

2023 Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech

Election Rules:

1. Candidate Requirements

- 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 at Tennessee Technological University at the time of election in order to be qualified to run.
- c.** Candidates must be sponsored by a student organization registered with Student Engagement or an athletic team. Organizations and teams may only sponsor one candidate.

2. Candidate Application, Headshot, Entry Fee, and Acknowledgement of Rules

- a.** All candidates must submit the Candidate Application by 11:00 am on Thursday, October 12th!

3. Mandatory Candidate Information Session

- a.** The official Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech University Candidate Information Session will be Thursday, October 12 at 11:00 am, RUC 246. Candidates must be present or have a representative present during the Information Session. The candidates must submit the candidate application in order to run.

4. Active Campaigning

- a.** Active campaigning shall begin after the Candidate Information Session on Thursday, October 12 at 11:00 am has been completed.
- b.** Active campaigning shall not interfere with the academic life or integrity of the student body or the individual students.
- c.** 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, social media, and/or the setting up of tables/booths on campus to promote the candidate.

5. 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.** Tape shall not be used to adhere any material to any surface on campus.
- c.** Candidates may submit Digital Signage ads to SGA@tnitech.edu. Image sizes should be 1920 x 900 pixels for horizontal screens, 1080 x 1740 pixels for vertical screens.
- d.** SGA will print posters for each candidate and hang them in the bookstore windows.
- e.** Sidewalk art/chalk is permitted on concrete walkways. (Please do not chalk on any brick surfaces, covered areas, or vertical surfaces.)
- f.** No signs, posters, or any other materials may be placed on any painted surface, wall, door, or window
- g.** No mass emailing and/or messaging is permitted for campaigning.
- h.** All campaign material must be removed within 24 hours following the conclusion of the **election.**

6. Residence Hall Campaigning

- 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@tnitech.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 in the upper floors of the halls 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 printed copies to the Office of Residential Life for general board postings (in lobbies).
- d.** Candidates may also submit digital signage advertisements that meet the size guidelines previously provided.

7. Election Day

- a. Election Day will occur on Tuesday, October 31st from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
- b. Elections will be held online. The link to the voting server will be posted on the SGA website and social media on the day of the election.
- c. Polls will close at 4:30 pm and counting will begin immediately following
- d. 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.

8. Budget

- a. Campaign funds shall be limited to \$750.00. Itemized budget with original or printed receipts must be turned into the SGA President via email by November 3 at 4:30 pm following the conclusion of the election. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
- b. Each budget should itemize all purchases and donations in connection with the candidate's campaign. This budget should not exceed \$750.00.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.

9. Prohibited Conduct

- a. Vulgar or disparaging remarks directed towards another candidate are prohibited.
- b. No flyers may be put on cars; however, you may use window paint on cars (with approval of car owner).
- c. 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.
- d. No candidate, nor agents of candidates, shall bribe or coerce students into voting on or off campus. Bribes include but are not limited to: the promise or exchange of goods, favors, and/or drawing entries for raffles for promised votes.
- e. Social media giveaways for the purposes of increased followers are permitted.
- f. The collection of T-Numbers 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.

g. No endorsements from colleges, academic departments, campus departments, employees or contractors of the University. Endorsements include but are not limited to distributing campaign material, posting on social media, and/ or taking part in photo ops with any candidate.

10. Campaign Violations

a. The SGA Election Commission Committee shall determine and enforce all rules regarding elections. If an alleged violation is filed against a candidate, the candidate will be notified and have an opportunity to appear before the commission or submit a short statement/explanation regarding alleged violation prior to a ruling by the Election Commission. Any campaign violations not listed below will be decided on by the SGA Election Commission Committee. This committee has full authority to decide the outcome of the violation. The Election Commission Committee will follow strict guidelines to ensure fair and ethical rulings are made based on the violation.

b. Possible consequences for being found in violation of the rules are as follows:

i. Probation: A probationary period means that if the candidate is found violating the rules again before the final budgets and receipts are approved, the candidate is disqualified.

ii. Subtraction of Votes: The Election Commission may find that a candidate has given themselves an illegal or unfair advantage in the election and may choose to take away that advantage by the subtraction of votes based on the severity of the violation. No more than two-hundred and fifty (250) votes may be subtracted.

iii. Disqualification

c. It is the responsibility of the candidate to inform their respective organizations of the Homecoming election rules. If you have any questions, please contact the SGA President at SGAPresident@tntech.edu

11. Mr. & Miss Campus Service

a. Candidates may participate in the Mr. & Miss Tennessee Tech Food Pantry food drive. The candidates will receive a list of items eligible for the food drive during the mandatory meeting for Mr. & Miss TTU.

- b. It will be up to each candidate to talk about the can food drive to their peers and student organizations.
- c. The Candidates that collect the most amount of goods will be named Mr. & Miss Campus Service during the homecoming halftime show.
- d. Mr. & Miss TTU candidates will have from October 12th when active campaigning starts till 3PM Friday November 3rd to collect their cans and turn their items into the Tennessee Tech Food Pantry for counting. The goal behind this is that the students nominated by their organization as candidates to participate in Mr. & Miss TTU are doing something to give back to the community.

12. Mr. & Miss Homecoming Spirit

a. Each candidate that actively attends and participates in the homecoming week events will receive points. The Mr. & Miss candidates that earn the highest number of points will be named Mr. & Miss Homecoming Spirit during the homecoming halftime show.

- ❖ Field Day – Thursday November 2nd Attendance - 5PTS
- ❖ Homecoming Court Relay Race participation - 10PTS
- ❖ Homecoming Spirit Night – Thursday November 2nd Attendance - 5PTS
- ❖ Homecoming court minute to win it games participation - 10PTS
- ❖ Lip-Sync – Wednesday November 1st Attendance – 5PTS

In the event of a tie breaker points will be awarded to the candidates that win the minute to win it challenges and Relay Race events. The goal of candidates participating in these events is for the homecoming court to get to know each other and have fun with each other during the week of homecoming, and being present at the events shows Mr. & Miss TTU candidates have school spirit! The candidates chosen as the winners of Mr. & Miss TTU will not be eligible to be named Mr. or Miss Campus Service or Mr. or Miss Homecoming Spirit. The candidates that are not elected Mr. & Miss. TTU will have a chance to be recognized for these additional awards.