

# Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech University Election Rules 2018

## I. Candidates' Meeting

The official Mr. and Miss Tennessee Tech University candidates meeting will be **Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am in the SGA Office (RUC 208)**. Candidates must be present or have a representative present during the candidates meeting. The candidates must sign and initial a copy of the election rules and complete the candidate application in order to run.

## II. Meet the Candidates

- A. **This is a mandatory event that will be held in Derryberry Hall auditorium on Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. Each candidate must be present.**
- B. Each candidate will have 90 seconds to give a speech
- C. Each candidate will be asked one question. Each candidate will receive five questions in advance to the event. After the candidate is finished giving his or her speech they will draw a question and have time to answer.

The attire for this event will be business professional

## III. Active Campaigning and Election Day

- A. Active campaigning shall begin after both the official candidates meeting on **Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am** has been completed.
- B. Active campaigning includes the distribution of campaign material (handouts, posters, letters, cards, etc.), advertisement in campus news and/or radio, attending an organization's meeting to promote oneself, and/or the setting up of tables/booths on campus to promote the candidate.
- C. In the University Center, candidates may only post campaign material on the ground floor, provided University policies are followed. All other postings in buildings must follow the regulations set for that particular building.
- D. All campaign material must be removed within 24 hours following the conclusion of the election.
- E. Tape shall not be used to adhere any material to any surface on campus.
- F. Campaign funds shall be limited to \$750.00. **Itemized budget with receipts must be turned into the SGA President by October 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm following the conclusion of the election. Failure to do so will result in disqualification**
  - 1. Each budget should itemize all purchases and donations in connection with the candidate's campaign. This budget should not exceed \$750.00.
  - 2. Budgets should be prepared for each candidate. No pairs or groups of candidates may combine budgets or campaign material, unless the candidates agree to a combined budget that does not exceed \$750.00.
  - 3. Candidates, or any organization of the candidates, shall not apply for SOLO funding for the purpose of promoting a candidate or the promotion of Mr. and Miss Tennessee Tech election.
  - 4. Homecoming Election Day will occur on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-4:30pm.

## IV. Approval of Campaign Material

- A. All material must be approved by the Department Head(s)/Building Coordinators of the particular building in which the candidate wishes to place any campaign material.
- B. Materials used in the University Center must be approved by the Campus Compass (Information Desk) on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Roaden University Center.
  - 1. Banners may be a maximum of 2 feet tall by 5 feet wide (landscape orientation) and must contain all pertinent information. Limit of 1 banner to be hung on the ground floor of the University Center.

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- 2. Only one (1) 8½" x 11" flyer is allowed per bulletin board on the ground floor of the University Center.
- C. Sidewalk art/chalk is permitted on concrete walkways. (Please do not chalk on any brick surfaces).
- D. No signs, posters, or any other materials may be placed on any painted surface, wall, door, or window.

## **V. Residence Halls**

- A. All information to be posted in the Residence Halls must be approved by the Office of Residential Life. No posting may be greater than 8½" x 11" with only one (1) per bulletin board.
- B. Door-to-door campaigning is not allowed in the Residence Halls.

## **VI. Miscellaneous**

- A. No flyers may be put on cars, however you may use window paint on cars (with approval of car owner).
- B. No table tent advertising for a candidate will be allowed in the Cafeteria, Swoops, Which Wich, Starbucks, Au Bon Pain, or any additional Dining Services location. It will also not be allowed in front of the library.
- C. The candidate may be present or have one (1) representative present during the posting of the Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech University Court results at the conclusion of Election Day. Polls will close at 4:00pm. The Student Government Association will post the Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech Court election results outside the SGA Office and on the SGA social media accounts as soon as results are finalized.
- D. Elections will be held online. Students may vote from any electronic device by going to the homepage of the Tennessee Tech University website.
- E. No candidate, nor agents of candidates, shall bribe or coerce students into voting. Bribes include but are not limited to: the promise or exchange of goods, favors, and/or drawing entries for raffles for promised votes.
- F. It is the responsibility of the candidate to inform their respective organizations of the Homecoming election rules.
- G. Candidates must have at least a 2.50 cumulative GPA and 60 hours of earned college credit (Junior Status) to run. Candidates must sign a FERPA release allowing the SGA Advisor the ability to verify the candidates' grade requirement and classification
- H. Candidates must be full-time students of Tennessee Technological University at the time of election in order to be qualified to run.
- I. The collection of T-numbers and/or PIN numbers will be strictly prohibited. With proof of the collection of any student voter login information, the candidate will be immediately disqualified from the election and referred to the Dean of Students.

## **VII. Campaign Violations**

### **Automatic Vote Deductions**

**-If valid documentation of the following violations is provided to the SGA President, votes will be deducted for each occurrence.**

- 1. Chalking in unauthorized area (on brick, walls or buildings, etc.)**
- 2. Chalking on any place that is not concrete**
- 3. Campaigning in the Library including flyers, goods, and food etc.**
- 4. Campaigning in the cafeteria and swoops**
- 5. Using tape on painted surfaces**
- 6. Vulgar or disparaging remarks directed towards another candidate**
- 7. Following or shouting at students in the attempt to garner votes**

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**8. The collecting of T numbers and pins will result in automatic disqualification and referral to the Dean of Students**

Any campaign violations not listed above will be decided on by the SGA Election Commission Committee. This committee has full authority to decide the outcome of the violation. A candidate will be notified that a violation has been submitted against him/her before a ruling is decided. The candidate may submit a short statement/explanation in their defense. The Election Commission will review all information stated in the violation. The Election Commission Committee will follow strict guidelines to ensure fair and ethical rulings are made based on the violation.

If you have any questions please contact the SGA President at [sgapresident@students.tntech.edu](mailto:sgapresident@students.tntech.edu).

**My signature below certifies that I understand and will comply with the Election Rules stated above. As a candidate for Mr. or Miss Tennessee Tech University, I will conduct myself and my campaign in an ethical manner that best represents Tennessee Tech University.**

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*Candidate's Signature*

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*Date*

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*Print Name*

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