ON-SITE TASC OFFICER SCHOOL ELECTION CAMPAIGN RULES AND REGULATIONS

Revised by Board of Directors, July 2026

TASC expects all candidate schools to know and abide by the rules and regulations. Any questions or suggestions before the filing deadline should be emailed to patty@tassp.org, the TASC Director. **Please request a read receipt**. Following the filing deadline, questions should be emailed to the TASC Vice President School's advisor and the TASC Director. **Please request a read receipt**.

NOTE: All campaign materials, including the skit, should reflect the HIGH STANDARDS of the Student Council and TASC in a positive manner.

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OVERVIEW

I. **Goals**
   A. To equalize opportunities among schools of different sizes, economic resources, etc., seeking to run for office.
   B. To allow each candidate school an opportunity to present its views.
   C. To ensure an organized and safe campaign for all entities involved.

II. **Filing for Office**
   A. Schools should file for state office as early as possible, but the final application is due no later than **sixty (60) days prior to the established date of the State Annual Conference**, as required by the TASC Constitution. Modifications to the candidate platform and position seeking are allowed for schools who submit prior to the 60-day deadline but can only be made up until the 60-day deadline.
   B. An application and letter of intent signed by the advisor and school principal is required to file for office officially.
   C. Each candidate school must fill out the candidate resume form with its intent to run packet. All required campaign documents submitted by the candidate schools will be posted on the TASC website.
   D. Any candidate school may request contact information of registered schools for state annual conference from the state office for campaigning purposes between the early bird deadline for State Annual Conference until up to two weeks before the conference.

III. **Statement of Standards**
   A. All campaign materials should
      1. Reflect the Campaign platform
      2. Showcase the qualifications of your school/council
      3. Be in good taste
   B. Materials should NOT
      1. Include references to any other candidate school(s)
      2. Reflect violence
      3. Be demeaning or degrading to any gender, sexual orientation, race, and/or religion.
      4. Include any sexual innuendo (such as, but not limited to, cross-dressing, revealing clothing, suggestive language, and/or body language.) This applies to all multimedia materials. Including but not limited to social media posts.
   C. Dress Code - Candidate schools must follow the TASC dress code while campaigning and during skit performances unless there is a valid reason that an item is an integral part of a costume (ex: a hat, shorts, dance tights, etc.). Campaigning includes onsite campaigns, commercials, videos, still images, and social media posts. Costumes not meeting the TASC dress code must be approved by the Vice President school and TASC Director prior to the state annual conference, with final approval of the credentials committee on site.
   D. General Rule: If there is any question or doubt about whether something is inappropriate, it probably is, so avoid using it.

PLANNING AND PREPARING

IV. **Obligations and Duties of Elected Schools**

A. Consult officer duties listed on the TASC website as specified by the TASC By Laws for specifics.

V. **Candidate Requirements**

A. Officer school candidates (student representative and advisor) must attend one (1) Prospective Officer Candidate Meeting. It is recommended that you attend the Prospective Officer Candidate meeting before filing.

B. Candidate schools must be active members in good financial standing with TASC and their TASC District per the TASC Director prior to acceptance of the application

C. Officer school candidates (student representative and advisor) must attend all online and in-person formal meetings for candidate schools conducted before, during, and after the TASC State Annual Conference. Failure to be on time and present at any formal meetings will result in the candidate schools being disqualified from the election.

D. It is highly encouraged that the officer school candidate student representative has attended a TASC Summer Leadership Workshop or a TASC Advanced Workshop before holding office.

E. Officer school candidates must name the student and the advisor who will represent the school (if elected) on the Board of Directors. **It is recommended that the student and advisor selected to represent the school on the Board have substantial experience in Student Council and TASC programs.** Both will be involved in policy discussions and decisions, so the more exposure and experience with TASC activities and programs, the more knowledge he/she will have in order to be an effective officer.

VI. **Campaign Finance**

A. Campaign expenditures are limited to $1500.

B. All items used specifically for the campaign must be listed in the expense report. This includes items distributed at the local, district, and state levels by the candidate school or by any other school or organization on behalf of the candidate school.

