

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

Application for Candidacy

ASUCM Government Elected Position 2020-2021

Name: _____

Name on Ballot (please print): _____

Phone Number: () _____

E-Mail: _____

Student ID: _____

Please check one office for which you are declaring candidacy:

- ☐ President
- ☐ Internal Vice President
- ☐ External Vice President
- ☐ Treasurer
- ☐ Director of Academic Affairs
- ☐ Director of Communications
- ☐ Director of Student Advocacy
- ☐ Director of Student Activities
- ☐ Senate*

*If you are running for Senate, please circle the position you wish to run for:

SSHA (Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts)

NS (Natural Sciences)

ENG (Engineering)

At-Large

“By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the current ASUCM Election By-Laws, Election Guidelines, and Application for Candidacy.”

“By signing below, I am providing authorization for the ASUCM Advisor to confirm my academic and judicial eligibility for this election and duration of my position in ASUCM as outlined in the ASUCM Constitution and ASUCM judicial documents.”

Signature: _____
(Candidate)

(Date)

Form received: _____

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

Important Information

The top portion of each signature sheet must be filled out by the candidate. Please **E-MAIL** a personal statement (limit 500 words, i.e. a biography and/or the reasons why you wish to run, what you hope to achieve and a photo), to **asucmelections@ucmerced.edu**; it will be viewed by all those voting in the next election. Please do not print out personal statements. Personal Statements are due by March 30th, 2020 at 5pm.

ASUCM Election By-Laws can be found at asucm.ucmerced.edu

NOTE: If you wish to receive a paper copy of the Elections By-Laws, please ask the Elections Commission. The Elections Guidelines are attached to this application. It is ***your*** responsibility to understand and follow both the Elections Guidelines and Elections By-Laws.

Important Dates

Packets are due on 3/24/20 by 5PM to ASUCM Office to **Administrative Assistant/Interns and/or Advisor ONLY**

Elections start on 4/18/20 @ 10AM and end on 4/22/20 @ 10PM through Catlife
Personal statement and photo due by the 3/31/19 at 5PM

Expenses of the slates/candidates are due by the 4/22/20 by 5PM to ASUCM Office

If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail **asucmelections@ucmerced.edu** or ask a member of the Elections Commission.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
SIGNATURES FOR THE SPRING 2020 ELECTIONS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED PER PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER #5.		

1.	_____
2.	_____
3.	_____
4.	_____
5.	_____
6.	_____
7.	_____
8.	_____
9.	_____
10.	_____
11.	_____
12.	_____
13.	_____
14.	_____
15.	_____
16.	_____
17.	_____
18.	_____
19.	_____
20.	_____
21.	_____
22.	_____
23.	_____
24.	_____
25.	_____
26.	_____
27.	_____
28.	_____
29.	_____
30.	_____
31.	_____
32.	_____
33.	_____
34.	_____
35.	_____
36.	_____
37.	_____

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
38.		
39.		
40.		
41.		
42.		
43.		
44.		
45.		
46.		
47.		
48.		
49.		
50.		
51.		
52.		
53.		
54.		
55.		
56.		
57.		
58.		
59.		
60.		
61.		
62.		
63.		
64.		
65.		
66.		
67.		
68.		
69.		
70.		
71.		
72.		
73.		
74.		
75.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
76.		
77.		
78.		
79.		
80.		
81.		
82.		
83.		
84.		
85.		
86.		
87.		
88.		
89.		
90.		
91.		
92.		
93.		
94.		
95.		
96.		
97.		
98.		
99.		
100.		
101.		
102.		
103.		
104.		
105.		
106.		
107.		
108.		
109.		
110.		
111.		
112.		
113.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
114.		
115.		
116.		
117.		
118.		
119.		
120.		
121.		
122.		
123.		
124.		
125.		
126.		
127.		
128.		
129.		
130.		
131.		
132.		
133.		
134.		
135.		
136.		
137.		
138.		
139.		
140.		
141.		
142.		
143.		
144.		
145.		
146.		
147.		
148.		
149.		
150.		
151.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
152.		
153.		
154.		
155.		
156.		
157.		
158.		
159.		
160.		
161.		
162.		
163.		
164.		
165.		
166.		
167.		
168.		
169.		
170.		
171.		
172.		
173.		
174.		
175.		
176.		
177.		
178.		
179.		
180.		
181.		
182.		
183.		
184.		
185.		
186.		
187.		
188.		
189.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
190.		
191.		
192.		
193.		
194.		
195.		
196.		
197.		
198.		
199.		
200.		
201.		
202.		
203.		
204.		
205.		
206.		
207.		
208.		
209.		
210.		
211.		
212.		
213.		
214.		
215.		
216.		
217.		
218.		
219.		
220.		
221.		
222.		
223.		
224.		
225.		
226.		
227.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
228.		
229.		
230.		
231.		
232.		
233.		
234.		
235.		
236.		
237.		
238.		
239.		
240.		
241.		
242.		
243.		
244.		
245.		
246.		
247.		
248.		
249.		
250.		
251.		
252.		
253.		
254.		
255.		
256.		
257.		
258.		
259.		
260.		
261.		
262.		
263.		
264.		
265.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
266.		
267.		
268.		
269.		
270.		
271.		
272.		
273.		
274.		
275.		
276.		
277.		
278.		
279.		
280.		
281.		
282.		
283.		
284.		
285.		
286.		
287.		
288.		
289.		
290.		
291.		
292.		
293.		
294.		
295.		
296.		
297.		
298.		
299.		
300.		
301.		
302.		
303.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
304.		
305.		
306.		
307.		
308.		
309.		
310.		

