

2026 SGA Homecoming King and Queen Elections Packet

SGA Advisor – John Abel – jabel1@utm.edu

SGA Chief Standards Officer: Jobey Case - jcase13@ut.utm.edu

Important Dates and Deadlines:
2026 Homecoming King and Queen Elections

Friday, October 2, 2026:

Homecoming King and Queen Nomination forms due by 5:00 P.M.

Nominations will only be accepted online and can be found at:

<https://runway.utm.edu/submitter/form/start/731473>

Monday, October 5, 2026:

Mandatory Meeting – 6:00pm – SGA Office – Room 245 University Center

Wednesday, October 7, 2026:

Campaign through speaking and engagements and use of internet may begin.

Distribution and hanging of approved paper endorsements, posters, and flyers may begin.

Friday, October 9, 2026:

Candidate's biographies are due to the SGA Chief Standards Officer: Jobey Case -

jcase13@ut.utm.edu

Tuesday, October 27, 2026:

Introduction of King and Queen Candidates at Flight Crew Lip Sync-7:00 P.M., City of Martin Public Library.

Wednesday, October 28, 2026:

Homecoming King and Queen Elections – 10am – 6pm – Vote at Runway.utm.edu.

Top 5 vote recipients for King and Queen will be notified that they will make up the Homecoming Court.

Thursday, October 29, 2026:

Homecoming King/Queen Run-off Elections **(if needed)** – 10am – 6pm

Election conducted on Runway (runway.utm.edu).

Friday, October 20, 2026:

Members of the 2026 Homecoming Court will be recognized at the Pyramid Show and Pep Rally. 7:00pm – Elam Center.

Saturday, October 31, 2026:

Crowning of the 2026 Homecoming King and Queen, halftime of Homecoming football game.

The game kicks off at 2pm. Homecoming Court members will meet at the home side concession stand when the game reaches 2 minutes remaining in the 2nd Quarter.

Tuesday, November 3, 2026:

All campaign material must be disposed of by 5:00 P.M.

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Section I: **Elections Qualifications**

Article 1:

A Homecoming King or Queen Nominee must be a full-time student at this university to qualify as a 2026 Homecoming King or Queen Nominee.

Article 2:

A Homecoming King or Queen Nominee must have a GPA of at least 2.50 on a 4.0 scale.

Article 3:

A Homecoming King or Queen Nominee must be sponsored by a registered student organization. **Candidates can only be sponsored by one organization. Organizations can only sponsor one candidate.**

Article 4:

All students seeking Homecoming King or Queen Candidacy must complete a Homecoming Queen Nomination form online. Nomination forms may be completed through the following link <https://runway.utm.edu/submitter/form/start/731473>

Upon completion of the nomination form, an email will be sent to your organization president to approve or deny your nomination.

Nominations must be approved by the organization president to be valid.

No late forms will be allowed or accepted.

*Note: Each nominee is responsible for verifying their nomination. The Standards Officer will reply when they receive your completed, accepted nomination form. If the nominee does not receive verification, it is the candidate's responsibility to follow up with the SGA Chief Standards Officer.

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Section II:
Eligible Voters and Representation

Article 1:

All enrolled students at the University of Tennessee at Martin are eligible to vote for Homecoming King and Queen. In order to win the title of Homecoming King or Queen, a candidate must receive the majority vote. If there is a tie on Election Day, a run-off election will be held the following day between the two candidates tied candidates.

Article 2:

All eligible students are only permitted to vote once per Election Day. If a run-off election is held, all previous votes become null, and all eligible students are permitted to vote again.

Article 3:

Election Polling

a. Student polling will be located:

- Online from any computer at Runway.utm.edu

Section III: **Campaign Rules**

Article 1: Campaign Signage

- Candidates/Parties may place up to (6) poster/flyers in designated areas around campus.
- Placement of signage in campus buildings must be approved by the building manager for each building. A list of Campus Building Managers is provided in this election packet.
- No campaign material is to be placed on the exterior of buildings, trees, light poles, garbage cans, glass marble, or any painted surfaces except for painted concrete blocks. Material can only be placed on bulletin boards inside buildings at the discretion of the Building Manager.
- If more than one candidate's name is placed on a poster, the poster shall count as one for each candidate. Therefore, the Standards Officer will allow poster/flyer sharing, but any poster/flyer with a candidate's name or image will count as a poster/flyer toward the six-poster limit.
- All poster/flyers are subject to approval by the SGA Standards Officer.
- Placement of campaign materials is allowed in the residence halls. Keep all flyer and posters to a maximum of six (6) in any combination per building. You must gain permission from the Hall Directors before hanging any posters or flyers in the Residence Halls.

