

# SPRING ELECTIONS 2024

## Frequently Asked Questions

*Every year, students elect over 20 Student Representatives to represent all 18,500+ students at Stirling in the next academic year to the University and beyond. From part-time Volunteer Officers in each of the Zones to four, full-time, paid Sabbatical Officers.*

### What's a Sabbatical Officer?

Sabbatical Officers provide the overall leadership of the Union and achieve political, social and educational change that will have a lasting impact on the student experience at the University of Stirling.

The core Sabbatical Officer team consists of four positions – [Union President](#), [Sports Union President](#), [Vice President Education](#), and [Vice President Communities](#). These full-time, paid officers, work together and independently on campaigns, projects and represent the student voice at Stirling.

### What does a Sabbatical Officer do?

Sabbatical Officers consult with the student body to represent their interests appropriately and maintain close links with the local and national community. Sabbatical Officers deliver change projects and campaigns based on their manifesto, examples of which include the Community Food Initiative and the Personal Tutor Review.

### Are Sabbatical Officers paid?

The Sabbatical Officer role is a fixed-term 12-month role, based in Stirling, with an annual salary of £21,840 (28 days holiday, including public holidays). Sabbatical Officers will be working around 35 hours a week, with some weekend and evening work, depending on the needs of the role and priorities for the year.

### What's a Volunteer Officer?

Volunteer Officers sit on the Union's Executive Council, alongside the Sabbatical Officers, representing and championing the rights and views of all students. The Volunteer Officer roles are designed to be flexible and fit around your studies, with all core responsibilities taking no more than 10 voluntary hours a month. Volunteer Officers are supported in delivering a campaign or project to enhance the student experience relating to a specific remit.

### What's an NUS Delegate?

NUS Delegates will represent the views of Stirling Students at a National level. Every year, the National Union of Students (NUS) bring together conferences of student representatives to decide which campaigns and policy work NUS should take forward. The conference also elects student members to lead this work for the coming year.

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## What roles being Elected in the Spring Election?

During the Spring Election 2024, the following positions will be elected:

- Union President
- Sports President
- Vice President Communities
- Vice President Education
- Alternative Pathways Volunteer Officer
- Arts Volunteer Officer
- Care Experienced Students Volunteer Officer
- Co-Curricular Volunteer Officer
- Engagement Volunteer Officer
- Health and Wellbeing Volunteer Officer
- Housing Volunteer Officer
- International Volunteer Officer
- Mature Students Volunteer Officer
- Media Volunteer Officer
- Parents and Carers Volunteer Officer
- Sports Union Communications Volunteer Officer
- Sports Union Participation and Engagement Volunteer Officer
- Sustainability Volunteer Officer

There are also four Equality Zone Volunteer Officer positions which will be elected at the Equality Zone on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2024.

- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Volunteer Officer
- Disabled Students' Volunteer Officer
- LGBTQ+ Volunteer Officer
- Women's Volunteer Officer

## What roles am I eligible to stand for in the Spring Elections?

For Sabbatical Officer positions, any matriculated University of Stirling student can stand in the Union Elections, whether you are in the middle of your studies or due to graduate in June 2024. If you are a mid-studies Undergraduate, if elected you will need to arrange to take a year-long leave of absence from your studies from June 2024 and return to your degree in June 2025. If you are a Postgraduate Taught student, we can support the conclusion of your programme alongside your elected role.

For Volunteer Officer positions, you need to be a University of Stirling student at the time of the Union Elections, and into next academic year 2024/25.

## Can I stand for more than one role?

You can only stand for one position at a time during the Spring Elections.

## Which role is best for me?

You can find out more information about all the specific roles and remits within the role descriptions [here](#). We also offer a one-to-one drop-in service, where you can meet with one



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of our current Sabbatical Officers or a member of staff to speak about a particular role. You can book a drop-in meeting via our [online booking system here](#).

## How do I put myself forward?

You can submit your nomination online through the [Student Union Website](#) until **10:00 am on 12th February 2024**. You need to nominate yourself for a specific role in the Elections Portal online and sign the Officer Code of Conduct form.

## Do I need seconders?

No, due to Election Regulations passed at a General Meeting in 2022/23, students do not need seconders to nominate themselves in the Student Union Elections.