grievance.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism.

The Grievance Redressal Authority

- (a) **Principal of College or Director of Institution** in case of disputes or grievances related to election of Class Representatives, President, Secretary, Lady Representative and Representative of Reserved Category in the College or Institution.
- (b) **The Pro-Vice-Chancellor** of the university in case of disputes or grievances related to election of Class Representatives, President, Secretary, Lady Representative, Representative of Reserved Category in the University Department Students' Council and the University Students' Council.
- The decision of the Grievance Redressal Authority shall be **final and binding** on the parties concerned.