

Notice of 2026 UNSW Council Staff and Students elections and invitation to self-nominate:

What is the role of the UNSW Council?

As the governing authority of the University, the Council has a number of important functions, including the following:

- overseeing the performance of the University and its academic activities;
- approving the University's mission, strategic direction, annual budget, and business plan; and
- overseeing risk management and systems of control and accountability for the University.

What does the role of a Council member involve?

The role of a Council member is analogous to that of a board director in a company. Members consider and make decisions on matters for which the Council is responsible.

In carrying out their functions, each Council member is subject to statutory duties requiring them to:

- act in the best interests of the University as a whole; exercise care and diligence; and not improperly use their position or information acquired;
- attend Council meetings (under the University's Act, a Council member who misses three consecutive meetings after being given reasonable notice and without being excused by the Council ceases to be a member of the Council); and
- serve as a member of Council committees or working parties to which they are appointed by Council.

The specific duties of Council members are set out in Schedule 2A of the [University of New South Wales Act 1989](#).

Further information on the Council is available at <https://www.unsw.edu.au/governance/council-committees>

What positions are available for staff?

- 2 academic staff members
- 1 professional (non-academic) staff member

What positions are available for students?

- 1 undergraduate student
- 1 postgraduate student

What is the term of office?

2 years, from **1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028**

When do self-nominations open?

9am on Wednesday 18 March 2026

When do self-nominations close?

4pm on Wednesday 1 April 2026

How do I know if I am eligible to stand for election and vote?

You are eligible to nominate as a candidate for a position and eligible to vote in any ballot for that position if you meet the following criteria:

All candidates

You are a fit and proper person for the purposes of the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011* (Cth). If you answer 'yes' to any question in the [declaration](#), you must provide additional information as directed in the declaration for your nomination to be considered.

Academic and professional (non-academic) staff:

You are either an academic staff member or a professional (non-academic) staff member of the University who is employed at 0.5FTE or greater.

Undergraduate students:

You are enrolled as a student of the University proceeding towards a bachelor's degree or a non-graduate diploma.

Postgraduate students:

You are enrolled as a student of the University proceeding towards a graduate diploma or graduate certificate, or a degree other than a bachelor's degree.

To be eligible as a candidate for the student positions, you must **not** be employed as an academic or professional staff member of the University at 0.5 FTE or greater.

How do I self-nominate?

Self-nominations must be made via BigPulse, UNSW's online election provider. If you have not received an email from BigPulse by Wednesday 18 March 2026, please contact elections@unsw.edu.au.

Self-nominations must be lodged with BigPulse **before 4pm on Wednesday 1 April 2026**.

What happens next?

For any positions where there are more self-nominations than positions available, online voting will be conducted from **9am on Monday 13 April 2026 to 4pm on Monday 20 April 2026**.

Who do I contact if I have any questions?

The Elections Office via email elections@unsw.edu.au.

2026 TIMETABLE FOR ELECTION OF STAFF AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNSW COUNCIL

UNSW COUNCIL – STAFF AND STUDENT ELECTIONS	
Self-nominations open	9am, Wednesday 18 March 2026
Self-nominations close	4pm, Wednesday 1 April 2026
Online voting opens (if required)	9am, Monday 13 April 2026
Online voting closes	4pm, Monday 20 April 2026
Results	As soon as practicable following the close of voting