

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

**February 6th, 7:00 PM**

**Zoom Conference Call**

<https://oklahoma.zoom.us/j/92662526832?pwd=VGuKxz94KVUMqSIbCSpaC4a7Waq9ha.1>

**Call to Order**

**Mission Statement:** Graduate Students at the University of Oklahoma have a number of unique concerns and interests requiring a voice separate from the usual instruments that express the will of the faculty and of undergraduates. For this reason, the Graduate Student Senate of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association was established in 1987 to represent all Graduate Students and to serve their needs.

**Reading and Approval of the Minutes** (minutes from previous meeting:

<https://www.ou.edu/content/dam/sga/common/GSS/agendas/2025/1-23-25-GSS-Agenda.pdf>)

**Officer Reports:**

- Chair:
- Vice-Chair:
- Secretary:

**Committee Reports:** (submit your meeting minutes [here](#))

- Academic Affairs:
- Development & Philanthropy:
- External & Legislative Affairs:
- Internal Affairs:
- International Student Affairs:
- Public Relations:
- Sustainability:
- Ways and Means:

**Student Concerns:**

**Special Orders:**

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

- GS25-04 Higher Education Day Act of 2025 (Do Pass)
- GS25-05 Elections Revision Act of Spring 2025 (Do Pass)

**Announcements:**

**Adjournment**

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXIII

February 4, 2025

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS25

February 6, 2025

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-113-01  
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS25-04

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution requesting support  
for increasing funds for higher education  
resources distributed by the State Government  
of Oklahoma; providing short title; and providing for  
distribution.

Whereas: The fiscal year 2025 appropriation for higher education by the State of Oklahoma was \$1,023,746,221<sup>1</sup>; and

Whereas: By 2025, 70 percent of jobs in Oklahoma will require some college, a long-term certificate, or a college degree compared to 40% in 2014<sup>2</sup>; and

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma specifically, has 34,823 students currently enrolled across all campuses in the United States, and

Whereas: 93% of Oklahomans who graduate from a state system college or university remain and work in the state one year after graduation<sup>3</sup>; and

Whereas: For every dollar of state appropriations invested, the State System of Higher Education generates \$9.40 in economic output; and

Whereas: Oklahoma's higher education system supported \$8.21 billion in total economic output in FY2016<sup>4</sup>; and

Whereas: Oklahoma's higher education system requires a 9.3% increase in funding for the year 2026 or \$95,000,000<sup>5</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. "2025 Funding Request - Legislative Information - Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education," December 2, 2024. <https://okhighered.org/leg-info/funding%20request/>.

<sup>2</sup> Reach Higher Oklahoma. "Critical Occupations - Reach Higher Oklahoma." Reach Higher Oklahoma, December 20, 2024. <https://reachhigherok.org/directcomplete/workforce-partners/critical-occupations/>.

<sup>3</sup> Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. "Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education," n.d. <https://okhighered.org/>.

<sup>4</sup> Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. "Workforce Development - Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education," October 3, 2024. <https://okhighered.org/econ-dev/?highlight=economic%20output>.

<sup>5</sup> "FUNDING REQUEST FUNDING REQUEST." Accessed January 30, 2025. <https://okhighered.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/funding-request-2025.pdf>.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

- Section 1:** Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “Higher Education Day Act of 2025.”
- Section 2:** OU Student Government Association encourages federal entities to appropriate more funds to Oklahoma for use in education.
- Section 3:** OU Student Government Association encourages residents of Oklahoma to contact local and state legislators about the importance of education and higher education funding at state and national levels.
- Section 4:** OU Student Government Association encourages residents of Oklahoma, in places of civic engagement, to consider the importance of a highly educated and competitive workforce in an increasingly global community.
- Section 5:** OU Student Government Association encourages the maintenance of the Department of Education in the State of Oklahoma for the continuation of benefitting students in higher education.
- Section 6:** Copies of this resolution will be sent to:
- Kevin Stitt, Governor of Oklahoma
  - Ryan Walters, Oklahoma State Superintendent of Public Instruction
  - OU Board of Regents
  - OU Office of Governmental Affairs
  - OU Daily

Author(s): Ava Burnett, Arts and Sciences District Representative  
Jeriah Wilson, Associate

Co-Author(s): Marilou Bento, Engineering District Representative

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by SGA President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS  
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXIII

February 4, 2025

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
SENATE SESSION GS25

February 6, 2025

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-113-07  
SENATE BILL GS25-05

AS INTRODUCED

An Act of Procedure amending the Code Annotated to  
reflect the necessary changes to the Election Rules;  
providing for short title, providing for codification, and  
providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION:

**Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Elections Revision Act of Spring 2025.”

**Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to amend the Student Government Association’s Code Annotated to reflect necessary changes to the Election Rules.

