



Campaigning rules and guidelines

In order for elections to be fair for everyone, we have several rules and guidelines about campaigning. The purpose of these rules is to prevent a candidate from gaining an unfair advantage in the election, or for the legitimacy of the election to suffer due to a perception of unfairness. It is impossible to comprehensively list every possible action one may do to gain an unfair advantage. Therefore, the list below should not be seen as comprehensive. Please follow the spirit of the election.

- There may be **absolutely no campaigning before Monday, 3/16 at 5:00pm**. You may begin campaigning at that time, though official candidates will not be notified until the following day.

Note that this especially applies to petitioning. All platform information must be confined to the box at the top of the signature sheet. Furthermore, candidates may *not* gather more than 185 signatures.

- Posters must follow the rules of the postering boards they are on. For most public posters, this is the ASA postering rules. For posters inside living groups, the living group's government may set its own rules. No posters may be hung in or near the UA Chambers (W20-400) or UA Office (W20-401). The Election Commission has no rules about the size or contents of the posters, other than MIT's rules and regulations. Note that operators of poster boards may have their own additional rules regarding size or contents of posters.
- Candidates may spend **no more than \$210** on their campaign. Before being declared winner, they must present a full summary of their expenses to the Election Commission.
- The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Seal (and other copyrighted logos) cannot be modified as campaigning material, including but not limited to posters, images, and apparel.
- Chalk may be used as part of the campaign, as long as candidates chalk only on horizontal spaces. Walls and stairs may **not** be chalked.



- Non-excessive emailing may be used as part of the campaign. Personally emailing people you do not know cannot be used as a part of the campaign.

If the Commission observes or is notified of a violation, it will contact the candidate and notify them. Except in particularly egregious cases, first time violations will be responded to with a formal warning. The Commission reserves the right to levy sanctions ranging from formal warnings up to and including disqualification from the election.

Additionally, the ASA may issue a fine for repeated or egregious postering violations. **Any fines incurred from any campaign activity, including ASA postering violations, are the sole responsibility of the candidate.**