1. **Purchased or rented items:** Items purchased or rented must be claimed at cost (actual amount spent). No furnishings may be "borrowed" from TASC or the conference center for use in the skit.
2. **Donated Items:** Schools may accept donated items; however, these donated items must be counted against the $1500 total. Reasonable market value or rental fee of the donated items must be assigned and noted in the Campaign Financial Statement.
3. **School items:** Standard school uniforms (i.e., football, cheerleader, or drill team, etc.), school equipment (i.e., stage flats used in performances, audiovisual equipment, etc.), or school supplies (i.e., poster board, markers, paper, etc.) may be used in the campaign and will not be charged against the $1500. If MOST schools would easily have access to a standard school item, it does not count against the $1500. HOWEVER, if the school item used is not standard (i.e., special stage sets, specialty costumes, foam boards larger than 36" x 48", display boards larger than 36"x48", etc.), the item must be accounted for at a reasonable, fair use amount.
4. **Clothing/costumes:** Clothing that is purchased, made, rented, or borrowed to be used specifically in the campaign must be accounted for in the campaign financial statement. If t-shirts or clothing items are something that students would normally have, including Student Council t-shirts that do not refer to the campaign or election, the cost does **not** have to be counted. Student Council t-shirts or clothing items that refer to the campaign, the platform, the skit, or the election, regardless of when they are purchased and worn, must be counted.
5. **Travel expenses:** No travel for the purpose of campaigning is permitted.
6. **Campaign Party:** Any gathering for the purposes for campaigning is not permitted prior to the State Annual Conference.
7. **Campaign Materials:** Tangible campaign items must not be worn/distributed prior to the State Annual Conference at any TASC or TASC District events. Please see section below on Campaigning for more details.

8. **Electronic Hook-Ups:** The cost to borrow extension cords, surge protectors, or any other electrical hook-up at the state annual conference is $500 and will need to be charged against the $1500. This does not include the extension cord drop provided for any school who requests it for their political rally skit on Day 2. Schools are encouraged to bring their own extension cords, surge protectors, and any battery powered items.
9. **General Items**: Any items easily accessible by most schools do not count against your budget but should be listed in the expense report. For example, a hammer, screwdriver, power strip, extension cord, tape measure, ladder, wagon, drill, computer, or other general items that are available to most schools are considered general items. If you choose to have signage at your campaign booth, supplies to hang your sign (outside of standard school supplies) shall be charged against the $1500. If you have ANY questions, contact the Vice President School and TASC Director.

C. A preliminary financial statement showing the budget for the campaign must be submitted to the Vice President advisor and the TASC Director 45 days before **the Annual Conference.** (No receipts are due at this time.)

D. An official budget sheet must be presented to the Credentials Committee on Day One of the Annual Conference. (See the Excel spreadsheet provided for that purpose on the TASC website.) Please make three (3) PHYSICAL copies of the budget sheet and attach copies of your receipts to each budget sheet. If a receipt is not available, proof of cost can be obtained from walmart.com. The budget sheet and receipts shall be submitted to the Vice President school at check-in for verification by the Credentials Committee. The budget sheet should include all booth expenses, giveaway items, t-shirts, skit expenses, banner costs, and any miscellaneous expenses related to the campaign. The budget should not include expenses related to state annual conference registration, transportation, hotel, or food expenses.

A statement to verify expenditures will be given to schools on-site which states:

> **I certify that (Name of school) has not had expenditures in excess of $1500 for materials, outside labor, etc., in seeking the office of TASC_ (Position Running For).**
>
> **Advisor's Signature** _____ **Date** _____

VII. **Platform and Platform Title Clearance**

A. A platform title and general platform description should be submitted when the candidate school initially files to seek office, but NO LATER than 60 days prior to the Annual Conference.

B. Specific and thorough details regarding the campaign platforms and themes should be submitted to the TASC Director and the current Vice President School advisor as soon as possible. The final deadline to submit **detailed** platforms is **45 days prior to the Annual Conference.** Failure to do so is grounds for disqualification. Please see the Guide to Writing Your Platform document on the TASC website.

C. All campaign platforms, campaign titles, and descriptions must be cleared through the Vice President School advisor in order to prevent duplication among candidate schools. Written communication from the TASC Director and/or Vice President School advisor will indicate clearance of the platform title and description.

D. A school submitting a campaign platform or title that is similar to one previously submitted by another school will be advised of the duplication and given an opportunity to revise. It is politically inadvisable to use a similar title when running for office. In the case of exact replication, the second school submitting the campaign title or platform will be required to make a change to the submission.

E. Campaigning via electronic communication or word of mouth may begin after title clearance from the TASC Director and/or Vice President School. See *XIII Campaigning Schedule* for specifics regarding electronic campaigning.

F. Campaign platform proposals that would cost TASC more than $300 (i.e. trademark usage, purchase of platform) must include a plan for raising the necessary funds for implementation. Due to the budget and structure of TASC, campaign proposals may or may not be adopted by the TASC Board of Directors.

SPEECH

VIII. **Speech**

A. The student representative will be required to deliver an introduction to their school's candidacy during the Opening General Session following a nomination and second. **The nomination, second, and introduction is not to exceed two minutes and thirty seconds. It is highly recommended to keep speeches (including nominations) well-under two minutes and thirty seconds to avoid going over and becoming disqualified. Take into consideration transition times and applause.** Student representatives will be silently alerted when two minutes have passed. If the student representative continues beyond the two minute and thirty-second time limit, the school **will** be disqualified. The timing of the speech begins when the student nominating says their first word and ends when the last word is spoken.

