



Elections SSMU

SSMU Executive Elections Info Session



Association étudiante
de l'Université McGill
Students' Society of McGill
University

January 22nd, 2026

Who is Elections SSMU?

- Independent and neutral body responsible for administering and overseeing all SSMU elections and referenda. This includes:
 - First Year Council Elections
 - Fall Referendum
 - Winter Referendum and Executive Elections
 - Ratification of General Online Assemblies
- Ensuring fairness, transparency, and compliance with SSMU's Internal Regulations and Constitution.
- Handling complaints, disqualifications, and violations related to election rules.
- But most importantly, encourage participation among SSMU members and reduce barriers to voting.

Documents to Reference

SSMU Executive Elections

Nomination Kit for Candidates

Winter 2026 Elections

Please be sure to read all the information in this package and fill out all the necessary forms.
Questions? Comments? More information?

Contact us
elections@ssmu.ca



[Link](#)

Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda

Updated as of 2025-12-04



[Link](#)

Timeline of the Executive Election

- **Nomination Period and Signature Collection:** Thursday, January 29, 2026 to Thursday, February 12, 2026
- **Extended Nomination Period and Signature Collection** (*positions with less than 2 candidates*): Monday, February 16, 2026
- **Candidates' Meeting (MANDATORY):** Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:00PM
- **Pensketches due (OPTIONAL):** Sunday, March 1st at 11:59PM
- **Candidates' Debate:** Monday, March 9th, 2025 at 6:00PM (SSMU Ballroom)
- **Campaigning Period:** Thursday, February 26th, 2026 at 9:00AM to Friday, March 20th, 2026 at 9:00PM
- **Polling Period:** Monday, March 9th, 2026 at 9:00AM to Friday, March 20th, 2026 at 9:00PM

Positions Available

President

Vice President (Clubs & Services)

Vice President (Internal)

Vice President (External)

Vice President (University Affairs)

You may only apply to ONE position.

President

The President shall exercise the following powers and perform the following duties: to be the chief officer and chief spokesperson of the Society; to ensure the long- term integrity of the Society; to enforce the Constitution and Internal Regulations of the Society and ensure the maintenance of the governance documents; to chair and coordinate the activities of the Executive Committee; to manage the Society's human resources; to call meetings of and set the agenda for the Legislative Council and the Board of Directors; to manage relations between the Society and the administration of McGill University; and to represent the Members on the University Senate and Board of Governors.the Board of Directors; to manage relations between the Society and the administration of McGill University; and to represent the Members on the University Senate and Board of Governors.

Vice President (Clubs & Services)

The Vice-President (Clubs and Services) shall exercise the following powers and perform the following duties: to manage relations between the Society and its clubs and services; to maintain relations between the Society and independent student groups; to coordinate events, programming, and resources to support the Society's student groups; to manage the Society's mental health initiatives; and to liaise and collaborate with University staff from Student Services.

Vice President (Internal Affairs)

The Vice-President (Internal Affairs) shall exercise the following powers and perform the following duties: to engage in regular consultation with the Society's Members; to coordinate the Society's relations with faculty, school, and other student associations, and to facilitate communication among these groups; to coordinate events, programming, and services for first year students; to manage the programming of activities and events of the Society; to oversee the production of the Society's publications; to operationalize the Society's commitment to environmental sustainability and physical accessibility; and to manage the Society's communications and student engagement strategy.

Vice President (University Affairs)

The Vice-President (University Affairs) shall exercise the following powers and perform the following duties: to represent the members of the Society on the University Senate; to coordinate the activities of the Senate Caucus; to maintain relations between the Society and all levels of the University, with the exception

Vice President (External Affairs)

The Vice-President (External Affairs) shall exercise the following powers and perform the following duties: to represent the Society and communicate positions and Policy taken by the Society to external bodies and agencies; to lobby federal, provincial, and municipal governments to further the objectives, goals and Policy of the Society; to mobilize students on positions and Policy of the Society and assist in the coordination of student-run political campaigns; to develop Policy regarding initiatives in the Montreal community; to communicate to the Board of Directors relevant external issues which may significantly affect the Society; to coordinate the Society's Indigenous solidarity efforts; to operationalize the Society's commitment to the francophone community; and to attend meetings of relevant local, provincial, national or international student groups.