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

OFFICIAL SPRING 2019 ASUCM ELECTIONS CALENDAR

March

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Last Day to Appoint Elections Commissioner	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Elections Begin	18	19	20 Info Session #1 – Packet Distribution and Signatures	21 Info Session #2 – Packet Distribution and Signatures	22	23 *****
24 *****	25 *****	26 *****	27 SPRING BREAK	28 *****	29 *****	30 *****
31						

April

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Packets are due at 5 PM!	9 Campaigning Begins	10	11	12 Forms for withdrawal are available.	13
14	15	16 Meet the Candidates Event #1 (SAMPLE BALLOTS)	17 Meet the Candidates Event #2 GOES OUT)	18	19 Withdrawal of Candidacy Due	20
21	22	23 Polls Open	24 Polls Close (Last Day of Active Campaigning)	25 Results Announces	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3 Inauguration	4

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

ASUCM By-Laws

Elections By-Laws

Updated as of December 08, 2016

Purpose: These Elections By-Laws are the governing rules for the ASUCM Elections. In these By-Laws the following things can be found: definitions of important key terms in relation to elections, explanation of the elections process, procedures and timelines expected to be followed in order to conduct elections, ways to handle elections-related grievances, and what all potential candidates need to know in order to run in the elections.

Table of Contents:

Article I: General Provisions.....	14
Section 1: Amendments.....	14
Section 2: Definitions.....	14
Section 3: Burdens of Responsibility.....	16
Section 4: Publication of These Elections By-Laws.....	16
Section 5: Publication of Materials.....	16
Article II: ASUCM Court.....	17
Section 1: Authorization of the Elections Commission.....	17
Section 2: The Head Elections Commissioner.....	17
Section 3: Hearing Complaints & Appeals.....	17
Section 4: Referendums.....	17
Article III: The Elections Commission.....	18
Section 1: Authorization.....	18
Section 2: Burdens of Responsibility.....	18
Section 3: Composition & Appointment.....	18
Section 4: General Meetings.....	18
Section 5: Duties of the Elections Commission.....	19
Section 6: Complaints Process & Hearings.....	19
Section 7: Budget.....	20
Section 8: Public Notice & Publicity.....	20
Section 9: Ballot Design.....	20
Section 10: Sample Ballot.....	21
Section 11: Certification of the Ballots & Election Results.....	21
Article IV: Elections Process.....	21
Section 1: Voting.....	21
Section 2: Ties.....	21
Section 3: Announcement of Elections Results.....	22
Section 4: Privacy & Disposal of Voting Records.....	22
Article V: Elections Timeline	
Section 1: Polls.....	22

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
Section 2: Spring Elections.....	22	
Section 3: Special Elections.....	23	
Article VI: Candidates & Campaigning.....	24	
Section 1: Rights & Limitations.....	24	
Section 2: Qualifications.....	24	
Section 3: Elected Positions.....	25	
Section 4: Ballot Measures.....	25	
Section 5: Mandatory Candidate Meeting.....	25	
Section 6: Campaign Expenditures.....	26	
Section 7: Endorsements.....	26	
Section 8: Campaigning & Advertising.....	26	
Section 9: Slate Formation.....	26	
Section 10: Withdrawal of Candidacy.....	27	
Section 11: Write-In Candidates.....	27	
Section 12: Slandering.....	27	
Article VII: Violations, Complaints, & Appeals.....	28	
Section 1: Examples of Violations.....	28	
Section 2: Filing Complaints.....	28	
Section 3: Appeals.....	29	

Article I: General Provisions

Section 1: Amendments

- A. All amendments to the Elections By-Laws require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote from the ASUCM Senate and must be done at least two weeks before the Mandatory Candidate Meeting which begins the elections season. Any further amendments cannot be made once elections season has begun.

