

# Student Senate Information

## Updated Organizational Structure

As we move forward, Student Senate will continue to be a key area of student leadership for USF. The Student Body President will oversee a larger and more active student government with 3 agencies working collaboratively: Student Senate, Campus Activities Board, and Student Ministries and Service Board. Senate is chaired by the Student Body Vice President (this coming year, it's Brandon Record)

Once all Senators are elected, the Senate will select officers and chairs of committees.

Freshman senators will be elected in the Fall with 1-2 representatives from each residence hall and 1 off-campus representative. Senators representing sophomores through seniors will be elected each Spring with 5 representatives from each class. A 'class' is defined according to the USF Catalog:

1 – 27 hours = Freshman	60 – 89 hours = Junior
28 – 59 hours = Sophomore	90 – 120+ hours = Senior

## Senator Tasks

### Sharing and Implementing Ideas

One of the central tasks of Senators is to be active and in touch with the general student body in order to represent their ideas or suggestions for improvements to the student experience. Once shared, then the Senator learns more about the situation and works with fellow Senators to either implement a solution or identify why something is the way it is.

### Liaison between Students and Administration

Once information is shared or learned in Senate meetings, it's important for Senators to communicate back with their constituents what they have learned. Also, communication flow the other direction is important: the Dean of Students attends each Senate meeting and relies on Senators to provide input and feedback on items of interest to USF students.

### Qualifications:

- Must be a full-time undergraduate student at the time of candidacy and throughout his or her term of service
- Have at least a 2.25 cumulative GPA at the time of candidacy
- Be a student in "good standing" as defined by the USF Student Handbook (an example of NOT being in good standing is by being on academic or disciplinary probation).

***For more information on the Student Government structure and responsibilities, a Student Body Constitution is available in Student Development upon request.***

### Campus Clubs and Organizations

Senate plays a key role in the approval process for new campus clubs and organizations. Any group that desires to meet as an official USF club or organization must first be vetted through Student Senate. Once approved, the registration process continues through the Student Body President and finally the Dean of Students.

### Budget Management

Funds are provided to Senate each year for use either in implementing programs or improvements around campus, or to support campus clubs and organizations.

### Senate Meetings

Senate currently meets twice monthly at 8 pm on Mondays. The time for Senate meetings is subject to change, as it is determined by the Senators during their first meeting in the Fall. Senators also must serve on at least one Senate Committee and are encouraged to participate in faculty committee meetings, as invited.

To have your name placed on the ballot, you must secure signatures from 50 full-time USF students in the spaces below. These students do not need to belong to the same class as you, but know that only members of your class will be voting for you during the upcoming elections.

**The deadline to return this petition to Student Development is Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.** Campaigning may NOT begin until your petition has been submitted and you have received authorization from Student Government or Student Development—so don't delay! **Elections will occur April 19<sup>th</sup> online.**

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, submit the following petition to be considered for inclusion in the Student Senate elections for 2018-19. I confirm that these are 50 legitimate, unduplicated, full-time USF student signatures that were not fabricated in any way. **MOBILE: (            ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_**

Print Full Name