

Election Supervisory Board Advisory Opinion 2020-001(A)

Subject: Candidate Seminar Date and Attendance Requirements

Section 7.8 of the Campus-Wide Election Code requires the Election Supervisory Board to publish the date of the Candidate Seminar. Section 7.5 specifies the seminar is to be held on the same day filing closes. The filing period ends on **Thursday, February 13th at 12:00 PM**. As such, the candidate seminar will be held on **Thursday, February 13th at 9:00 PM in WCP 2.302**.

The ESB also sees fit, in light of Supreme Court AO 2019-002, to clarify the attendance requirements outlined in Sections 7.9 and 7.10:

“Attendance at the candidate seminar is required of each candidate running in a race that is part of the Campus-Wide elections process. Failure to attend the Seminar shall not be an acceptable excuse for violating this Code.”

“If the candidate has an excused absence as determined by the Election Supervisory Board, then s/he may send an authorized agent in his or her place” but that the “Election Supervisory Board must be notified of the substitution at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the Seminar.”

The 2020 ESB is providing the following rules regarding candidate seminar attendance:

1. All candidates must attend the candidate seminar.
2. Those unable to attend due to a valid conflict (e.g. family emergency, illness) must notify the ESB by **February 12th at 9:00PM** (24 hours before the seminar) and send an authorized agent in their place.
3. Those failing to meet the above requirements will be subject to a Class A Violation (referenced from Sec. 4.13 of the Campus-Wide Election Code “DEFINING CLASSES OF VIOLATIONS”) –a 20% decrease of your campaign spending limit.
4. Any candidate encountering an extenuating circumstance (e.g. emergency, illness) within the 24-hour window should notify the ESB as soon as possible. The Board will grant exceptions at their discretion. An agent should still be sent in place of the candidate where possible.

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