Section 2: Definitions

- A. Academic Areas: Classrooms, study rooms/areas, libraries (on or above the second floor), computer labs, all offices. These areas are considered "Campaign Free Areas" (CFAs).
- B. Ballot Question: An initiative, referendum, recall process, or an ASUCM constitutional amendment voted upon by the student body this includes student fee increases.
- C. Business Day: Any day between Monday and Friday with the exception of holidays.
- D. By-Laws: Rules adopted by an organization to regulate its own affairs.
- E. Candidate: A person seeking an elected office that has signed a "Declaration of Candidacy" and has received an Elections packet.
- F. Campaign: Publicly supporting, endorsing, advertising, and/or aiding in the election of a candidate or a ballot question.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

- G. Campaign Free Areas (CFAs): Places on campus where advertising, campaigning, and anything elections-related are prohibited.
- H. Campaigner: A person campaigning in coordination with a candidate, referendum or campaign. When gathering signatures and campaigning, campaigners are subject to the same requirements and restrictions of the candidates.
- I. Campaigning: Publicly advertising one's own candidacy with the purpose of gathering support or votes. This also includes the encouragement of students by candidates/slates/related individuals to vote, whether or not this is to increase voter turnout.
- J. Campaign Materials: Items used to promote or influence a campaign or election. This includes, but is not limited to, technological devices, social network pages, fliers, posters, A-frames, and campaign paraphernalia.
- K. Declaration of Candidacy: The form(s) that candidates are required to fill out in order to be placed on the ballot.
- L. Election Cycle: The time in which it takes to complete the elections; beginning with public announcement of elections and ending with the elections results.
- M. Election Week: Monday through Friday of the week of elections.
- N. Endorsement: An official statement supporting a candidate that has been approved by the Head Elections Commissioner.
- O. General Complaint: A complaint concerning the Elections By-Laws, sent to the Head Elections Commissioner.
- P. Slate: A list of candidates running as a group for elected office.
- Q. Petition of Withdrawal of Candidacy: A professionally written email sent to the Head Elections Commissioner through a UC Merced email address that officially states a withdrawal of candidacy.
- R. Polling Stations: Any location where the Elections Commission sets up a place for students can vote for candidates or ballot questions.
- S. Public Record: Information that is documented and made available to the public.
- T. Referendum: A policy, proposal, or question proposed to the student body to vote on.
- U. Runoff Elections: When an election results in a tie between two or more candidates, the tying candidates will re-run for the same position and students will have a second opportunity to vote for these candidates.
- V. Special Elections: Any additional election that is set apart from the general elections referred to in the ASUCM Constitution. A Special Election can be held for any of the following purposes:
 - 1. Electing candidates for vacant ASUCM Senate seats, which requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ Majority of the ASUCM Senate to authorize a Special Election for this purpose.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
-------------	---------------------	------------------

2. Proposing a referendum.
3. Proposing an amendment to the ASUCM Constitution.

W. Technological Devices: Any device that can be used to cast a vote. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart phones, music players, cameras, tablets, laptops, and other web-enabled devices.

X. Ticket Voting: Two or more people running together for elected office. A ticket differs from a slate because in a ticket system, you cannot vote for one of the candidates without having to vote for the other.

Y. UCOP: University Of California, Office of the President. UCOP policies govern ASUCM and University of Operations.

Z. Write-In: A candidate who has their name written in the blank 'Write-In' space on the ballot.

Section 3: Burden of Responsibility

- A. All Candidates, Campaigners, and ASUCM Officials are expected to know and follow the Elections By-Laws. Candidates will be removed from elections upon failure to do so.

Section 4: Publication of These Elections By-Laws

- A. The Elections By-Laws will be available on the ASUCM website.
- B. Students who submit a signed Declaration of Candidacy shall be given a copy of the Election By-Laws included in the Elections Packet.
- C. A free hard-copy of the Elections By-Laws will be provided by ASUCM to any student by request.

Section 5: Publication of Materials

- A. The ASUCM Director of Communications will publish materials required in these By- Laws to the ASUCM website at the request of the Head Elections Commissioner or the Commission.
- B. The ASUCM Director of Communications has three (3) business days to publish the materials to the ASUCM website after they have been requested.

Article II: ASUCM Court

Section 1: Authorization of the Elections Commission

- A. The ASUCM Court will authorize the Elections Commission for the administration and authorization of the elections.

Section 2: The Head Elections Commissioner

- A. The ASUCM Chief Justice shall appoint a UC Merced undergraduate student as the Head Elections Commissioner with a majority approval from the rest ASUCM Court at the end of the previous semester.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

1. For Spring Elections, the Head Elections Commissioner will be appointed by the end of the Fall Semester so that they have all of Winter Break to prepare for Spring Elections.
2. For Special Elections, the Head Elections Commissioner will be appointed before Senate approves the Special Election.