Note: It is the candidate's responsibility to ask the building managers for any specific guidelines before placing campaign materials in buildings.

Article 2: Each candidate is responsible for any material that contains their name or image, or their political party's name or logo. Posters and flyers placed by parties other than the individual (i.e. fraternities, sororities, campus organizations, etc.) with a candidate's name, image, etc. are subject to the limitations and restrictions previously stated in this packet.

Article 3:

Signs are limited to the quad. A candidate may only place 3 signs on campus. Signs are any paper, plastic, poster board, wood, banner, and etc. document with a candidate's name, student organization, or picture. All signs must have the approval of Dana Hagan, Director of the Physical Plant, before being posted on campus. He can be contacted at 731-881-7601.

Sidewalk chalk is not permitted.

*Note: Stakes should not be used to place signs because of wiring and plumbing considerations.

Article 4:

Candidates are responsible for the clean-up of all campaign paraphernalia before 5:00 P.M. on **Tuesday, November 3, 2026.**

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Article 5:

The use of social media is allowed for campaigning, but slanderous attacks will be investigated and may result in punishment for the candidate. **No electronic campaigning shall begin prior to the formal campaigning period.**

Article 6:

All candidates must submit a brief biography of themselves to be read at the Crowning ceremony. Biographies should include the nominee's major, extra-curricular activities, etc. Biographies should be between 0-100 words.

*Note: Biographies can/may be printed in the UTM Pacer and will be as is. It is your responsibility to edit your biography and make it suitable for publication.

Article 7:

Any complaint about the election process shall be submitted via email to the SGA Standards Officer.

Article 8:

No material or online endorsement shall be distributed or circulated of a negative nature. Name-calling, slander, and/or other offensive activities are prohibited. Any campaigning deemed unethical or negative by the Standards Officer will be addressed critically and could result in candidate disqualification.

Article 9:

On election day(s) candidates and/or student organizations may not solicit votes by use of laptop or any other electronic device. This behavior will result in the referral to the Standards Officer, and possible disqualification. It is the candidate's responsibility to enforce the rule. If someone campaigning for the candidate is soliciting votes for a candidate without the candidate's knowledge, it is up to the candidate to find out and stop the person from doing so.

*Example: Beth is running for Queen and sets up a table in the quad with a laptop with a link to the SGA's website and says, "Hey! Have you voted yet? Vote for me right here."

Article 10:

No election or campaign rule shall supersede any existing University rule, policy, or regulation, which places restrictions on general student practice or behavior. Should election and University guidelines conflict, the more restrictive rule shall take precedence.

Disclaimer:

The SGA Chief Standards Officer has the right to meet and discuss any potential violation and declare new rules upon questionable Election practices.

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Section IV:
Mandatory Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all candidates on **Monday, October 5th** at 6:00pm in the SGA Office. All homecoming king and queen candidates must attend. If a homecoming candidate cannot attend, the candidate must send someone in their place. That is, each homecoming candidate must be represented at this meeting.

The Election Commissioner will be present to go over the campaign rules, to answer any and all questions regarding the Homecoming Elections packet, and to provide information regarding events leading up to the crowning ceremony.

If you have any questions regarding the Homecoming packet or the election, please contact SGA Chief Standards Officer: Jobey Case - jcase13@ut.utm.edu

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SGA Homecoming Court Bio Template

Please include the following information in a paragraph form to read during the half-time activities at the homecoming football game:

Name: _____

Organization Representing: _____

Major: _____

Hometown: _____

At least three extracurricular activities:

Example Paragraph:

Ms. Jane Doe is representing the XYZ Sorority in SGA Homecoming Court elections. Jane is a Music major from Jackson, Tennessee. Jane is very active on campus as the President XYZ Sorority and a member of the History Club and Spanish Club.

Campus Building Managers

A list of campus building managers for signage approval can be found here:

https://www.utm.edu/offices-and-services/environmental-health-and-safety/_media/2026%20Building%20Manager%20List.pdf

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