Nomination Step by Step

1. Make sure you are eligible.
2. Complete the nomination form which includes meeting with incumbent.
3. Wait for approval from Elections SSMU.
4. Collect signatures from a Google Form.
5. Elections SSMU verifies whether the signatures meet the requirement, then confirms your candidacy.

ALL STEPS NEED TO BE DONE BY:

Thursday, February 12, 2026 @ 11:59 PM

NO EXCEPTIONS! So start early.

Make sure you are eligible

Eligibility requirements

In order to be eligible, you must:

- Be an SSMU member. All students registered at McGill University shall be Members, except for the following (SSMU Constitution 5.1):
 - students registered in the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences;
 - students registered at the Centre for Continuing Education;
 - students registered in graduate programs; and
 - students who are also full-time members of the teaching staff.
- Be registered at McGill at McGill for at least 18 consecutive months (excluding authorized leaves of absence for up to 4 months) with no fewer than 18 credits prior to their initial election. (Memorandum of Agreement 14.4)
Essentially, you must have been enrolled since Fall 2024.
- Be eligible to work in Canada and maintain their eligibility to work in Canada throughout your term of office.
- Not be otherwise disqualified from holding office under section 10.2 of the SSMU Constitution, including but not limited to being under the age of majority, subject to a regime of protective supervision, recognized by a court as having lost the capacity to reason, or being bankrupt, having suspended payments, or having made arrangements with creditors.

Completing the Nomination Form



SSMU Executive Elections - Nomination Kit

Personal Information

Name	_____	Student ID #	_____
Faculty	_____	Program	_____
Phone #	_____	McGill Email	_____
Address _____			
Position sought	<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President (Clubs & Services)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President (Internal Affairs)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President (External Affairs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President (University Affairs)

Please print your name in the square below as you wish it will specifically appear in the electoral ballot.

(*Note: Prefixes such as Mrs., Mr., Miss, as well as titles and degrees of any kind, are not permissible):

If you choose to run as part of a coalition, please indicate the name. A coalition must consist of at least two candidates.

The name will be subject to the approval of Elections SSMU. Your coalition affiliation will appear next to your name on the ballot. You may add, remove, or change your affiliation any time prior to the start of the polling period.

Contact Information Disclosure

As candidates are not permitted to approach campus publications or student media themselves, Elections SSMU Officers will forward a full list of candidates to campus media, including your contact information at the end of Nomination Period unless you opt out. Do you give Elections SSMU permission to release your phone number and e-mail?

- ☐ Yes
☐ Yes, to email only
☐ No
☐ Other: _____

At times we may receive questions from SSMU members or organizations about you and/or your platform. As we are a non-partisan organization, we will provide no response to such questions. If SSMU members want to make clarifications or speak to you directly, do you give Elections SSMU permission to release your phone number and e-mail?

- ☐ Yes
☐ Yes, to email only
☐ No
☐ Other: _____

I have read and completed all of the steps provided in the instructions of this kit.

Signature

Date

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New this year! - Coalitions

You may form coalitions with other candidates and engage in slate campaigning. You will have the choose to indicate that on the ballot, which will be put in parenthesis next to your name.

- Coalition must consist of at least two candidates.
- Coalition name will be subject to approval of Elections SSMU
- You may add, remove, or change your affiliation any time prior to the start of polling period (March 9, 2026)

Updated this year! - Contact information disclosure

- Campaigns are not permitted to approach campus publications or student media. (IRs 6.14.1) Therefore, a full list of candidates' contact information will be sent from Elections SSMU unless you express not to in your nomination package.
- You may decide if you can realize your contact information to individuals or organizations that are not student media.

* Please copy this page as many times as needed if you run out of space.



Declaration of Prior Disciplinary Record at McGill

- ☐ I declare that I do **not** have **any** disciplinary record at McGill, meaning no prior disciplinary measure in the form of a reprimand and/or suspension. I understand that any false declaration will lead to sanctions according to the Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda and can lead to disqualification from the position, even after election.