Section 3: Hearing Complaints & Appeals

- A. The ASUCM Court will leave all disputes and/or arbitration that may arise over these ByLaws shall to the Elections Commission and shall be involved if the Elections Commission wishes to do so, or if it is necessary.
- B. The Elections Commission's rulings shall stand unless overruled by the ASUCM Court.
 1. The Elections Commission cannot officially disqualify a candidate or campaign unless the candidate fails to appeal the disqualification or the ASUCM Court upholds the disqualification.
- C. The ASUCM Court shall notify the Head Elections Commissioner within twenty-four (24) hours of the filing of a complaint against the Head Elections Commissioner and shall explain the process of review.
- D. The ASUCM Court must meet within forty-eight (48) hours to hear and rule on all appeals and complaints against the Elections Commission.
 1. Complaints against Elections Commissioners have priority.
 2. It is at the discretion of the Court whether or not to hear a case after a preliminary reading of the appeal.
- E. The ASUCM Court shall post the status of each complaint, case, and appeal that they have heard on the ASUCM website within one (1) week of being filed.

Section 4: Referendums

- A. Referendum - There will be two (2) types of referenda. One type may be initiated by the students, the other by the Senate.
 1. The Senate, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present, may resolve to place proposed legislation on the ballot for approval by the majority of votes cast.
 2. Students may seek to have an act of the Senate, with the exception of the approval of presidential appointments, placed on the ballot by filing a petition with the signatures of fifteen percent (15%) of the registered members of the ASUCM. After the signatures have been verified, the Elections Board will make provisions to have the legislation placed on the ballot at the next election. Such a petition must be filed within four (4) weeks from the time a measure is acted upon.
- B. The ASUCM Court shall validate the legality of all proposed referendums.
- C. All proposed referendums must adhere to the policies and procedures set forth by both the University of California Merced and UCOP.

Article III: The Elections Commission

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

Section 1: Authorization

- A. The Elections Commission is authorized by the ASUCM Court for the administration and execution of Elections.
- B. All disputes and/or arbitration that may arise over these By-Laws shall be handled by the Elections Commission. If the Elections Commission wishes to do so, the ASUCM Court may be involved as well.

Section 2: Burdens of Responsibility

- A. Once the Head Elections Commissioner is appointed by the ASUCM Court, they are responsible for appointing all six (6) Elections Commissioners and are expected to know and follow these ASUCM Elections By-Laws.
- B. All members of the Elections Commission may not be candidates, campaigners, or current elected and appointed officials of ASUCM.
- C. All members of the Elections Commission must be in good Academic Standing.
- D. The Elections Commission shall remain neutral when referring to any candidate or campaign.

Section 3: Composition & Appointment

- A. The Elections Commission shall be composed of one (1) Head Elections Commissioner and six (6) Elections Commissioners.
- B. The six (6) Elections Commissioners shall be appointed by the Head Elections Commissioner.
- C. The Elections Commission shall be appointed for the execution of one election, though members of the Elections Commission may be reappointed to serve again.

Section 4: General Meetings

- A. Within one (1) week after the announcement of the Head Elections Commissioner, General Meetings shall begin. There shall be at least one (1) General Meeting per week.
- B. The Head Elections Commissioner shall be the Chair of the General Meetings. In the absence of the Head Elections Commissioner, the Elections Commission shall vote a temporary Chair for the duration of the meeting.
- C. General Meetings will be open to the public.
- D. During General Meetings, the Elections Commission may enter a private session, with a majority approval, in order to discuss agenda items of private or personal nature. Involved members of the public may be included in a private session if deemed necessary by the Elections Commission.
- E. General Meeting dates, times, and locations must be made public at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meetings.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

Section 5: Duties of the Elections Commission

- A. The Elections Commission organizes, publicizes, and runs the Elections.
- B. The Elections Commission shall archive records of active candidates, complaints, and General Meeting minutes. These records shall be available upon request by the public. The Elections Commission must make all official decisions, regarding these records, public within three (3) business days.
- C. The Elections Commission organizes and runs all polling stations. A polling station can only be set up by the Elections Commission; no other polling stations will be permitted.
- D. The Elections Commission is responsible for publicizing the location of polling stations, important elections-related dates, and other information pertaining to the elections.
- E. The Elections Commission shall organize, publicize, and run at least one (1) Meet the Candidates forum in all elections and one (1) Presidential Debate for the Spring Elections, or for a Special Election if need be.
- F. The Elections Commission is in charge of designing and approving both the ballot and candidate packet. The Elections Commission must ensure that the ballot is neutral, userfriendly, and in adherence to UC Merced policies.
- G. The Elections Commission is not liable for any packets that are not turned in or lost.
- H. The Elections Commission shall count ballots and certify the election within twenty-four (24) hours of the polls closing and/or after all complaints have been resolved.

