



FALL 2026 FIRST-YEAR ELECTIONS

Advisory Opinion 2026-001

Issued: August 30, 2026

“FILING DEADLINE & PENALTY”

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, & CONCERNS SHALL BE DIRECTED TO ESB@AUSTIN.UTEXAS.EDU
SUSPECTED ELECTION VIOLATION? **REPORT IT [HERE](#).**

The 2026 FYE Election Supervisory Board (ESB) is authoring Advisory Opinion **AO 2026-001**.

WHEREAS, The University of Texas at Austin, Student Government Constitution, authorizes the Election Supervisory Board to oversee and decide on cases for First-Year Elections (FYE). This power is vested in the ESB per The **UT Austin Student Government Constitution §6.7**:

“The Election Supervisory Board shall oversee the annual fall first year student elections of the first-year representatives.”

WHEREAS, **The University of Texas at Austin Student Government Constitution, Article I – Membership and Structure**, states:

“All students enrolled at the university, as recorded by the Office of the Registrar are members of and shall be eligible to participate in Student Government” (§1.2).

“All students not on scholastic or disciplinary probation, as so regarded by the Office of the Registrar, shall be eligible to campaign for and hold elective office within Student Government” (§1.3).

WHEREAS, **The University of Texas at Austin Student Government Constitution, Article IV – Elections**, clarifies who is eligible to be elected and vote in the election for First-Year Representative stating:

“Elections for the two representatives by and from the incoming class of undergraduate students shall be held on one weekday during the third full week of September.”

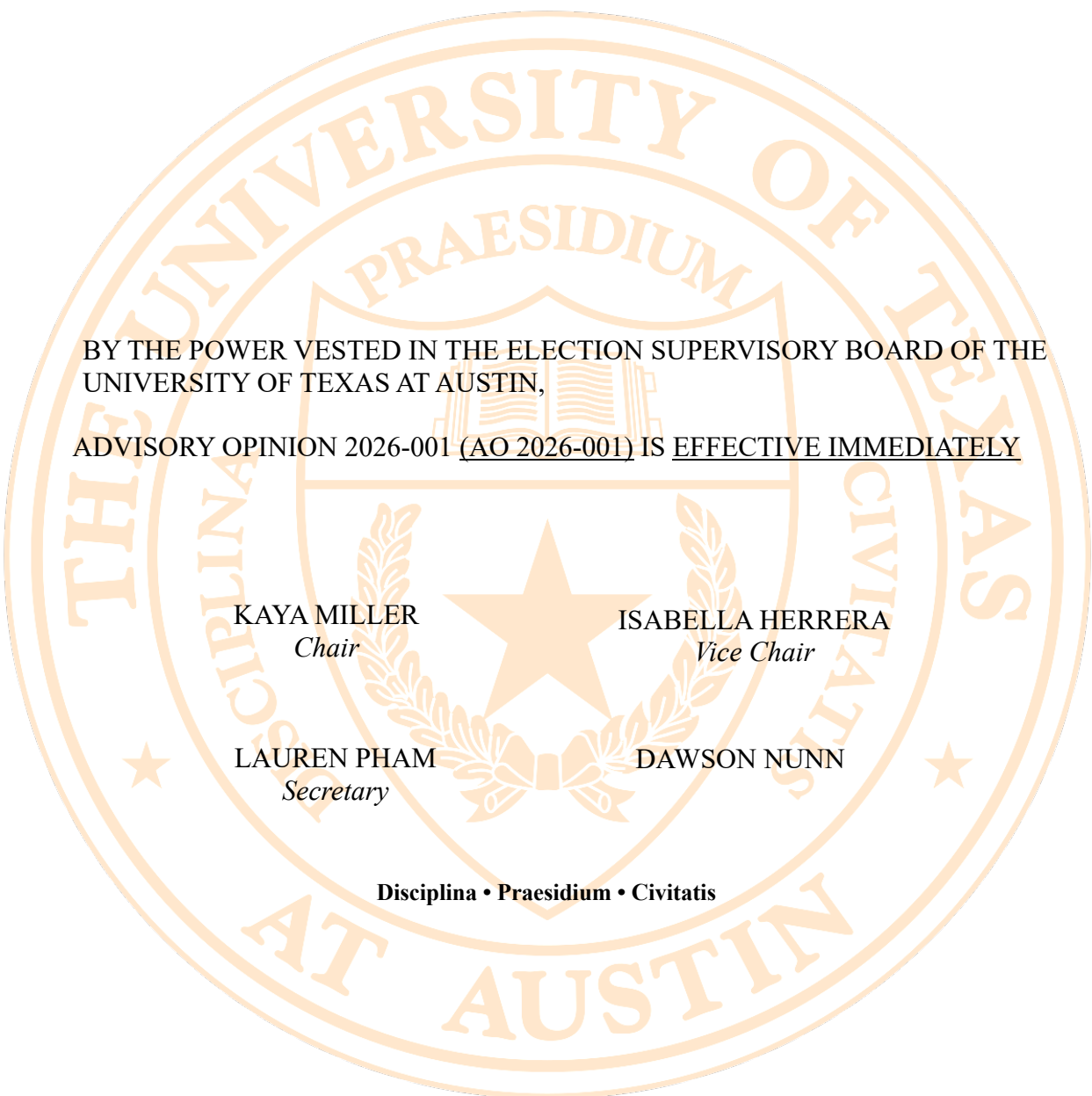
WHEREAS, with regards to the filing deadline for First-Year Elections, per **The University of Texas at Austin Student Government Constitution, §6.4** states:

“Filing shall begin the day before the first full day of classes of the fall semester and last for three (3) full weeks.”

ESB interprets “the day before the first full day of classes” to mean the first business day before classes begin. That means that this year, filing will **begin at 9 AM CST on August 21st and end on September 14th at 9 AM CST**. Anyone who wishes to become a candidate for First Year Representative must complete the filing process by that time.

For example: John Smith starts the online form to file for the First Year Elections two minutes before the deadline (8:58) and finishes the filing process three minutes later (9:01). John Smith was one minute late to complete filing and is ineligible from running in the Fall 2026 First Year Elections.

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The seal of the University of Texas at Austin is a large, circular emblem in the background. It features the words "THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS" around the top and "AT AUSTIN" around the bottom. In the center is a shield with a five-pointed star, flanked by two olive branches. Above the shield is a banner with the word "PRAESIDIUM".

BY THE POWER VESTED IN THE ELECTION SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN,

ADVISORY OPINION 2026-001 (AO 2026-001) IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

KAYA MILLER
Chair

ISABELLA HERRERA
Vice Chair

LAUREN PHAM
Secretary

DAWSON NUNN

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