

The Open University of Sri Lanka

Faculty Students Union Elections 2023/2024

In accordance with the Students Union By-Laws No. 3 of 2015, amended on 20th March 2016, the Council of the Open University of Sri Lanka at its 506th Meeting held on 22.12.2023 has decided to **re-call Nominations** for the **Faculties of Natural Sciences, Engineering Technology, Health Sciences and Management Studies** to set up Faculty Students Unions. Accordingly, it is hereby announced that Elections for the aforesaid Faculty Student Unions will be held in the months of January and February 2024.

In accordance with the same By-Laws, aforesaid each Faculty Students Union shall consist of fifteen (15) members elected by ballot and two (02) faculty board representatives elected separately by ballot. Of the fifteen (15) members elected for Student Unions a minimum of four (04) members shall be females.

The number of representatives that may be elected to each Faculty Students Union from individual Regional Centres are as shown below.

Regional Centre with clustered Study Centres	Faculty Student Union			
	Engineering Technology	Health Sciences	Management Studies	Natural Sciences
Colombo with Gampaha & Kalutara	6	4	5	5
Kandy with Hatton, Matale	2	3	3	3
Matara with Galle, Ambalangoda & Ambalanthota	1	2	1	1
Batticaloa with Ampara & Trincomalee	1	1	1	1
Jaffna with Kilinochchi, Vavunia, Mannar & Mullaitivu	1	1	1	1
Anuradhapura with Polonnaruwa	1	1	1	1
Kurunegala with Puttalam & Nattandiya	1	1	1	1
Badulla with Bandarawela & Monaragala	1	1	1	1
Ratnapura with Kegalle	1	1	1	1
Faculty Board Representatives	2	2	2	2
Total	17	17	17	17

Nominations for the aforesaid Faculty Students Unions and student representatives to the aforesaid Faculty Boards are hereby called. Nomination papers are to be prepared according to the first schedule of the same By-laws. The students are required to **submit duly filled Nomination forms** online from **27th January 2024 to 01st February 2024 together with the Affidavit as required by By-Law.** The nomination forms for the Faculty Students Union and Student Representatives to the Faculty Boards can be accessed through the URLs given below.

URL for Nomination Form for Faculty Students Unions:

<https://www.ou.ac.lk/apps/downloads/downloadfile/img-Y26024731.pdf>

URL for Nomination Form Faculty Board Representatives:

<https://www.ou.ac.lk/apps/downloads/downloadfile/img-Y26024624.pdf>

Submission of Nominations:

The nomination must be submitted to the form in the link will be available on the OUSL Website, OUSL Student Union page and My OUSL Notices on 27th January 2024.

Eligibility to stand for election (According to the By-Law No.3 of 2015, amended on 20th March 2016 and the decisions taken by the Council of the Open University of Sri Lanka at its 459th meeting held on 30.08.2019)

To be eligible for nomination to be elected as a member of a Faculty Students Union or as a Student Representative to a Faculty Board, a candidate should,

- (i) have completed 20 credits or 1/3rd of the programme of study for which he/she is currently registered, whichever is less
and
- (ii) have registered for at least 15 credits in such a programme of study in the academic year in which he/she is standing for election as a member of a Faculty Student Union or as a Student Representative to a Faculty Board. Provided however, that where a candidate is in the final year of the programme of study and has less than 15 credits left to complete such programme of study he/she shall register for all the remaining credits required to complete such programme of study.

A student who is under suspension shall not be eligible to stand for election to a Faculty Student Union or as a Student Representative to a Faculty Board.

Submission of an affidavit with the nomination paper

At the time of submitting a nomination, each applicant should submit an affidavit with his/her nomination paper, stating that he/she has not been previously elected as a member of the Faculty Students Union and/or Student Representative to the Faculty Boards for more than two terms.

A student, irrespective of the number of programmes of study that he/she is registered for, who has previously been elected;

- (i) to any Faculty Student Union of the Open University in two Students Union years, not necessarily consecutive, or
- (ii) as a Student Representative to the Faculty Board of any Faculty in the Open University in two Student Union years, not necessarily consecutive, or
- (iii) once to any Faculty Student Union of the Open University and once as a Student Representative to the Faculty Board of any Faculty in the Open University in two Student Union years, not necessarily consecutive,

shall not be eligible to be nominated for election to any Faculty Student Union or as a Student Representative to the Faculty Board of any Faculty.

A candidate who has been nominated for election as a Student Representative to the Faculty Board of any Faculty shall not in the same Student Union year be nominated for election to any Faculty Students Union. A candidate who has been nominated for election to any Faculty Student Union shall not in the same Student Union year be nominated for election as a Student Representative to the Faculty Board of any Faculty.

Any question as to whether a candidate is eligible to seek election or not shall be decided by the Election Officer. Any candidate aggrieved by such a decision may appeal against such decision to the Principal Executive Officer of the University within 48 hours of such decision being conveyed to him/her. The decision of the Principal Executive Officer on such an appeal shall be final and conclusive.

The election will be conducted online for nine (09) consecutive days from 24th February 2024 to 03rd March 2024 [including both days] The students should cast their online vote at any Regional Centre of the Open University of Sri Lanka.

Eligibility to vote

For the purpose of electing the members of a Faculty Students Union and the Student Representatives to the Faculty Board, the registered students of each Faculty of the University shall form a constituency. 'A registered student' for the same By-law means a student registered in a programme of study in Levels 3 to 6. It shall also include those students who have sat for the final examination of a Level and are awaiting release of results. It shall not include students following pre-degree programmes, postgraduate programmes, continuing education courses and stand-alone courses.

To be eligible to vote at an election of members of a Faculty Student Union and the Student Representatives to a Faculty Board, a student shall have registered in a programme of study in Levels 3 or above for a minimum of **8** credits. A student who

- (a) has failed to renew his/her registration prior to the date of announcement of an election,
or
- (b) is under suspension and shall not be eligible to vote at such election.

Any question as to whether a student is eligible to vote or not shall be decided by the Election Officer. Any student aggrieved by such a decision may appeal against such decision to the Principal Executive Officer of the University within 48 hours of such decision being conveyed to him/her. The decision of the Principal Executive Officer on such an appeal shall be final and conclusive.

A student, irrespective of the number of programmes of study that he/she is registered for, shall not be entitled to cast more than one vote at an election. Such vote shall be cast for the members of the Faculty Students Union and the Student Representatives to the Faculty Board in the same Faculty.

Copies of student By-Laws No.3 of 2015, amended on March 20, 2016, is available on the OUSL website as well as in all centre libraries in English, Sinhala, and Tamil languages. All the registered students are requested to refer to this By-Law before submitting nominations or voting.

I expect the fullest cooperation of all the registered students for a fair and peaceful election.

Prof. P.M.C. Thilakarathna

Vice-Chancellor

12th January 2024