Section 6: Complaints Process & Hearings

- A. The Elections Commission shall have the power to review a complaint of an Elections By-Law and/or Elections Guideline violation and decide an appropriate sanction, if necessary. All disputes that may arise over these By-Laws shall be handled by the Elections Commission and, if necessary, the ASUCM Court as well.
- B. The Head Elections Commissioner shall notify a campaign or candidate within twentyfour (24) hours of the filing of a complaint against them and shall explain the process of review.
- C. The Elections Commission shall review elections complaints during the election cycle and will schedule a hearing within seven (7) days of the complaint being filed; even if it must occur on a weekend.
- D. The Elections Commission shall be in charge of scheduling reviews and shall have discretion on how to best review the material.
- E. The Elections Commission will address all complaints with investigations and followups. After all issues have been reviewed, the Elections Commission may deliberate and return with a written decision and statement within twenty-four (24) hours of the review.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

F. If necessary, the Elections Commission has the authority to take penal action such as a written warning, fine for damaged property, sanctions, suspension, disqualification of campaign, and termination of candidacy. Penalties may be given separately or concurrently.

G. The Elections Commission shall post the status of each complaint, case, and appeal that they have heard on the ASUCM website within one (1) week of being filed.

Section 7: Budget

A. The Elections Commission shall create a budget plan and present it to the ASUCM Senate.

B. The budget for ASUCM Elections shall be \$2,000.

1. \$2,000 shall be reserved for the Spring Elections.

C. Budget for Special Elections shall be determined by the Elections Commission and presented to Senate to approve.

Section 8: Public Notice & Publicity

A. The Elections Commission must begin publicizing important elections-related dates and other information pertaining to Elections four (4) weeks before Election Day.

B. Publicity for a Special Election shall begin no later than two (2) weeks before Election Day.

Section 9: Ballot Design

A. Candidates shall appear grouped by office on the ballot.

B. Next to each candidate's name, the following shall be available:

1. Candidate Statement
2. Candidate Picture
3. Candidate's Slate (If Applicable)

C. By-Law violations will appear under a candidate's name only if the candidate receives a public notice sanction, and shall be phrased "Notice: Candidate has been found guilty of violating By-Law(s)."

D. A checkbox next to the name of the candidate will be used for casting a vote.

E. An additional blank space shall be available at the bottom of the ballot to allow for writein candidates.

F. The Elections Commission must ensure that the ballot is available to all students through an online format, neutral, user-friendly, and in adherence to UC Merced policies.

Section 10: Sample Ballots

A. A sample ballot will be released for public comment one (1) week before Elections by Tuesday at 10:00 AM.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
Section 11: Certification of Ballots & Elections Results		

- A. The Head Elections Commissioner shall review and certify that all ballots are valid before the election.
- B. The Elections Commission will hold a meeting to count ballots and publicly certify the election within twenty-four (24) hours of the polls closing.
- C. The certification of an election may be postponed by the Head Elections Commissioner if time is needed to resolve complaints or to collect the necessary signatures for certification.
- D. Elections results will be certified when the Head Elections Commissioner signs their name to the official results.
- E. The results and signature will be photocopied and presented to the ASUCM advisor, members of the Elections Commission, ASUCM Court, and the Office of Student Life.

Article IV: Elections Process

Section 1: Voting

- A. Each student can cast one vote per candidate.
- B. The candidates who receive the most votes are elected to their respective position. Candidates will be awarded seats that are available to be filled during that election cycle.

Section 2: Ties

- A. In the case of a tie, a runoff election will be held between the tied candidates. The same rules for ASUCM Elections apply.
- B. The public will be notified of a runoff election when the elections results and standings are released.
- C. Candidates involved in a runoff election may begin campaigning once the elections results and standings are released and once public is aware of a runoff election occurring.
- D. One (1) week after runoff elections are announced, a runoff ballot will be sent out to the student body.
- E. The candidate which receives the highest number of votes in the runoff election will be declared the winner.
- F. In the event of a second tie, the sitting ASUCM Senate will decide the winner by a majority.

Section 3: Announcement of Elections Results

- A. The elections results and standings will be announced within twenty-four (24) hours after the polls have closed.
 - 1. The certification of an election may be postponed by the Head Elections Commissioner if time is needed to resolve complaints or to collect the necessary signatures for certification.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

- B. Elections results and standings will be posted outside of the ASUCM Office and on the ASUCM website once the elections have been properly certified.