B. Speeches will be given in the same order as they are performed at the Political Rally. This is in order of their position on the ballot, which is determined by random draw.

C. This formal introduction of the school's candidacy should specifically include the following:
    1. Nomination
    2. Second
    3. Acceptance of nomination
    4. Introduction of self and school
    5. Qualifications of school to serve in the position
    6. A detailed explanation of the platform

D. Representatives from two separate schools should nominate and second the candidate school and representative. The student who will represent the school as a student officer should accept the nomination and should clearly be identified to voters as the school representative. An appropriate statement of acceptance could be: "If __ high school is elected, I will do my best to…" **Please** write the nomination and acceptance speeches and include practicing them in your speech so you will not be surprised by the extra time. You may use part of your allotted skit practice to practice your speech if you would like, but it is not required.

E. Students from current officer schools, conference coordinator school, TASC elected advisor schools, or schools represented on the Credentials, Tabulations, or Meet the Candidates Session Committees may **not** nominate or second a candidacy.

F. Nothing may be tossed or thrown into the audience during the speech.

POLITICAL RALLY SKIT

IX. **Political Rally**

A. Each school will have **seven** minutes during which time **setup occurs, campaign skits are performed, and the stage is exited**. Schools will receive a silent notification after six and one-half minutes, after which schools will have 30 seconds to complete all presentations and exit the stage. Any students/props on stage beyond the allotted seven minutes will result in disqualification. The Parliamentarian School will provide a large clock/timer to be set offstage (center) and visible to the candidate schools.

B. Timing for the skits at the Political Rally begins when the first person from the candidate school steps on stage or when the first audio/visual media begins, whichever occurs first, and will continue until the last person in the candidate school exits the stage. Anything brought onto the stage for the Political Rally skit must be removed from the stage in your allotted time. Candidates should practice the timing of entering and exiting the stage prior to the state annual conference.

C. For technical specifications, candidate schools should refer to the official *State Officer Campaign Skit Technical Guidelines* document. This document provides detailed specifications concerning scripts, music, video, lighting, power, and microphones.

D. Political Rally Skits should reflect the candidate school's platform and a call to action for TASC schools rather than being solely for entertainment.

E. The space available on stage at the Convention Center for skit performances is approximately 30’ wide by 20’ deep, excluding host school decorations.

F. In the event of any mechanical or technical delay, an extension equal to that amount of time will be added to the presentation. Please remember that any audience participation is included as part of the seven-minute total.

G. All presenters will enter from backstage, specifically entering from one side and exiting from the opposite side as directed by the production company (traditionally entering stage right and exiting stage left).

H. Do not plan to hang a backdrop from the battens at the convention center for the Political Rally skit. If a backdrop is necessary, plan to use a freestanding frame.

I. On the day of the Political Rally, each candidate school’s skit performers will line up in performance order. A representative from the Vice President School will escort schools to this area. Schools will have pre-set all set pieces/props during rehearsal in the designated storage space. The space may or may not include a wall to lean items against. Please consider this as you plan. The conference coordinator school will provide students that act as guides once schools are in the holding area.

J. All sets and props must fit in a designated storage area, approximately 3’x4’, and through a standard 7’ x 3’ door frame.

K. Schools may leave props and sets behind the curtain after their skit is completed in a pre-marked area. All props and set pieces must be removed from the backstage area **immediately** after the Political Rally is completed.

L. If a candidate school plans to use technology in the Political Rally skit or campaign and the technology is not addressed in the *Technical Guidelines* document, the candidate school must contact the Vice President advisor and TASC Director before proceeding to verify availability.

M. A limit of twenty-five (25) registered student delegates may participate in the Political Rally skit performed on Day Two. A practice time will be given on Day One, and all students participating in the skit MUST attend the practice **in costume.**

N. No one may come to the stage from the audience as part of the Political Rally skit. All stage skit participants must enter from backstage. Nothing may be tossed or thrown to/from the audience during the Political Rally skit.

O. No fire code violations or TASC safety issues (running in the aisles, standing on chairs, etc.) are allowed as a part of the Political Rally skit or the campaign. If you have any questions, contact the Vice President school and the TASC Director.

X. **Political Rally Skit Prep**

A. A rough draft of your Political Rally skit with dialogue, video and sound clip notations, and stage directions is **due 45 days prior to the state annual conference start date.**

B. The final draft of your Political Rally skit with dialogue, stage directions, costumes, lighting, and media cues is due 2 weeks prior to the state annual conference start date.

