

Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech University 2020 Election Rules

I. Candidate Information Session

The official Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech University Candidate Information Session will be **Thursday, October 22nd at 11:00 AM** via Microsoft Teams. Candidates must be present or have a representative present during the Information Session. The candidates must sign and initial a copy of the election rules, submit the \$50 entry fee, and complete the candidate application in order to run.

II. Opportunities for Students to Meet the Candidates

A. Meet the Candidates Live

1. **This is a mandatory event that will be held on Microsoft Teams Live on Tuesday, October 27th at 6:00 PM. Each candidate must be present. Candidates must email Student Activities Coordinator Jerry Keeton at JKeeton@tntech.edu to be added to the Microsoft Teams Live meeting no later than Friday, October 23rd at noon.**
2. Each candidate will have 90 seconds to give a speech
3. Each candidate will receive five questions in advance to the event. After the candidate is finished giving his or her speech they will draw one question and have time to answer.
4. The attire for this event will be business professional

B. Candidate Instagram Takeover

1. Amount of time allotted to each candidate for their Instagram Takeover is contingent upon the number of candidates participating.

III. Active Campaigning and Election Day

- A. Active campaigning shall begin after the Candidate Information Session on **Thursday, October 22nd 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. Candidates may submit Digital Signage ads to SGA@tntech.edu. Image sizes should be 1920 x 900 pixels for horizontal screens, 1080 x 1740 pixels for vertical screens.
- D. 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.
- E. All campaign material must be removed within 24 hours following the conclusion of the election.
- F. Tape shall not be used to adhere any material to any surface on campus.
- G. Campaign funds shall be limited to \$750.00. **Itemized budget with receipts must be turned into the SGA President by November 5th 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. & Miss Tennessee Tech election.
4. Election Day will occur on **Thursday, November 5th from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.**

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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 1st 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.
 - 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. Door-to-door campaigning is **not allowed** in the Residence Halls. Residence Hall entry is currently limited to residents only. **Outside visitors are not permitted** in general common areas or residence hall rooms.
- B. All information to be posted in the Residence Halls must be approved by the Office of Residential Life. For approval and additional submission instructions, please email ResLife@tntech.edu with the **subject as "Atten: Josh Edmonds, Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech Advertising Approval"**. **In your email, indicate if you plan to make use of bulletin boards and/or digital signage. Also, be sure to include a copy of your advertisement(s).**
- C. Bulletin board postings may be no greater than 8½" x 11". Candidates must provide 17 copies to the Office of Residential Life for general board postings.
- D. Candidates may also submit digital signage advertisements that meet the size guidelines previously provided.

VI. Miscellaneous

- A. 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
- B. Candidates must be full-time students of Tennessee Technological University at the time of election in order to be qualified to run.
- C. No flyers may be put on cars; however, you may use window paint on cars (with approval of car owner).
- D. 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.
- E. 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 4:00 PM.** 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.
- F. Elections will be held online. Students may vote from any electronic device by going to the homepage of the Tennessee Tech University website.
- G. 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.

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- H. It is the responsibility of the candidate to inform their respective organizations of the Homecoming election rules.
- I. The collection of TNumbers 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.
- J. No food or drink distribution is permitted.
- K. Tabling is limited to two people.

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 any Dining Services location (Cafeteria, Swoops, etc.)**
- 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**
- 8. The collecting of TNumbers and pins will result in automatic disqualification and referral to the Dean of Students**
- 9. Violation of COVID-19 Guidelines**

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@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.

Candidate's Signature

Date

Print Name

Initial: _____

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