If you are unable to make the above declaration, please contact Elections SSMU at elections@ssmu.ca as soon as possible.

Attestation Of Eligibility

I, _____, the undersigned, hereby state that I will be a registered undergraduate student at McGill University and a SSMU member in the 2026-2027 Academic year. **I further authorise Elections SSMU to confirm such information with the Registrar of McGill University.**

Furthermore, I declare to the best of my knowledge that I am eligible to be an Officer at the Students' Society of McGill University. In order to be eligible, you must:

- Be an SSMU member. All students registered at McGill University shall be Members, except for the following (SSMU Constitution 5.1):
 - students registered in the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences;
 - students registered at the Centre for Continuing Education;
 - students registered in graduate programs; and
 - students who are also full-time members of the teaching staff.
- Be registered at McGill at McGill for at least 18 consecutive months (excluding authorized leaves of absence for up to 4 months) with no fewer than 18 credits prior to their initial election. (Memorandum of Agreement 14.4)
- Be eligible to work in Canada and maintain their eligibility to work in Canada throughout your term of office.
- Not be otherwise disqualified from holding office under section 10.2 of the SSMU Constitution, including but not limited to being under the age of majority, subject to a regime of protective supervision, recognized by a court as having lost the capacity to reason, or being bankrupt, having suspended payments, or having made arrangements with creditors.

Signature

Date

New this year! - Declaration of Prior Disciplinary Record at McGill

At per the new MoA with McGill, candidates' must declare any prior disciplinary measure in a form of a reprimand and/or suspension for considerations at the SSMU's Board of Directors.

New this year! - Attestation of Eligibility

Ensures you are good to run!

Élections de l'AEUM Elections SSMU

Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.
Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.

elections@ssmu.ca | (514) 398-6800 | elections.ssmu.ca | 3501 rue Peel, Montréal, QC, H3A 1W7



Meeting with the Incumbent

We are asking all candidates running for the SSMU Executive positions to meet with the current executive to discuss the position and its responsibilities. Once you've met with the executive, please ask them to sign the following:

CONFIRMATION OF MEETING (for current SSMU Executives)

I confirm that I've met with this candidate to discuss the position and its responsibilities.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Executives - If you cannot sign physically, please send an email to elections@ssmu.ca and include the name of the candidate who you have met and discussed.

Submitting this Nomination Form

Please submit this nomination form and your proof of enrollment (Minerva: Student Menu > Student Record Menu > Letters - Proof of Enrollment).

Please note, that once you've submitted the first of this nomination form you are not obligated to run - you may withdraw your candidacy anytime during the polling and campaigning period. However, once the polling period starts your name will remain on the ballot.

CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT (for Elections SSMU)

This nomination was received on (date/time): _____

By (print name): _____

Signature: _____

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Meeting with Incumbent

Please book a meeting by email or through the office hours link. They are expecting you!

Don't wait till the last minute - they have busy schedules.

Position	Job Description	Incumbent	Email	Book office hours
President	Link	Dymetri Taylor (he/him)	president@ssmu.ca	Link
Vice-President (Clubs and Services)	Link	Hamza Abu Alkhair (he/him)	studentlife@ssmu.ca	Link
Vice-President (Internal)	Link	Minaal Mirza (she/her)	internal@ssmu.ca	Link
Vice-President (External)	Link	Seraphina Crema-Black (she/her)	external@ssmu.ca	Link
Vice-President (University Affairs)	Link	Susan Aloudat (she/her)	ua@ssmu.ca	Link

Getting Signatures

Requirements

- 100 signatures
- At least 1 faculty
- None of the faculties or schools should represent >35% of the signatures
 - Applies to ALL signatures, not just the first 100.
 - If you have more than 100 signatures but a certain faculty is overrepresented, you should gather more signatures from other faculties to offset the overrepresentation
 - You might want to include extra signatures to ensure all of the required ones are valid.
- Please make sure they are SSMU members, and not PGSS or MCSS. Those signatures will not count.