C. Each candidate school is required to complete a **full-dress rehearsal** (costumes, stage set, etc.) and to rehearse its Political Rally skit in its entirety on the convention center stage on the first day of the state annual conference, so there are no surprises for the stage manager or the Credentials Committee during the Political Rally. All costumes, clothes, and accessories approved at the full-dress rehearsal must be the exact same in the political rally skit If the costumes or dress are different from the approved dress, the new dress must be approved before taking the stage by the Vice President School.

D. Each school will be allotted approximately 10 minutes; the number of schools running for office will determine the final length of rehearsal time. A schedule will be sent to candidate schools before the state annual conference start date.

E. The time allowed for rehearsal is to rehearse and make necessary adjustments based on the stage. In addition to dress rehearsal, the time provided may also be used for speech practice.

F. A rehearsal schedule will be sent to each candidate school approximately two weeks before the state annual conference. Schools must be on time. Political Rally Skits will be rehearsed in the same order as they are performed at the Political Rally. This is in order of their position on the ballot, which is determined by random draw.

G. Representatives from the Credentials Committee will be present during skit rehearsal to monitor the appropriateness of Political Rally skits (see page 2, *Overview III Statement of Standards*). If anything in the Political Rally skit is determined to be inappropriate by the Credentials Committee, the candidate school must remove or replace the line/behavior/song/etc. from the skit. If the banned portion of the skit is performed during the skit at the Political Rally, the skit may be stopped, and the candidate school will be disqualified for violation of campaign rules and regulations.

H. Each candidate school must send one student and advisor to the required technical meeting of all schools to tour the skit area prior to the start of skit rehearsals. The school may also send up to one tech student, but it is optional.

CAMPAIGNING

XI. **Campaign Materials**

A. Candidate schools may unload materials at the state annual conference in the morning on Day 1 according to the schedule provided. They should report to the campaign area with all budgeted items but should not begin to unpack anything or set up their booths. Please pack your items according to your campaign budget sheet. This will make for a more efficient check-in process.

B. Candidate schools will submit any required documentation and three (3) PHYSICAL copies of both their budget report and all receipts to the Vice President at the check-in table in the campaign area upon arrival prior to verification.

C. The Credentials Committee will begin checking each candidate school's budget form and materials after check-in. All documentation will be checked and approved, but no one may begin unpacking and setting up until the official notification is given for all schools to begin setting up their booths.

D. A meeting with the production company will take place the morning of Day One in the general assembly room. The student representative and the advisor are required to attend the production meeting. The school may also send up to one tech student, but it is optional. Please see the Technical Guidelines to reference the materials needed for the meeting.

E. It is recommended to have signage for your campaign booth. Signage for your campaign booth can be up to 3'x 8' and made out of the material of your choice. Each booth will have a piped and draped wall.

Supplies to hang your signs such as "S-hooks" are not provided and must count towards your budget. If the convention center cannot provide the pipe and drape for all campaign booths, then it will not be provided for any. Candidates will be notified as soon as possible if this is the case.

F. Other Materials
    1. Campaign materials may include "give-away" items. No noise makers are allowed as a "give away," and all novelty items must be approved by the Vice President School and TASC Director BEFORE the items are ordered. Past candidate schools have advised that approximately 3,000 are needed. Please verify tentative numbers with the Vice President school and TASC Director before purchasing.
    2. All campaign "give-away" items must be wearable. No food, snacks, or drinks can be used as "giveaway" items. Stickers or gummed-backed items are not allowed, with the exception of badge ribbons or self-adhesive bracelets.
    3. Candidate schools are responsible for the pick up of all trash created by their "give away" items.

G. **Not acceptable during any part of your campaign are the following:**
    1. Helium balloons, rubber balls, etc.
    2. Confetti-type materials or fog machines
    3. Gummed labels, stickers with gummed backing (with the exception of badge ribbons or self-adhesive bracelets), band-aids, etc.
    4. Hooks, screws, or nails for hanging materials (with the exception of S-hooks for signage)
    5. Skateboards, roller blades, roller-skates, motorized recreational transportation, or similar items
    6. Combustible or explosive materials including fireworks, flash powder, etc.
    7. Glitter
    8. Drones

XII. **Distribution of Materials at the TASC State Annual Conference**

A. <u>All materials</u> related to the campaign booth must be broken down before the first general session and removed based on the schedule distributed prior to the State Annual Conference by the Vice President School and TASC Director.

B. No distribution of materials may take place in the general session room <u>at any time</u>. Nothing is to be thrown into the audience during the candidate's speech or political rally (skit).

