

Election Supervisory Board Advisory Opinion 2020-002

Subject: Filing Deadline and Penalty

The Election Supervisory Board is issuing an advisory opinion regarding the end of the election filing period. In line with Supreme Court [Advisory Opinion 2018 Fall-003](#), it clarifies whether a candidate who seeks to file and begins the filing process before the stated deadline, but concludes said process after the deadline should or should not be disqualified.

The Campus-Wide Election code defines the candidate (Section 2.7) and Filing Agreement (Section 2.19) as follows:

“‘CANDIDATE’ refers to any student consenting and/or endeavoring to be elected as expressed by filing to run for office in accordance with this and all applicable election codes.”

“‘CAMPUS-WIDE ELECTIONS FILING AGREEMENT’ refers to the document signed by the candidate that acknowledges the candidate is aware of and will adhere to the Campus-Wide Elections Common Code.”

With regards to the filing deadline, Section 7.5 of the Campus-Wide Election Code reads:

“The Filing period shall open at 9:00am on the first day of the spring semester and shall remain open until 12:00pm noon the day of the candidate seminar.”

Candidates running in the Spring 2020 Election cycle are required to complete filing by **Thursday, February 13 at 12:00 PM (noon)**. As such, any candidate who completes filing past the deadline of 12:00 PM on February 13, 2019 will be deemed ineligible to run, regardless of the time they began the filing process¹.

For example: *John Smith walks into the Student Government Office two minutes before the deadline (11:58) and finishes the filing process three minutes later (12:01)*. John Smith was one minute late to complete filing and is ineligible from running in the Spring 2020 Campus-Wide Elections.

Opinion Authorized By:

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