

Election 2019

Candidate FAQs

Q - How do I nominate myself for a position?

A - Nominations are open online via hulluniunion.com/nominatenow from **Wednesday 27th February 9am** until **Wednesday 6th March 5pm**. You must submit your nomination within this timeframe, nominations submitted past the deadline will not be accepted so get it sorted nice and early to avoid any last minute technical hitches!

Q - I am an international student - can I run for a President position?

A - If you are elected to a full-time President position, the University enrolls you on a one-year course which means that you can apply for an extension of your Tier 4 visa. If you have any questions about the process just get in touch with us.

Q - I am a postgraduate student - can I run for a President position?

A - Every student can run for a President position and that includes both taught and research postgraduates. Many other Unions have Presidents who have graduated from their postgraduate degree or are taking a break from their studies - so go for it!

Q - I am not in my final year of study yet - can I run for a President position?

A - If you haven't graduated by the time you start your term as President, the University allows you to take a "Sabbatical" from your studies. Have a chat with a member of staff on your course if you are unsure about any academic implications.


Q - Do I have to write a manifesto?

A - Yes. As part of your online nomination you will be submitting your "Reasons for Standing". You have 1500 characters to explain to students why they should vote for you. Try to be as concise as possible and make sure you only promise realistic goals that you can achieve when elected. Come along to one of our candidate info sessions to find out more about how to make sure your manifesto makes sense. You will also be asked to submit a "blurb" which appears as tag line next to your name during voting and is 100 characters in length.

Q - I'm not sure if this is for me - how can I find out more to help me decide?

A - There are loads of ways that you can find out more about elections in 2019 to help you make up your mind about if this is for you....

1. Sign up to our email list at <https://hulluniunion.com/survey/Elections-2019-Candidate-List>

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2. Come along to one of our candidate info sessions where we will run through how the election process works, how to write a manifesto and how to plan a campaign. They all take place in MR3 in Student Central:
 - [Thursday 7th February 6pm](#)
 - [Wednesday 13th February 6pm](#)
 - [Wednesday 20th February 2pm](#)
 - [Thursday 28th February 6pm](#)
 - [Monday 4th March 5pm](#)
 3. Attend a fab workshop run by Dows, an expert in training student leaders, on effective election campaigning. It's happening on Monday 18th February at 6pm in MR3, Student Central - [book here](#)

Q - Is there an information meeting for candidates?

A - The information meeting will take place on Friday 8th March. All President and Student Trustee candidates must attend, and all other candidates are strongly encouraged to attend as well. We will give you tips on campaigning, run through the election process and answer any of your questions.

Q - When can I start campaigning?

A - Campaigning officially starts after the close of the All Candidates meeting on Friday 8th March. Make sure to plan in advance when and where you want to campaign to encourage other students to vote for you - remember it's a marathon and not a sprint! Campaigning ends with the close of voting on Friday 15th March at 3pm and all publicity must be removed by the following Monday morning.

Q - How much money can I spend on my campaign?

A - If you are a President candidate you can spend up to £75 on your campaign. Student Trustee and Part-time Officer candidates may spend up to £15. All students running in the elections are entitled to full reimbursement of campaign spending, and if you are running for a President position, you can request your campaign budget in advance. All candidates must keep within their budget and bring all receipts to the Assistant Returning Officer team by 12 noon on Friday 15th March, the last day of voting. See the Rules and Regulations for full details.

Q - Will there be an election debate?

A - There will be a Question Time for all President candidates which will take place in the form of a debate on Monday 11th March at 6pm in MR1. Candidates will have the chance to answer students' questions and share their manifesto ideas. This event will also be livestreamed online so you can share this as part of your campaign.

Q - What if I submit a nomination and then change my mind - can I withdraw from the election?

A - If you want to withdraw your nomination from the election, please email elections@hull.ac.uk as soon as possible. If voting has already opened, any votes for you will be redistributed to other candidates according to voters' other preferences.

Q - How does the voting process work?

A - Voting takes place online between Tuesday 12th March 9am and Friday 15th March 3pm on hulluniunion.com/votenow.

The voting system is a single transferable or preference voting system. This means that students can rank the candidates in order of preference. If no candidate gets 50% of the total votes, then the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated, and their second preference votes are allocated to the other candidates. This process carries on until a candidate gets 50% of the votes. So being someone's second preference might still mean you win your election.

All positions will have the option to vote for 'RON', which means Re-open Nominations. If RON wins, then the election will be run again at a future date.

Q - When will results be announced?

A - Results will be announced on Friday 15th March in Sanctuary from 7pm and shared live online.

Bring your campaign team and friends along and celebrate your great achievements and hard work at the end of a fantastic campaign period.

Q - If I'm successful, when will I start?

A - The 2019/20 President team will need to be available for training and handover between 17th-27th June 2019, and will take office on Friday 28th June. The term of office lasts for twelve months.

New Part-time Officers will be invited to initial training before the summer break, and their term of office also lasts for a year.

Q - Who do I contact if I have any further questions?

A - You can find detailed role descriptions for every position, the Rules & Regulations and other resources for candidates on our website at hulluniunion.com/elections.

For any further questions, get in touch with our Assistant Returning Officer Team on elections@hull.ac.uk, by calling 01482 466246 or by attending one of the candidate info sessions in February and March.