

## **Student Council:**

The Student Council (SC) is the highest decision-making body of the student body. Among other things, the SC has the following tasks: participation in the social and economic self-help of the students, promotion of student events, promotion of political education as well as self-organization and the administration and allocation of funds accruing to the student body.

The members of the SC elect the members of the General Student Committee (AStA). If one compares the SC with the Bundestag, then the SC is the parliament (the Bundestag) that selects and controls the AStA.

The SC consists of 25 members. All students, irrespective of the Faculty they belong to, are allowed one vote in the election, either a list or for a candidate.

Unlike the AS or FBC, only students are represented and none of the University's other status groups.

Your half-yearly semester contribution always includes a contribution for the AStA (currently in the amount of 12 euro). The contribution amount supports the work of the AStA, which decides on how its funds are to be used. By participating in elections to the Student Council, you also choose the people who will later decide on how the money you contribute will be spent.

Further information can be found under: <https://sr.uni-bremen.de/wiki/Hauptseite>

## **Election process and possibilities of participation**

When and where do elections take place?

As a rule, you are free to choose which polling station to cast your vote (in exceptional cases, some students may only vote in the central polling station in the glass hall).

Polling stations can be found at the following campus locations:

- Glass Hall: (Mon - Thu 10-17 clock, Fri 10-15 clock)
- Grazer Straße Café: (Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm)
- GW 1: (Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm)
- GW 2: (Mon - Thu 10-17 clock, Fri 10-15 clock)
- Mensa: (Mon - Fri 11:30am - 3pm)
- MZH: (Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm)
- NW 1: (Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm)
- SFG: (Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm)

Every summer semester, one week (from Monday through Friday) is chosen for elections. The election week takes place during the semester, usually in late May / early June. Please note the corresponding announcements on the homepage and also on the notices within the university.

### Which documents are needed?

Your **current** student ID card counts as eligibility to vote.

### Where do I find information about the candidatures?

Once the election candidatures have been determined by the respective election commissions, you can view the nominations (usually with sample ballot papers) for the Student Council at: <https://sr.uni-bremen.de/wiki/Hauptseite>.

Nominations for the committee elections are published under <https://www.uni-bremen.de/gremienwahlen/wahlvorschlag.html>.

There are no sample ballots to be found here, but the ballot papers will list the candidates in the same order.

Many lists have a Facebook page, where you can find information.

Furthermore, the Eule Blog (<https://blogs.uni-bremen.de/eule/>) presents many of the lists and the candidates. Even student magazines sometimes point to the election and introduce lists.

You will also find some lists presented pages of the AStA (<https://www.asta.uni-bremen.de/hochschulgruppen/hochschulpolitik/>) and the Student Councils ([https://sr.uni-bremen.de/wiki/Liste aller Listen](https://sr.uni-bremen.de/wiki/Liste_aller_Listen)).

In addition, there are election posters and flyers everywhere (especially in the refectories). And, especially in the election week, many of the candidates can be found on the University Boulevard, where a direct exchange is possible.

### Who can candidate?

Every student who is regularly enrolled as a student at the University of Bremen has the active and passive right to vote and stand for election.

You do not have to be a member of a party or its youth organization to stand. It is also commonplace for individuals to candidate in all organizations elected by the student body.

Elections are announced by notices and flyers about two months before the start. As a rule, the official announcements ("bulletin board") of your Faculty administration contain the election details. Furthermore, the elections are published on the websites of the Student council and election committees. Here you will find details of how to submit a candidature

and with which forms. The deadlines are exclusion periods and will only be extended in exceptional cases (if there are too few candidatures) for a few days.

Registered PhD students are included in the committee elections as members of the status group of academic staff and may only stand for the so-called “major elections” held every two years. It is different for elections to the Student council. According to their regulations, enrolled PhD students are part of the student body and may elect the Student council annually. This also applies to the passive right to vote.

Details of elections can be found under

- Committee elections: <http://www.uni-bremen.de/gremienwahlen.html>
- Student Council: <https://sr.uni-bremen.de/wiki/Hauptseite>

### Announcement of election results

The counting of votes usually takes place on the Friday of the respective election week. The counting takes place separately after Student Council and the committee elections. The Student council counts a second time on the following Sunday. Both counts are open to the University public. You as a student are allowed to watch. The announcement of election results then takes place asap on the homepages of the Student council and the committee elections.

### Term of office

The term of office is one year for student representatives. Re-election is permissible. The members of all other status groups of the University are elected for two years. Therefore, when it comes to committee elections, we also talk about the “big” and “small” elections. The "big" elections take place every two years; then all the status groups vote. The “small” elections in which only students can vote take place the following year.

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