C. All distributed items are to be passed hand-to-hand and must be worn, excluding social/digital campaign material.

D. Campaign materials may **NOT:**
    1. Be posted on doors, walls, door handles, curtains, or other fabrics.
    2. Be hung from light fixtures, air conditioners, air supply ducts, return air grills, or diffusers.
    3. Obstruct exits.
    4. Be plugged into any exit light fixture or socket.
    5. Black-out or deface an exit light or obstruct it from its original line of sight.
    6. Be posted in hotels or outside the convention center.

XIII. **Campaigning Schedule**

A. Prior to TASC State Conference
    1. Once your campaign platform has been approved by the Vice President School and TASC Director and is posted on the TASC website, you may begin campaigning through digital materials and on social media**; however,** any financial expenditures (including social media, digital applications, etc.), must be reflected in your campaign budget.
        a. Each candidate school may create digital campaign material. Digital content may include the following: websites, videos, graphics, and other digital materials, and should follow the statement of standards found on page 2 in *Overview III Statement of Standards.*
        b. Social media campaigning by the candidate school can occur at any time prior to and during the state annual conference once approved by the Vice President School and TASC Director and is posted on the TASC website.

c. Campaign content supporting your platform may not be created by entities outside of your school, including but not limited to districts

2. No tangible materials may be distributed or worn prior to the TASC State Annual Conference including TASC District events.

B. Day One of State Conference - Prior to General Session
   1. Campaigning may begin after **clearance by the Credentials Committee** and cannot occur during the general sessions, breakout sessions, or table talk sessions. The project may be presented as a table talk, but without platform or campaigning elements.
   2. Campaigning by social media and face-to-face allowed.
   3. Distribution of tangible items is allowed. See Section XI.F-G.
   4. Campaign shirts and costumes may be worn.
   5. Candidate schools cannot actively and persistently face-to-face campaign inside or immediately in front of other candidate school booths.
   6. All distribution of tangible campaign materials by candidate schools must CEASE before the first General Session begins on Day 1**.**

C. Day Two of State Conference
   1. Campaigning by social media allowed all day. Campaigning face-to-face only allowed prior to the start of voting. In the event of a run-off, campaigning face-to-face allowed only once informed of run-off.
   2. No tangible items may be distributed.
   3. Campaign shirts or costumes may be worn.

D. Day Three - **In the event of a runoff**
   1. Campaigning through social media is allowed. No face-to-face campaigning allowed.
   2. No tangible items may be distributed.
   3. No campaign shirts or costumes may be worn. See Section VI. B. 4.

XIV. **Booths**

A. Each candidate school will be assigned a designated booth space in the specified area of the convention center. Two 6' or 8’ tables and two chairs will be provided as long as there is enough space and enough are available. Tablecloths are not always provided. Candidate schools will use the allotted space to create a campaign and informational booth. The space will be “open” meaning there will be no wall available to use as support for any structure created. The booth structure, as well as any activities (games, etc.), may not be set up or conducted outside of the allowed space.

B. Booth location is determined by a drawing, and a draft diagram will be sent to each candidate school at the candidate informational zoom.

C. An informational storyboard (usually found on a tri-panel/display board) about your school’s qualifications and platform must be included in your booth.

D. Noisemakers, musical instruments, amplifiers, speakers, and other approved demonstration materials may be used only inside a candidate school's booth on Day 1 and may not detract from others' booths.

E. Electrical hook-ups for booths may be available on-site. Candidate schools should inform the Vice President School and TASC Director of the need in advance and must provide their own extension cords and surge protectors. Candidate schools will be financially responsible for any electrical hook-ups if a cost is incurred. This cost must be included on the campaign budget report.

F. <u>All materials</u> related to the campaign booth must be broken down before the first general session and removed based on the schedule distributed prior to the State Annual Conference by the Vice President School and TASC Director.

XV. **Meet the Candidates**

A. Each candidate school’s student representative will be required to participate in a Meet the Candidates Session. The representative will be asked questions from delegates in attendance regarding platform and qualifications. The Meet the Candidates Session will be conducted by a conference committee led by the current Parliamentarian School. The procedures for the Meet the Candidate Session are as

follows:

1. We will have four Meet the Candidate sessions:
    a) President
    b) Vice-President
    c) Secretary
    d) Parliamentarian
2. The moderator will be the current state student representative for each office and will introduce themselves and give a brief description of the office.
    a) The moderator will give each student candidate one minute to introduce themselves and their platform.
    b) Students will receive time cue warnings.
    c) Schools will be introduced in alphabetical order.
3. After all schools have introduced themselves, we will move to the question/answer segment.
    a) All students will be asked to answer the same questions.
    b) The moderator will alternate who is asked the question first.
    c) Each Candidate School's Student Representative will have one minute to answer each question and will be given time cues.
    d) This process will repeat throughout the session.
4. The following are required to attend this session:
    a) All candidate school student representatives along with their advisors
    b) Current State Officer student and advisor for that position
    c) Meet the Candidate committee members assigned to that room (Student & Advisor)
    d) Parliamentarian school members
5. Questions will be submitted for consideration by conference delegates.
6. Questions selected for use will be determined by the Meet the Candidates committee.
7. Officer Candidate School Student Representatives are encouraged to wear business attire for the Meet the Candidate Session.

