

Aloha,

We, the Student Government Association of Hawai'i Pacific University, greatly appreciate your interest in running for an elected position. As a member of this organization, you will have the opportunity to honorably represent your constituents by expressing student concerns and working with the University administration to create a positive impact on this school. You have taken the first step of this rewarding journey that is not only filled with challenges, but endless possibilities.

Through this form, you will find details explaining each available position, important dates to remember, the campaign rules, and reasons why you should join SGA. If you have any questions regarding the election, you may contact me via email at internationalstudent@my.hpu.edu. I wish you all the best in your campaign!

Mahalo,  
Alejandro Decker Martinez, Director of Elections

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## **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL POSITIONS**

*To qualify for any HPU SGA Position, you must be:*

- ✓ *Enrolled full-time and maintain a minimum of 2.5 cumulative grade point average.*
- ✓ *In good standing within the University throughout their term in office.*
- ✓ *Available to attend HPU SGA functions, events, retreats, conference calls, and meetings.*
- ✓ *Able to attend HPU SGA Senate Meetings usually held on Fridays at 3:00-5:00p.m., during the fall and spring semesters (attendance required for Senators only).*

**By 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 12th, 2021:**

You must complete and submit your online **General Election Application**, including:

- A short biography (no more than 300 words) that answers the following questions. This will be used on the SGA website and on the eBallot.
  - Why are you interested in obtaining a leadership position in SGA?
  - What leadership positions have you held or currently hold?
  - What ideas do you have about serving your student constituents?
  - What specific qualifications can you bring to this position?
- A recent photo of yourself (an appropriate headshot, not cropped from an existing photo), which is suitable for posting online.

*\*\*\*Exceptions will NOT be made for applications submitted late due to technical or other difficulties. You will receive a confirmation email if you meet the eligibility requirements for the position you have applied for. If you do not receive such a confirmation, please contact Nicole Wechselberger, leadership@hpu.edu, immediately.*

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR ELECTION

When running for a position in HPU SGA, please keep these important dates in mind:

- Friday, January 29th, 2021 – General Election Application available to students, located online at [www.hpu.edu/sga](http://www.hpu.edu/sga).
- Friday, February 12th, 2021 – General Election Application (and accompanying documents) must be submitted by 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, February 15th - Tuesday, March 16th – Candidate campaigning period
  - All promotional materials (i.e. social media graphics, websites, etc.) must be approved prior to posting. Candidates may contact Nicole Wechselberger, HPU SGA Advisor, at [leadership@hpu.edu](mailto:leadership@hpu.edu) for approval.
  - All active campaigning must end by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Wednesday, March 17th - Wednesday, March 24th – General elections will be conducted electronically via MyHPU Portal.
- Thursday, March 25th – Election results announced.
- Friday, April 2 - Transitional meeting. More details will be communicated to you .
- Friday, April 16th – Light Up The Night (details TBA)

## ELECTION CAMPAIGNING RULES

1. Abide by HPU's Code of Student Conduct.
2. Campaigning is only allowed February 15th - March 16th, 2021. This includes all online advertisements (i.e. social media or other solicitation of votes using the internet), messages, and websites.
3. Candidates will be notified of their edibility to run for their selected position by February 14<sup>th</sup>. Candidates may begin campaigning upon receipt of this notification AND only during the campaigning timeframe mentioned above.
4. Student Life will provide 40 quarter sheet sized paper flyers for distribution and campaigning purposes only. Allow at least one business day for printing.
5. All campaigning materials must be approved by the Nicole Wechselberger, HPU SGA Advisor, prior to posting or distribution. Email your design to [leadership@hpu.edu](mailto:leadership@hpu.edu).
6. Campaign flyers can be distributed to students, but cannot be posted on campus.
7. All campaigning activity must end by 5:00 pm on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
8. Campaigning may NOT take place in the HPU Learning Commons, ETC, or any HPU Library.
9. The presence of any candidate is strictly prohibited in areas where students are voting. Presence is defined as being in the line of sight or within listening distance.
10. Candidates are not to use negative or derogatory campaigning methods in regards to other candidates. Candidates should also not touch or tamper with other candidates' campaign materials.
11. Candidates must request permission from Nicole Wechselberger, HPU SGA Advisor, to have a campaign table at ATM, and/or the AC (front) lanai at HLC. A limited number of tables are available and will be reserved on a first-come first-serve basis. Requests may be submitted to Nicole Wechselberger, HPU SGA Advisor, at [leadership@hpu.edu](mailto:leadership@hpu.edu), once candidacy eligibility has been confirmed.

## 8 Reasons Why You Should Join Your Student Government Association

Many students do not realize the importance or value behind joining their Student Government Association. They just complain, “SGA is full of politics” or “our student government doesn’t do anything,” and often form their opinion based out of someone else’s comments or their personal experience. Here are some good reasons to join your SGA!

There are many reasons why one should join a student organization. Some help you with career connections, some help you with social skills, and some help you with personal development.