List of Faculties and Schools used for Elections SSMU Purposes

- Desautels Faculty of Management
- Faculty Dental Medicine & Oral Health Sciences
- Faculty Of Arts
- Faculty Of Education
- Faculty Of Engineering
- Faculty Of Law
- Faculty Of Medicine & Health Sciences
- Faculty Of Science
- Ingram School Of Nursing
- Interfaculty, B.A. & Sc.
- School Of Physical & Occupational Therapy
- Schulich School Of Music

Verification by Elections SSMU

- We will ensure everyone is a SSMU member, and that the faculty requirements are met.
- Please be mindful that the Elections team requires time to verify the signatures, and that signature collection (including any revisions needed) should be completed at end of polling period.
- If your signatures are verified and approved, you are now officially a candidate!

END OF NOMINATION PERIOD:

Thursday, February 12, 2026

**IF THERE ARE LESS THAN 2 CANDIDATES IN A POSITION, NOMINATIONS
FOR THAT POSITION WILL BE EXTENDED TO:**

Monday, February 16, 2026

Historical Number of Candidates

Position	2026	2025	Nov 2024 (Byelection)	April 2024 (Byelection)	2024	Sept 2023 (Byelection)	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
President	Apply now!	1	-	3	0	-	1	3	3	2	2
Vice-President (Clubs and Services)		2	2	-	2	-	1	2	1	2	1
Vice-President (Internal)		1	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	1	2
Vice-President (External)		2	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	2	1
Vice-President (University Affairs)		1	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	2	2
Vice-President (Finance)	Hired position	2	-	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	3
Vice-President (Operations and Sustainability)	Eliminated position	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-

Next Steps

Campaigning

- All candidates must attend the **Candidates' Meeting**, which covers the campaigning rules and answer your questions. This meeting will take place **February 23rd, 2026 at 6:00PM.**
- Please contact Elections SSMU ASAP if you cannot make it to this meeting due to an unavoidable conflict (for e.g. an exam). Those who do not attend this meeting without notice will be sanctioned.
- **You must attend the Candidates' Meeting in order to campaign.**
- Other SSMU members can campaign for you - but you must submit a list of members before you start campaigning, more information to be given during the meeting.
- You are limited to **\$300** of fair market value.

Pensketches

All candidates have the right to pen a brief outline about themselves, their qualifications and the ideas that they will bring to the position being sought. Video pensketches may also be used, with consent from candidates and at the discretion of the Chief Returning Officer. This information will be uploaded onto the Elections SSMU website and Online Voting System. You may also include 1 picture of yourself to appear on the ballot.

If you would like your pensketch to appear in French, it is your responsibility to have it translated. The deadline is the same for the French version of your pensketch. Elections SSMU highly suggests that you do this, because if you only submit an English pensketch, it will not appear on the ballot when students choose to vote in French.

- **ENGLISH** TEXT MAY NOT EXCEED 150 WORDS IN LENGTH: EXCESS WORDS WILL BE CUT.
- **FRENCH** TEXT MAY NOT EXCEED 175 WORDS IN LENGTH: EXCESS WORDS WILL BE CUT

You can email the pensketch to us (elections@ssmu.ca).

Pensketches and pictures are due on **March 1st, 2026 at 11:59PM.**

Debate

March 9th, 2026 at 6:00PM at the SSMU Ballroom

- To be streamed by TVM.
- Collaboration with the McGill Debating Union.
- Not mandatory per se, but strongly recommended.

Polling Period

**Monday, March 9th, 2026 at 9:00AM -
Friday, March 20th, 2026 at 9:00PM**

Tell your friends to vote!

Quorum = 15%

<15% Voter Turnout = no one gets elected = SSMU collapses?

Results: Within a few hours, maximum 24 hours.

Sent to your emails and announced on Instagram.