ELECTIONS

XVI. **Campaign Delegation**

A. According to the TASC Constitution, the Board of Directors shall determine the number of delegates each school may bring to the Annual Conference. Candidate schools must follow the current guidelines for registering a delegation to the TASC Annual Conference.

B. No non-registered students or adults may attend any conference activity unless approved a minimum of two weeks in advance by the TASC staff. All approved guests must check in with the TASC staff and wear a valid name badge and wristband.

XVII. **Elections**

A. The election shall be by secret ballot and shall be held following the Political Rally.

B. Position on the ballot is determined by a drawing.

C. Only advisors may pick up balloting materials.

D. Elections will be determined in the manner as outlined in the TASC Constitution.

E. Run-off Election Guidelines

1. If a run-off is required, candidate schools involved in the run-off will be notified by the Vice President School.
2. A run-off will be announced as soon as possible, pending the appeals process after the post-campaign meeting on Day Two.
3. In the case of a run-off, the same procedures as used for the original elections will be utilized.
4. All schools involved in a run-off election may campaign **by social media and face-to-face on Day 2** only once informed of the run-off campaign.
5. T-shirts and costumes may be worn at any time on Day One and Day Two by any candidate school, regardless of if they are in a run-off or not. T-shirts and costumes may not be worn on Day Three.
6. Day Three campaigning is only allowed through social media. Candidate schools should not campaign in person in any way.

F. In the event of a tie vote in a run-off election, the school with the greatest number of votes in the general election on Day Two will win the election. In the event that two schools have a tie vote in both the general election and in the run-off election, the current TASC board members on site will convene during the Annual Conference to select a school to fill the office.

G. In the event a school running unopposed for an office is disqualified, the current TASC board members on site will convene during the Annual Conference to select a replacement from the remaining qualified candidate schools.

H. Election results will be announced at the Final General Session. The student representatives from the newly elected officer schools will report to the stage when announced for a formal induction/oath of office before the close of the general session.

VIOLATIONS AND APPEALS

XVIII. **Campaign Violations**

A. A violation of any campaign rule or regulation may be considered grounds for disqualification. It is the responsibility of the candidate school members and advisor to read and understand the campaign rules and regulations. When in doubt, ask the Vice President School and TASC Director.

B. Any report of suspected campaign rule violations any time during or prior to the campaigning should be made immediately to the Vice President School or President School Advisor. Depending on the severity of the alleged violation, the offending school may be asked to correct the infraction. A candidate school may be disqualified if the violation is intentional or flagrant. Each candidate school should avoid using any questionable materials or procedures that circumvent the intent of campaign rules.

C. The Credentials Committee will consist of at least 3 schools (or any higher odd number based on the number of candidate schools) represented by an advisor and 2 students. The committee members will lead the discussion and have the voting power while the Vice President School advisor and student are responsible for bringing the violation document and pertinent information surrounding the violation to them only without opinion or vote. The Director of TASC will be present at all meetings without voting rights to ensure the adherence to policies and procedures.
    1. The credentials committee will consider the following questions as well as similar questions:
        a) *Was the violation a fixable offense that they were given the opportunity to amend? Was it then followed by a correction from the candidate school?*
        b) *Is the violation intentional or unintentional? Flagrant or slight?*
        c) *Did the violation give the school an unfair advantage in the election?*
        d) *Does the severity or technicality of the infraction warrant disqualification?*

D. A campaign violation is a breach of the rules. There are two ways that a campaign violation may be reported.
    1. The Vice President School and/or Credentials Committee member observes a violation before or during the Annual Conference.
    2. Another school reports a violation by filing a formal complaint in writing against the school campaigning for the office. Filed Campaign Violation Complaint Forms can be requested by the offending school with personal identifying information redacted.