Section 4: Privacy & Disposal of Voting Records

- A. The individual name and voting record of a student shall be secure and private. This information shall never be released unless there has been a proven violation of Elections By-Laws.
- B. If the individual name and voting record of a student is released, it is only to be used for the purpose of review, presentation, and installation of evidence necessary for the process of proving a voting irregularity.
- C. The individual voting records shall be destroyed thirty (30) days after the certification of an election.

Article V: Elections Timeline

Section 1: Polls

- A. During the week of elections, the polls will be open for voting beginning on a Tuesday at 10:00 AM and will remain open until Wednesday at 10:00 PM.

Section 2: Spring Elections

- A. The Head Elections Commissioner will be made public by second (2nd) Senate Meeting of the Spring Semester.
- B. Before the Elections, the Head Elections Commissioner will present the elections outline, timeline, and budget to the ASUCM Senate at the fourth (4th) Senate meeting of the Spring Semester.
- C. The Elections Packets will be made available to the public at the Mandatory Candidate Meeting anytime in March, prior to Spring Break.
- D. The deadline to submit a Declaration of Candidacy or Petition for Ballot Placement, is two (2) weeks after the Elections Packets are made available.
- E. Candidates will have two (2) weeks to collect signatures and two (2) weeks to campaign.
- F. One (1) "Meet the Candidates" forum must be held within two (2) weeks of Election Week.
- G. One (1) "Presidential Debate" must be held within one (1) week of Election Week.
- H. A sample ballot will be released for public comment on the Tuesday before Election Day by 10:00 AM.
- I. The filing deadline to submit a Petition for Withdrawal of Candidacy or to withdrawal from a slate is the Friday before elections by 10:00 AM.
- J. Once A through I of this section are completed, the elections may be held on any Tuesday in April.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

- K. By 5:00 PM on the Wednesday of elections, all campaign receipts must be turned in to the ASUCM Office.
- L. Elections results and standings will be posted outside of the ASUCM Office and on the ASUCM website once the elections have been properly certified.
1. The posted results and standing will include all ASUCM elected officials except for the ASUCM President and Director of Student Activities.
- M. The newly elected ASUCM President and Director of Student Activities shall be announced at a school-wide event within one week of results and standings being posted.
1. The standings of these positions will be released within twenty-four hours after the public event.

Section 3: Special Elections

- A. The ASUCM Court will choose a Head Elections Commissioner before Senate approves the Special Election.
- B. The ASUCM Senate will vote to approve the Special Elections by a $\frac{2}{3}$ Majority.
- C. The Head Elections Commissioner will be announced within one (1) week after the ASUCM Senate approves a Special Election; four (4) weeks before Special Elections.
- D. The Head Elections Commissioner will present the plans and budget for the Special Elections to the ASUCM Senate three (3) weeks before the Special Elections.
- E. The Special Elections packets will be made available to the public two (2) weeks before the Special Elections.
- F. The filing deadline to submit a Declaration of Candidacy, Petition for Ballot Placement, and/or Declaration of Campaign form is one (1) week before the Special Elections.
- G. One (1) "Meet the Candidates" forum must be held within one (1) week of the Elections.
- H. A sample ballot will be released for public comment one (1) week before the Elections.
- I. The Special Elections will be held five (5) weeks after the approval of ASUCM Senate.
- J. By 5:00 PM on the Wednesday of elections, all campaign receipts must be turned in to the ASUCM Office.
- K. Elections results and standings will be posted outside of the ASUCM Office and on the ASUCM website once the elections have been properly certified.

Article VI: Candidates & Campaigning

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

Section 1: Rights & Limitations

- A. The Constitution of the United States of America, the University of California Board of Regents, and the Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of California, Merced guarantees the protection of free political speech and discourse.
- B. The right to free speech is limited only upon the imposition of rights held by others and their personal and material safety.
- C. Unrestricted dialogue and debate shall be protected by ASUCM unless the rights or safety of others are threatened.
- D. ASUCM Elections shall be free of mandatory fees, except in the case of punitive fines.
- E. Candidates are limited to run for one position.
 - a. Elected officials cannot hold more than 1 elected position in ASUCM.

Section 2: Qualifications

- A. All candidates must be in Good Academic and Judicial Standing with the University.
- B. All campaigning, whether it be for a candidate or a ballot measure, must comply with all by-laws and policies applicable to official candidates, ballot questions, and campaigns. Violations of these policies can and will be applied to the candidate or ballot question.
- C. All candidates must complete a Declaration of Candidacy and gather three hundred (300) signatures with accurate ID numbers from the student body.
- D. A campaign for a candidate or ballot measure is official when a completed Declaration of Candidacy or Ballot Petition has been turned in to the ASUCM Office.
 - a. The Head Elections Commissioner, a member of the Elections Commission, or an ASUCM Intern shall date-stamp a Declaration of Candidacy or Ballot Petition upon submission. A free copy will be given to the candidate or campaigner.
- E. All candidates must submit a photo of themselves to the Head Elections Commissioner for the ballot.

