

Introduced By: Senator Borges
Sponsored By: Supervisor of Election Luke Brown
Contact: sga_hm2@ucf.edu
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Committee Action: N/A
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 Passed 34-0-0
Third Reading: April 17, 2025
Final Vote: Passed by GC



University of Central Florida
Fifty Sixth Student Body Senate
Internal Bill 56-54

[Updates to Title VI: Ranked Choice Voting]

WHEREAS, Statutes require constant updates and revision to best serve the Student Body;
WHEREAS, The current plurality-based voting system may result in a winning Presidential ticket without majority support from the Student Body;
WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) allows students to rank candidates in order of preference, ensuring that the elected Student Body President and Vice President have broad support from the electorate;
WHEREAS, RCV eliminates the need for a runoff election, reducing costs, administrative burdens, and election fatigue for both candidates and the Election Commission;
WHEREAS, Adopting RCV aligns UCF's Student Government elections with modern democratic practices used in various municipalities and universities nationwide;
WHEREAS, RCV ensures that student votes are not wasted, allowing voters to support their preferred candidate while still influencing the outcome if their first choice is eliminated;
WHEREAS, Implementing RCV will increase voter engagement and ensure that Student Body leadership is more representative of the diverse student population; and
WHEREAS, This Bill will go into effect at the start of the 57th Senate Session contingent upon UCF IT approving such procedures.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, by the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida that Title VI be amended as follows:

Chapter 604 Election Procedures

- 604.6 A. All students shall be eligible to vote for ~~one (1)~~ Presidential tickets during the spring election, as well as the representative(s) of their College or School as apportioned.
- a. **Votes for Presidential tickets will be done in ranked choice voting as follows:**
 - i. **Ballot Structure**
 1. Each student shall rank Presidential tickets in order of preference (1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, etc.).
 2. A voter may rank as many or as few candidates as they wish.
 - ii. **Vote Tabulation**
 1. **First Round:** All first-choice votes are counted. If a ticket receives more than 50% of first-choice votes, that ticket is declared the winner.
 2. **Elimination Process:** If no ticket receives a majority, the ticket with the fewest first-choice votes is eliminated.
 3. **Redistribution:** Voters who selected the eliminated ticket will have their votes transferred to their next highest-ranked choice. This process repeats until a ticket receives a majority of the active votes and is declared the winner.
 - iii. **Tie-Breaking Procedure**
 1. In the event of a tie at any stage, the ticket with the higher number of first-choice votes in the previous round will advance.
 - a. If the tickets were tied in the previous round, the ticket with the higher number of first-choice votes in the round before that will advance. This will continue until a tie is broken.
 - b. If a tie is unbreakable, the Senate shall vote between the tied tickets at the next regularly scheduled Senate session.
- B. Any student with multiple majors shall only be eligible to vote under their primary major.
 C. On all ballots there shall be detailed instructions for voting created by the Election Commission.
 D. Votes for any individual other than those sanctioned to be on the ballot either as a declared candidate or registered write-in shall be discarded and shall not count toward the total number of votes cast.

- E. No individual shall coerce or otherwise induce another while they are in the process of filling out their ballot by any physical or electronic means. This provision shall apply to neutral SG polling stations as well as individual laptops and candidate stations established during the election.
- F. Candidates are free to deny use of their personal computers as they please, but if a voter has already opened their ballot, neither candidate nor proprietor of the computer may cease the voter's actions.
- G. No candidate/ticket may establish a voting station by computer or otherwise in any establishment licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

Bryce Lister

Bryce Lister
Student Body President

Date

Dr. Adrienne Frame
Vice President, SSWB

Date