**Section 3:** AMENDATORY: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association’s Code Annotated Title VI Chapter 2 is amended as follows. For the purposes of this bill, all items removed shall be denoted with a ~~strike through~~. All items added shall be denoted with an underline.

Chapter VI-2 Election Rules

1. **Electorate.** The electorate of the SGA Presidential and the CAC Chair races shall consist of all members of the SGA. Subject to any applicable provisions of the SGA Constitution, the Legislative Branch shall establish the electorate for all other races in General and/or Special Elections. In the absence of any guidance from the Legislative Branch, the Election Commission may adopt any rules established by the affected organization to determine the electorate for a specific race.
2. **Election Dates.** The sections below shall be the dates of the general elections, unless the Legislative Branch changes the date by an Act of the Legislative Branch at least three (3) weeks before the week of the date proposed by the legislation. The Election Commissioner shall have the power to waive this three (3) week requirement if they deem that exceptional circumstances warrant a waiver. Any special election, referendum, or initiatives shall be passed by an Act of the Legislative Branch at least three (3) weeks before the week of the date proposed by the legislation. This requirement cannot be waived.
  1. **Fall General Election.** The Fall General Election shall be held the Tuesday and Wednesday of the eleventh (11th) academic week of the fall semester. Voting shall close at 8pm on Wednesday.

2. **Spring General Election.** The Spring General Election shall be held the Tuesday and Wednesday of the eleventh (11th) Academic Week of the spring semester. Voting shall close at 8pm on Wednesday.
3. **Deadline Requirements.** Any deadline within this Title, except those noted, may be implicitly suspended by the Election Commissioner with the advice and consent of the Election Commission.
4. **Election Funding.** The SGA Budgetary Committee shall allocate sufficient funds in each Administrative Appropriations Act to conduct two General Elections, two (2) run-off elections, and at least one (1) special election, including the compensation of all eligible Election Commission members for each election and sufficient publicity for filing and voting.
5. **Polling.** If an SGA member cannot vote through the online voting software implemented by the Elections Commission, they shall request a ballot from the Election Commission in person in the SGA Office or over the OU-maintained email service. In doing so, the SGA member shall provide their OU ID as sufficient identification. The ballot may be requested any time after the publishing of the Information on Candidates booklet and shall be sent when the online polls open. The alternative ballot must be accepted during the online polling days and normal business hours of the Student Life office. The Election Commission shall ensure that any person that used an alternative ballot cannot and did not vote more than once (1) in any election.
6. **Voter's Rights.** The following rights should not be infringed upon:
  1. The right of the student to vote by secret ballot shall not be infringed. The right of the student to arrive at a voting decision free from undue influence shall not be infringed.
  2. No person(s), group(s), or organization(s), regardless of their affiliation, shall require any student(s) to vote, or shall require any student(s) to vote either for or against any proposal, candidate, or candidates in any SGA sanctioned election.
  3. Any SGA member has the right to request, in writing, a ruling of the Election Commissioner at any time during the campaign period. The Election Commissioner shall make a written ruling on any such petition within twenty-four (24) hours of its submission.
7. **Procedure for Run-off.**
  1. ~~The Congressional~~ The Presidential, SBA, and CAC races shall be popularly elected by a simple majority vote (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) vote) of the ballots cast for that purpose. In any of the aforementioned races, should no candidate receive a simple majority vote (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) vote), the top two candidates shall be placed on the ballot for a runoff election to occur on the Tuesday immediately following the original election date. The top vote-recipient of the runoff election shall be declared the winner.
  2. The Congressional Representative seats shall be popularly elected. If in any of the Congressional Representative Seat races, any of the candidates with the least amount of winning popular votes shall tie for an open seat, the candidates shall be placed on the ballot for a run-off election to occur on the Tuesday immediately following the original election date. The top-vote recipient of the run-off election shall be declared the winner.

**Section 4:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Congressional Administration Committee Chair, Kyle Martin  
Election Commissioner, Baylor Savage

Co-Sponsor(s):

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by SGA President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_