Section 3: Elected Positions

- A. Elections are to be held for all elected ASUCM Officials, which includes: President, Internal Vice-President, External Vice-President, Treasurer, Director of Student Advocacy, Director of Academic Affairs, Director of Communications, Director of Student Activities, and all sixteen (16) Senators; six (6) school representative Senators (two (2) Senate seats for each school: SSHA, ENG, NS) and ten (10) At-Large Senate Seats).
- B. Spring Elections shall be for six (6) school representative Senators, ten (10) At-Large Senate seats, and all Executive Positions.
 - 1. If any school does not provide at least two (2) representatives, they must forfeit their representation to Senators At-Large.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name	Student ID #	Signature
------	--------------	-----------

Section 4: Ballot Measures

- A. Valid ballot measures may be introduced during Spring Elections.
- B. Requirements that apply to candidates also apply to any ballot question and associated campaigns.
- C. Ballot measures require three hundred (300) signatures, a completed Petition for Ballot Question Placement, and language approval by the Elections Commission.
- D. Ballot measures may also be placed on the Spring Elections by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the ASUCM Senate.
- E. Proposed Constitutional amendments must adhere to the policy set forth in the ASUCM Constitution.

Section 5: Mandatory Candidate Meeting

- A. A Mandatory Candidate Meeting shall be held where Elections Packets will be first distributed. During the meeting the candidates will be introduced to the Elections Commission and will be informed of all Elections details.
- B. If a candidate is unable to attend the meeting, that candidate must contact the Head Elections Commissioner and schedule a meeting with them in order to be considered as a candidate. No proxies are permitted to attend the Mandatory Candidate Meeting, all candidates must attend for themselves.

Section 6: Campaign Expenditures

- A. All campaign expenditures may not exceed the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300).
- B. Campaign expenditure limits include both monetary and material contributions at the estimated value of the item as judged by the Elections Commission.
- C. By 5:00 PM on the Wednesday of elections, all campaign receipts must be turned in to the ASUCM Office.

Section 7: Endorsements

- A. All endorsements made, implied, or stated by a student organization must be confirmed through a formally written email with a UC Merced email address by a member of the organization, stating their position within the organization and their endorsement to the Elections Commission.
- B. Any individual member of ASUCM, except members of the Elections Commission and Court, may campaign for or against any candidate or ballot question with endorsement notifications.

Section 8: Campaigning & Advertising

- A. All campaign materials must be in accordance of UC Merced Posting Regulations.
 - 1. No posting, verbally referencing, or soliciting on behalf of a campaign is allowed in Campaign Free Areas (CFAs) including bathrooms, computer labs, light posts, academic areas, the ASUCM Office and the Kolligian Library on and above the second floor.
 - 2. Posters must have appropriate contact information and an OSL or Housing stamp of approval.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

3. The Elections Commission reserves the right to remove campaign materials if it covers more than 10% of the surface of other campaign materials or noncampaign materials.
4. Candidates may not post a status about elections on any social media website (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Reddit, LinkedIn, Google+, etc.) that tags "friends" or "followers", etc., unless those "friends" or "followers", etc., are a member of their slate.

- B. All campaign materials with reference to candidates and campaigns must have a clearly readable name and email of the associated candidate or campaign in at least 12 pt. font.
- C. The ASUCM Organization as a whole shall not campaign, endorse, or appropriate materials or monies for or against any candidate or ballot issue in any manner.
- D. The Elections Commission may use ASUCM space, office materials, or allocated monies to carry out its duties.

Section 9: Slate Formation

- A. In order to form a slate, all slates must notify the Head Elections Commissioner through a formally written email with a UC Merced email address that they have decided to run together. The slate must provide a primary representative and a slate name not exceeding forty (40) characters.
- B. For a candidate to join a slate, they must notify the Head Elections Commissioner through a formally written email with a UC Merced email address within twenty-four (24) hours after Elections Packets are due.
- C. A candidate may only join one slate, and the slate name must appear identically for all candidates in the same slate.
- D. Candidates may withdraw from a slate by informing the Elections Commission through a formally written email with a UC Merced email address. Please see Article V Sections 2 and 3 for a specific timeline on when a candidate may withdraw from a slate.
- E. Slates are subject to the same rules and regulations for candidates and campaigns. Violations of these by-laws may result in punitive measures against any and all campaigning as a slate. Members may still campaign as unaffiliated individuals unless told otherwise.
- F. The spending limit for a slate shall be the combined spending limit of its members, and must follow the same restrictions as a candidate or ballot measure.
1. All individual expenditures of candidates belonging to a slate shall count towards the spending cap of that slate.

