

Senator Information Packet

Student Government Association

Illinois Central College

What is the Role of Student Government Association (SGA)?

Illinois Central College has various organizations which provide students with many benefits. Student Government Association is unique in that its purpose is not just to help students enjoy ICC but to improve it. SGA does this by being an avenue for students to receive assistance when feeling challenged on campus and voice their ideas on how they could help improve the College. The SGA holds regular meetings to discuss these topics as well as ways for the members to improve the overall operations of SGA.

What is the Role of an SGA Senator?

Student Government Association is made up of many students in various positions. Leadership is provided by the SGA Executive Board, which is composed of five elected student officers. Most of SGA's authority, however, lies with the Senators because they hold a majority of the positions. Up to eleven senators may be elected by the student body, and together, the Executive Board and the Senators make up the SGA General Assembly.

Senators are elected to represent the student body and its interests. Senators will be called upon to vote on matters concerning the SGA and the student body. They always represent the students and, in a larger sense, ICC as a whole. Senators should be involved with the student body as much as possible, so they understand the concerns of the students.

What are the Benefits of Being an SGA Senator?

Being an SGA Senator has certain benefits that are easy to list, such as its appeal on a job resume or its networking value. Senators benefit by obtaining opportunities to develop and enhance their professionalism, leadership skills, networking, and community involvement. While you are an SGA senator, you may have the opportunity to meet important figures, such as presidents of colleges, business executives, and political leaders. You may have the opportunity to travel and participate in workshops and conferences representing ICC across the state and perhaps regionally/nationally. SGA Senators will have the opportunity to lead the current and future students of ICC into a better college experience.

What are the Requirements to Become an SGA Senator?

In order to be eligible to become an SGA Senator, students must:

1. Be enrolled in at least six (6) credit hours of ICC classes during each semester (fall and spring).
2. Must be in good standing (academic and judicial) at the college. Good academic standing is having a cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) of at least 2.0 First-semester first year students are exempt from the G.P.A. requirement until they establish an ICC G.P.A.

3. Available to attend General Assembly meetings.

How are SGA Senators Elected?

Every fall semester, the student body elects all of the SGA Senators for the coming year in a campus election. In order to become a senator, a student must (1) meet the eligibility requirements, (2) file a completed SGA Senator Election Packet and photo with Student Life by the deadline, and (3) receive enough votes from the student body in the general election to place in the top eleven finalists.

Names of eligible candidates will be placed on the ballot in the order in which their completed packets are received. The pictures and information from the profile sheets will be displayed on the election website and other election materials. Proofreading the Candidate Profile submission is strongly recommended.

Senators are elected by a campus-wide election. All voting will occur online via the ICC website. Online voting will be accessible beginning at 8:00am on the first Election Day, through 4:00 pm on the final Election Day. Eligible voters may vote online at any computer with internet access. All bona fide registered students at Illinois Central College, full time or part-time, shall be eligible to vote in the campus wide election for senators.

What are the Rules for Campaigning for the Elections?

Campaigning may begin after the designated campaign start date, but not before the full election packet, including the profile sheet is submitted to and approved by Student Life. Each candidate may request Student Life for up to 50 fliers (8.5 x 11). Candidates must submit originals to Student Life for approval no later than one week before elections. Candidates may also supply for themselves, and use bulletins, hats, handbills, balloons or other visual means to campaign. All campaign materials must be approved by Student Life prior to use. All candidates will be notified of all approved campaign materials via their ICC student email addresses. **All campaigning, including that on social media should be in accordance with ICC's Student Code of Conduct.** Candidates may be held accountable for any violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including, but not limited to, disqualification.

Candidates may campaign on the days of election in pre-assigned areas only. Pre-assigned campaign areas may not be used or solicited as polling places. Candidates are responsible for making sure that students do not vote while at their pre-assigned campaign station. Verbal solicitation of votes or campaigning activities of any kind are prohibited at polling places and shall not be directed at students who are in the process of voting. A polling place is defined as anywhere where a student may cast a vote.

Failure to comply with these election rules will result in the candidate being held accountable for their actions, including, but not limited to, disqualification for the duration of this election cycle. Candidates are responsible for the actions of those campaigning on their behalf. If a candidate(s) believes another candidate(s) has committed a violation an Election Complaint form must be filed with Student Life the day of the alleged violation, and no later than the conclusion of voting.