E. A formal complaint may be filed against a candidate school by another school.

F. A violation can occur prior to the annual conference, on site, and during a run-off.
    1. If a violation occurs prior to the annual conference:
        a) If a violation occurs prior to the annual conference, the complaint must be filed via the form found on the TASC website within 3 days of the observed violation to the Vice President School's advisor.
    2. If a complaint is filed on site:
        a) If a complaint is filed on site at the conference, the complaint must be filed within one hour if the violation occurs at the state annual conference.
        b) The school filing the complaint must fill out the appropriate form (found on the TASC website or at the Vice President booth at the state annual conference) and give it to the Vice President School advisor or President School advisor at the state annual conference. Complaints will be taken to the Credentials Committee.
        c) If the violation occurs during a general session, the time to submit a formal complaint starts at the conclusion of that general session.
    3. If a complaint is filed regarding a run-off:
        a) A complaint about run-off campaigning must be filed before 8:30 a.m. CST on Day Three of the annual conference. Remember, only social media campaigning is allowed on Day Three. A complaint will be examined, and a decision will be made as quickly as possible.

G. If a violation is reported, the Vice President School advisor and/or a Credentials Committee member will speak to the offending school's advisor in an effort to allow the candidate school to correct the violation. If the offending school refuses or is unable to correct the violation, then the school will be disqualified. Campaign Violation Complaint Forms can be requested by the offending school with personal identifying information redacted.

H. A time violation on the two minutes and thirty-second speech on Day One or the seven (7) minute skit on Day Two will result in disqualification.

I. Failure to be on time and present at any formal meetings will result in disqualification.

J. The Campaign Violation Formal Complaint Form is printed at the end of this information and will be available on the TASC website and at the Vice President School booth at the state annual conference on day one. The appeal form is printed at the end of this information and will be available on the TASC website and at the Vice President School booth at the annual conference. On subsequent days of the conference, the forms will be at the TASC Welcome Booth.

XIX. **Appeal Process**

A. Candidate schools have the right to appeal a Credentials Committee decision following proper appeal procedures. Candidate schools may appeal by submitting an appeal form within 30 minutes of being notified of being disqualified. Forms are on the TASC website and located at the credentials committee table at the state annual conference on day one. On subsequent days of the conference, the forms will be at the TASC Welcome Booth. Appeals must be submitted to the Vice President or President school advisor.

B. The appeals committee reserves the right to consider all extenuating circumstances in making their decision.

C. The appeals committee will consider the following questions as well as similar questions:

1. *Was the violation a fixable offense that they were given the opportunity to amend? Was it then followed by a correction from the candidate school?*
2. *Is the violation intentional or unintentional? Flagrant or slight?*
3. *Did the violation give the school an unfair advantage in the election?*
4. *Does the severity or technicality of the infraction warrant disqualification?*

D. Appeals will be voted on by an appeals committee consisting of the following board members: Past President Advisor if on-site, Elected Advisors to the Board who are on-site, and elected officer school students and advisors. The Director of TASC will be present at all meetings without voting rights to ensure the adherence to policies and procedures. Decisions made by the appeals committee are final and may not be appealed.

TENTATIVE CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR CANDIDATE SCHOOLS

MISSING A MANDATORY EVENT WHEN THE FINAL SCHEDULE IS SENT IS GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

September 22, 2026, November 3, 2026, December 1, 2026, or January 5, 2027, 7:00 p.m. CST - MANDATORY Prospective Candidate Meeting Zoom. The advisor and candidate must attend at least one meeting.

January 20, 2027- Deadline to file for state office and submit general campaign platform. (60 days prior to the state annual conference)

January 26, 2027, 7:00 p.m. CST - MANDATORY Candidate Informational Zoom. This is not the same thing as the Prospective Candidate Meeting Zoom.

February 4, 2027 - Preliminary financial statement due. (45 days prior to the annual conference. No receipts are due at this time.)

February 4, 2027 - Deadline for submitting specific and thorough details regarding campaign platforms, themes, preliminary financial statements, giveaway items, and detailed skit descriptions (including any reference to a particular movie, song, TV program, etc.) to the state office and Vice President School for approval. (45 days prior to the state annual conference)

March 2, 2027 - Deadline for submitting final skit script that includes all cues for music, video, audio, and lights according to the color-coded key in the Skit Technical Guidelines. All video and audio files must be submitted as well.

Day 1 - March 21, 2027 - 3 PHYSICAL copies of the final budget with 3 PHYSICAL copies of receipts attached due upon arrival.

9:00 A.M. Candidate schools may begin unloading materials at the Convention center. Do not begin any type of assembly or setting up until notified of clearance by the Credentials Committee. Candidate schools may open boxes and get materials organized for set up, but NO ASSEMBLY of materials should occur.

10:00 – 10:30 A.M Candidate School Meeting/Tour Stage Area/Technical Issues Meeting **(MANDATORY)** The advisor and student representative from each candidate school will meet with the Chairpersons of the Credentials Committee and TASC staff. The person(s) who will be in the booth providing cues to the Production Company during your skit should report to this meeting. Meeting participants should report to the back-left corner (facing the stage) of the Convention Exhibit Hall (Main Assembly Room).

