

TIME TO LEAD

Chair of Student Council



About Us

The University of Bristol Students' Union is a membership organisation democratically led by students, for students. We represent over 30,000 student members and work to make sure that you get the best from time at university by providing over 300 clubs, societies and networks, offering free support services and academic advice and representing students on the issues that matter to you.

Students drive and are at the heart of everything we do:

- We are the collective voice of University of Bristol students
- We support activities, so students can try new things and develop skills
- We advise, support and empower students to make change
- We are a vibrant social hub
- We provide quality services for the benefit of students

Our Values

It's not just what we do that matters, it's how we do it. We will reflect what is most important to our students:



We are loud and proud about **equality, diversity and inclusion**. We are a Union for all students.



We want our students to thrive, so we support the **wellbeing** of our students through the services that we offer and the campaigns that we run.



We believe **community** matters; we create a sense of belonging across the student body through out student groups, networks, events and spaces.



Sustainability underpins all that we do; we want our Union, our University and our planet, to be here for the long term.



We believe opportunities for joy, humour and positivity are important, we want our students to have **fun** whilst at University.

About the Role

The Chair of Student Council is a key SU representative on democracy, ensuring that our democratic processes are fair, transparent and engaging for the student body.

They Chair meetings like Student Council, Student Representatives Assembly and AMM, and work closely with the Union Affairs Officer and other members of the Democratic Standards Committee to improve SU democracy. You must be a University of Bristol student in the 2025/2026 academic year to run for this role.

Specifically, the Chair of Student Council:

- Chairs large democratic meetings (Student Council and AMM), facilitating constructive debate and ensuring that these meetings are accessible and engaging for attendees
- Chairs Student Representatives Assembly, supporting Full-Time Officers, Chairs of Networks, Faculty Reps and Student Trustees to report on their activities, decide on the allocation of campaign resources, follow up on democratic policy, and hold each other to account
- Promotes engagement with the SU's democratic process to members
- Works with the Democratic Standards Committee to set the agenda for Student Council and AMM, determining which motions are relevant for these forums and, for Student Council, determining the order of the agenda
- Works with the Union Affairs Officer on other matters relating to SU democracy

The successful Chair of Student Council is supported by a wide range of professional staff teams across democracy and representation, student activities, events, digital & marketing, finance and research & insight, lettings and more. If you're elected, these staff will ensure you are trained and have the support needed to carry out this role.