Section 10: Withdrawal of Candidacy

- A. Ballot question campaigns and candidates for elected office who wish to withdraw from the ballot shall complete and submit a "Withdrawal of Candidacy" form to the Head Elections Commissioner.

Section 11: Write-In Candidates

- A. Write-In Candidates are subject to the same rules and regulations as regular candidates.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

- B. Write-ins for ASUCM will need a minimum of 25% of all votes cast and the popular vote in order to win any seat in ASUCM.

Section 12: Slandering

- A. Slandering will be recognized as intentionally falsifying information, releasing statements, without the consent of the candidate or campaigners in question, about a candidate or ballot measure with the purpose of tainting that candidate's or ballot measures' reputation.
- B. All forms of slandering will not be permitted.
- C. The Elections Commission executes the right to hold a hearing for any slanderous material in question without the need of a complaint submission.
- D. The ASUCM Court will be involved with these hearings if the Elections Commission wishes to do so or if the removal of a candidate is suggested by the Elections Commission.

Article VII: Violations, Complaints & Appeals

Section 1: Examples of Violations

- A. Affixing campaign material to a surface that would likely result in permanent or serious damage to a surface.
- B. Intentionally casting more than one ballot or attempting to cast more than one ballot; or intentionally cast in or attempting to cast a ballot as any other person.
- C. Interfering or attempting to interfere with the voting of a student.
- D. Members of the Elections Commission knowingly giving advice about a candidate, or ballot question, or which candidate to select or not select, or which ballot question to select or not select.
- E. Campaigning or the presence of campaign material within fifteen (15) feet of a polling station.
- F. The alteration, defacement, destruction, movement, or obscuring of campaign material without the written permission of the creator of the material.
- G. Intentionally falsifying or reporting complaints about a campaign or candidates actions that are known to be untrue or incorrect.
- H. The giving and receiving of favors, or attempting to give or receive favors, for the promise or acceptance of a vote or special treatment by the Elections Commission or a member of the Elections Commission.
- I. Using or attempting to use ASUCM materials, monies, or offices in violation of Elections By-Laws.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

J. Intentionally Exceeding specified spending limits in the course of a campaign.

K. Candidates cannot give any voting student a device in which to vote with. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart phones, laptops, etc.

L. Candidates, campaigners, slates, and all associated peoples are prohibited from creating polling stations. Only the Elections Commission can create a polling station.

M. Candidates, campaigners, and all associated peoples are prohibited from campaigning on or above the second floor of the library.

Section 2: Filing Complaints

A. Complaints can be filed against candidates, campaigns, parties, ballot measures, and petitions for ballot measures, members of the Elections Commission, ASUCM Officials, and the ballot if it is discriminatory or in violation of University, UCOP, or ASUCM policy.

B. A General Complaint shall be filed through a UC Merced email address with the Elections Commission and must include the following information:

1. The name of the alleged violator(s).
2. A detailed description of the alleged violation.
3. The contact information and UC Merced Student ID number of the individual submitting the complaint.

C. A complaint against any Elections Commissioner or the Elections Commission shall be filed through a formally written email with a UC Merced email address to the ASUCM Court and must include the same information required for General Complaints.

D. Anonymous complaints without contact info and student ID will not be recognized.

E. Individuals with complaints filed against them shall have forty-eight (48) hours after they are notified of a complaint filed against them, to file a response.

F. The final deadline for filing a complaint with the Elections Commission or the ASUCM Court is twenty-four (24) hours after polls have been closed (by 10:00 PM on the Thursday after elections).

1. However, a student wishing to challenge the validity of an online ballot vote may do so by filing a complaint with the Elections Commission within twenty-four (24) hours after the elections results and standings have been certified.

Section 3: Appeals

A. A candidate may submit an appeal to the ASUCM Court to modify an Elections Commission ruling.

B. Candidates disqualified by the Elections Commission automatically have an appeal filed with Court. The disqualified candidate has twenty-four (24) hours to deny the automatic appeal, and it is their responsibility to contact the Chief Justice and follow up on their appeal.

1. The appeal must be submitted in standard ASUCM Court format. If granted a hearing, ASUCM Court procedure will apply.

By signing this form, I agree that _____ is an acceptable candidate for the office of _____ for the Associated Students of UC Merced.

Name

Student ID #

Signature

2. If the candidate in question does not show up to their hearing, they may not appeal again and the standing from the Elections Commission of disqualification stands.