1. **Networking:** The easy and best way to network with students who have similar interests in joining student organizations. It can help you with your career, hobby or anything that you are passionate about.
2. **Social Skills:** As a student you want to learn how to talk to other people from different cultures and countries. As an international student, it is your opportunity to build your skills.
3. **Professional Experience:** If you join professional student organizations, you will be exposed to career opportunities that will help you build professional networks. For instance, if you’re a Political Science major, joining SGA will help you get a feel for your career industry.
4. **Personal Development:** If you join SGA, your communication skills may improve because you are interacting with different people. You can learn even more if you are on the executive branch. You learn to balance education and organizational work focusing on your goals.
5. **Leadership Skills:** If you become part of the SGA, you take up the responsibility and challenge of being a leader. The organization will help you by giving you training and instilling good leadership skills.
6. **Alumni Networking:** Student organizations usually try to bring in alumni and ask them to share their experiences. It is a wonderful opportunity for you learn from graduates and get connected to them. It helps you with job search and mentoring.
7. **Organization and Management Skills:** Many of us are not familiar with how an organization works and how to manage everything. If you are a part of SGA, you will learn how finances work, how to build relationships, and how to work as a team. This experience will help you in the job search process or if you’re starting your own business.
8. **Friendships and Rewards:** Life is not just about career and making money. It is about building friendships and having fun. You get a chance to meet people and establish good relationships. You will be part of activities and will gain so much from being a part of a team.

## POSITION REQUIREMENTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

### Student Senate

**The Student Senate is the legislative and oversight branch of the Student Government Association.**

#### Business Senator (2)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a student enrolled in a degree program in the College of Business during the session in which his/her term of office commenced. The College of Business Senators are required to meet with the Dean, faculty, and students within the College of Business regularly.

#### Health and Society Senator (2)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a student enrolled in a degree program in the College of Health and Society during the session in which his/her term of office commenced. The Health and Society Senators are required to meet with the Dean, faculty, and students within the College of Health and Society regularly.

#### Natural and Computational Sciences Senators (2)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a student enrolled in a degree program in the College of Natural and Computational Sciences during the session in which his/her term of office commenced. The Natural and Computational Sciences Senators are required to meet with the Dean, faculty, and students within the College of Natural and Computational Sciences regularly.

#### Liberal Arts Senator (2)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a student enrolled in a degree program in the College of Liberal Arts during the session in which his/her term of office commenced. Liberal Arts Senators are required to meet with the Dean, faculty, and students within the College of Liberal Arts regularly.

#### Professional Studies Senator (2)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a student enrolled in a degree program in the College of Professional Studies during the session in which his/her term of office commenced. The Extended and Interdisciplinary Education Senators are required to meet with the Dean, faculty, and students within the College of Professional Studies regularly.

#### Graduate Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a graduate student, as determined by the University Registrar during the fall and spring semesters of the session in which his/her term of office commenced. The Graduate Senator is required to meet with key graduate program representatives, faculty, and graduate students regularly.

### Military Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must meet one of the following criteria: 1) take the majority of his/her classes through the University military campus programs, 2) be a military member of a component of the armed of the United States, or 3) be contractually obligated to a program leading to military membership in the armed forces of the United States. The Military Senator is required to meet with key university military program representatives, students enrolled in an MCP program, and military community stakeholders regularly.

### Veterans Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a Veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States. The Veterans Senator will be held responsible to his/her constituents with them being the Hawai'i Pacific University students who are Veterans of the Armed Forces.

### Hawai'i Loa Campus Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must take the majority of his/her classes at the Hawai'i Loa Campus during the session in which his/her term of office commenced. The Hawai'i Loa Campus Senator is required to meet with key Hawai'i Loa administration, faculty and staff.

### Downtown Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must take no less than half of his/her classes on the Downtown Campus during the fall and spring semesters in which he/she serves. The Downtown Campus Senator will be held responsible to his/her constituents with them being students who take at least half of his/her classes on the Downtown Campus, including Aloha Tower, during the fall and spring semesters or who live in the Waterfront Lofts of Hawai'i Pacific University.

### International Students Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a citizen of another country other than the United States. The International Senator will be held responsible to his/her constituents with them being the students who are a citizen of a country other than the United States.

### Athletics Senator (1)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a current student member of any athletics team in Hawai'i Pacific University. The Athletics Senator is required to meet with key administrators of the Athletic Department/Program and other student-athletes regularly.



**Executive Branch**

Student Body President (Only eligible when running w/ Student Body Vice President)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a current, full-time student at Hawai'i Pacific University. The Student Body President is required to oversee all officer responsibilities and assume these, in the case one or more positions are vacant. Additionally, the candidate running for this position is required to run alongside a specified Student Body Vice-President on their voting ticket.

Student Body Vice President (Only eligible when running w/ Student Body President)

In order to qualify, candidate must be a current, full-time student at Hawai'i Pacific University. The Student Body Vice President is required to assume all responsibilities of the Student Body President in the case of absence. Additionally, the candidate running for this position is required to run alongside a specified Student Body President on their voting ticket.