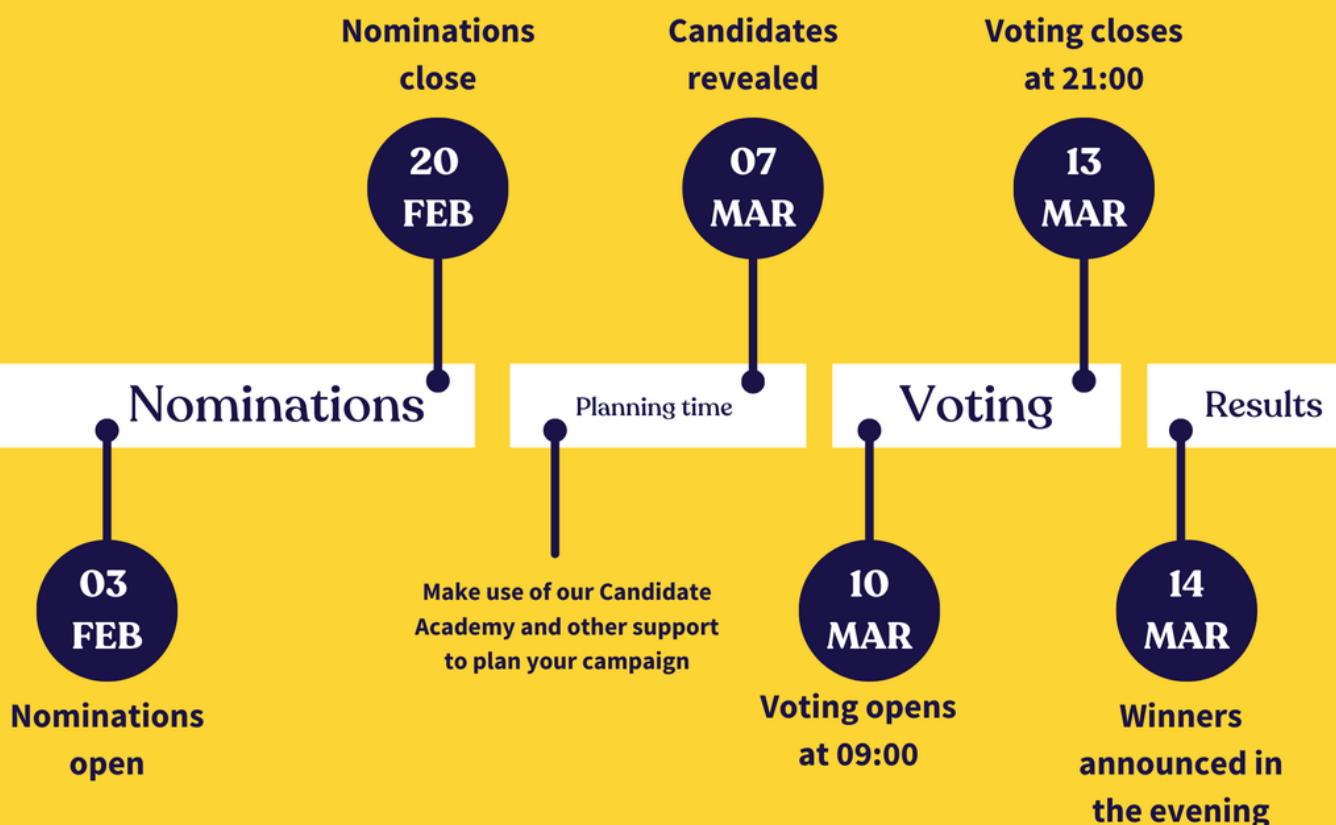
About You

What knowledge & experiences and skills & abilities would help me in a role like this?		Essential/ Desirable (E/D)
1	Current student at the University of Bristol who will be a student in the 25/26 academic year	E
2	A passion for engaging students in Bristol SU's democratic structures	E
3	Experience of public speaking	D
4	A commitment to the values and behaviours of Bristol SU	E
5	An understanding of democracy and the processes involved, especially at Bristol SU	D



What support do you get running in an SU election?

- Candidate Campaign Kit (Including a banner, cardboard and various craft materials) and space to paint in the SU Office
- We reimburse your campaign spending up to £30
- Marketing support/guidance
- Candidate Academy sessions across the nomination period and ahead of voting week to support you with writing a personal statement and running a campaign for yourself
- Candidate Morning Briefings – during voting week you'll get a briefing about the voting stats in the SU Office every day. This is also a chance for you to talk to other candidates as well as SU staff. There will be hot drinks & snacks!
- Elections Celebration Evening





What time commitments are there?

To help you get your voice heard by the University and other students, you'll need to commit some time ahead of the election, over summer and throughout the year. This could be because you're training or campaigning to become a student leader, it's an exciting and rewarding period!

Time commitments include:

- Role-based training in May
- 2 day residential at some point between **August and September**
- **Availability for Democratic Standards Committee, any democratic forum meetings and pre-meets (approx. 40-50 hours)**

Ahead of the election, you'll need to commit some time to rules training and organising your campaign. You'll also need to write a personal statement, just a small brief as to why you want the role when you nominate yourself and upload a picture. We will then give you until Monday 3 March at 9am to confirm your personal statement and picture.

The Important Stuff

You'll need to attend our Rules Briefing on **Sunday 2 March at 11:00-14:00** on Level 5 of Senate House. This is a compulsory session and you won't be able to run in the election if you miss it and don't catch up. We will provide lunch and you will have a chance to have your headshot taken!

Voting week runs from **Mon 10 March at 9am until Thurs 13 March at 9pm** and this is also your time to campaign. We highly recommend going out and talking to as many students as possible to enhance your chances of winning.

We will be letting you know the results and celebrating all of our candidates' efforts on **Friday 14 March** in the SU Living Rooms. There will be nibbles and drinks and you're welcome to bring your friends/campaign team along with you. SU staff will be on hand to offer support should you need it.

Candidate Academy



We have loads of sessions to help you with running in an election. You can find them all here or through the QR code at the bottom of this page!

How to Run a Good Campaign

**Personal Statement
Workshop**

and many more!