10:00 A.M. The Credentials Committee checks each candidate's campaign materials. (posters, booth materials, handouts, skit props, financial report/receipts, etc.) Booth setup must not begin until the Credentials Committee notifies all candidates. (**MANDATORY)** – all candidate materials must be unloaded by this time for the Credentials Committee to begin checking materials.

11:00 A.M.–3:45 P.M. Speech/Skit Rehearsal **(MANDATORY)** This may vary depending on the number of candidates. A specific schedule will be sent out prior to the state annual conference.

2:00 - 7:00 P.M. Conference Registration/Exhibits open - Campaigning allowed upon approval of the Credentials

Committee.

7:00 P.M. All items from booth area should be out of the convention center

7:30 - 10:00 P.M. Opening General Session. No tangible materials can be distributed during this session. The student rep from each candidate school, nominator, and second will deliver a combined two minute and thirty second speech introduction to the school's candidacy during this session. The Candidate School Advisor will accompany the Student Rep on stage.

Day 2 - March 22, 2027 - No tangible items may be distributed

7:30 - 9:00 A.M Campaigning by social media and face-to-face allowed

8:00 - 8:45 A.M. Meet the Candidates Session (**MANDATORY)**
The Candidate School student representative from each candidate school will be given an opportunity to discuss qualifications and platforms in a guided format. The Candidate School Advisor must be in attendance. **The audience, made up of a delegate from each school, will be allowed to submit questions.**

9:00 - 11:30 A.M. General Session & Political Rally (**MANDATORY)** Note: All campaign materials (skit props, booth, signs, etc.) must be removed from the Convention center immediately after the rally.

12:45 - 1:30 P.M Balloting for Officer Schools

3:20-3:55 P.M Candidate school post campaign session at the Convention center with TASC Staff. Student designee and advisor from each candidate school are required to attend. (**MANDATORY).** If a run-off is necessary, a notification will be sent following the post campaign session**.** Campaigning by social media and face-to-face allowed only once informed.

~5:00 - 10:00 P.M Six Flags Over Texas

Day 3 - March 23, 2027 - If there is a run-off, only campaigning through social media is allowed. No face-to face campaigning allowed.

8:30 - 9:15 A.M Run-off balloting, if necessary

9:30 - 11:00 A.M. Final General Session - (**MANDATORY)**
Winners will be announced at the end of the last general session. The student representative from the winning school will come to the stage to take an oath of office.

11:30 A.M New officers (student & advisor) will meet with TASC staff immediately following close of session. **(MANDATORY).** This meeting may run over an hour.

Campaign Violation Complaint Form

A campaign violation is a break of the rules. A formal campaign violation complaint must be filed within 3 days of the violation if it occurs prior to arriving at the state conference or within 1 hour while at conference. If the violation occurs during a general session, the time to submit a formal complaint starts at the conclusion of that general session. A complaint about run-off campaigning must be filed before 8:30 a.m. CST on Day Three of the annual conference. This form must be completed in full and e-mailed to the Vice-President Advisor if the offense is before the state conference or given to the TASC Vice-President or President School advisor if the violation occurs at the state annual conference. The Vice-President advisor will take the complaint to the Credentials Committee, and action will be taken. Campaign Violation Complaint Forms can be requested by the offending school with personal identifying information redacted.

Name of advisor filing the complaint: _____

Name of advisor's school: _____

TASC District # _____Number where advisor may be reached: _____

Name of offending school: _____

Description of violation (please be specific):

_____
_____
_____
_____

Date of violation: _____ Time of violation: _____

Please attach any documentation to support your violation report.

I have received this formal campaign violation report. I will take it to the Credentials Committee.

Signature of VP or President School Advisor: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

–TASC USE ONLY–

Credentials Committee Vote Results: _____

☐ Violation Does Not Result in Disqualification ☐ Violation Results in Disqualification

Signature of Credentials Committee member verifying the vote:

X_____

Reason for Disqualification: _____

_____

Time of Notification: _____

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Appeal of Disqualification from the TASC State Board Election

From the time a school is disqualified from the election, the school will be allotted 30 minutes to write and file an appeal by presenting it to the State Vice President school's advisor. Appeals will be voted on by an appeals committee consisting of the following board members: Past President Advisor if on-site, Elected Advisors to the Board who are on-site, and elected officer school students and advisors. Decisions made by the appeals committee are final and may not be appealed.

School Name: _____

Advisor Name: _____

Student Representative Name: _____

Office Filed For: _____

Reason for the Appeal: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Candidate Advisor Signature _____ Candidate Student Rep Signature _____

Board decision: (circle one) Accepted Denied

Signature of TASC VP Advisor _____ Signature of TASC President Advisor _____

Signature of VP Student Rep _____ Signature of President Student Rep _____