Instant Runoff Voting

- A method of calculating ranked ballots.
- All first-choice votes shall be counted and allocated to each candidate or Referendum question option.
- If no candidate or Referendum question option receives a majority of the total vote, the candidate or Referendum question option with the fewest votes shall be declared eliminated, and the first choice ballots allocated to that selection shall be redistributed in accordance with the following choice indicated on each voters' ballot.
- This system of eliminating the candidate or Referendum question option with the fewest votes and redistributing ballots according to the next choice of remaining candidates shall continue until one (1) candidate or Referendum question option achieves a Simple Majority

President / Président·e (Votes required to elect an option: 173)

ROUND 1

E		163 votes
J		99 votes
D		83 votes

Eliminated D due to: lowest 1st preference

ROUND 2

E		206 (+43) votes
J		121 (+22) votes

Exhausted votes 18 (+18) votes

Elected E due to: highest 1st preference

ROUND 3

E		Elected 206 votes
J		121 votes

Exhausted votes 18 votes

Instant Runoff Voting

- There is a “None” option for every position
- An abstain option is available.
- Members do not need to rank all options.

Voter Turnout

Get your friends to vote, please!

Turnout for Fall Referendum by Faculty

Faculty	Electors	Voted	Turnout
FACULTY OF LAW	719	259	36
FACULTY OF MEDICINE & HLTH SCI	927	306	33
INTERFACULTY, B.A. & SC.	652	149	22.9
FAC DENTAL MEDICINE & ORAL HS	170	34	20
FACULTY OF ARTS	8102	1624	20
FACULTY OF SCIENCE	5167	983	19
SCHOOL OF PHYS & OCC THERAPY	225	41	18.2
SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MUSIC	455	83	18.2
INGRAM SCHOOL OF NURSING	856	149	17.4
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING	3804	635	16.7
DESAUTELS FACULTY MANAGEMENT	2565	342	13.3
FACULTY OF EDUCATION	1690	224	13.3
TOTAL	25332	4829	19.1

Turnout for Special Plebiscite by Faculty

Rank	Prev. Rank*	Faculty	Electors	Voted	%
1	3	INTERFACULTY, B.A. & SC.	652	242	37.1
2	1	FACULTY OF LAW	719	201	28
3	5	FACULTY OF ARTS	8102	2159	26.6
4	6	FACULTY OF SCIENCE	5167	1258	24.3
5	10	FACULTY OF ENGINEERING	3804	797	21
6	7	SCHOOL OF PHYS & OCC THERAPY	225	47	20.9
7	11	DESAUTELS FACULTY MANAGEMENT	2565	534	20.8
8	12	FACULTY OF EDUCATION	1690	329	19.5
9	8	SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MUSIC	455	61	13.4
10	2	FACULTY OF MEDICINE & HLTH SCI	927	112	12.1
11	4	FAC DENTAL MEDICINE & ORAL HS	170	19	11.2
12	9	INGRAM SCHOOL OF NURSING	856	89	10.4
		TOTAL	25332	5848	23.1

*Rank for the voter turnout of the SSMU Fall Referendum 2025

Programs with highest and lowest turnout (>100 students)

Program	Electors	Voted	Turnout
HIGHEST TURNOUT			
LAW	712	256	36
MEDICINE	913	298	32.6
LINGUISTICS	124	39	31.5
POLITICAL SCIENCE	1330	343	25.8
SOCIAL WORK	168	43	25.6
LOWEST TURNOUT			
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING	159	18	11.3
STATISTICS	157	17	10.8
UNDECLARED - BCOM STUDENTS	263	25	9.5
PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION	238	19	8
PERFORMANCE JAZZ	113	9	8

Programs with highest and lowest turnout (>75 students)

Program	Electors	Voted	Turnout
HIGHEST TURNOUT			
FOUNDATION PROGRAM (Interfaculty)	96	45	46.9
HISTORY (Arts)	313	112	35.8
FOUNDATION PROGRAM (Arts)	754	261	34.6
POLITICAL SCIENCE (Arts)	1330	445	33.5
SOCIAL WORK (Arts)	168	43	25.6
LOWEST TURNOUT			
DENTISTRY	170	19	11.2
SECONDARY ENGLISH	136	15	11
PERFORMANCE JAZZ	113	11	9.7
INTEGRATED NURSING	577	40	6.9

Thank you!

*Mike Lee, Chief Returning Officer
elections@ssmu.ca*

