

Information about the university elections

Last updated: May 2024

Note: This information sheet in English is intended as a guide for people with little or no knowledge of German. The information provided by the Electoral Office in German is authoritative and takes precedence in case of doubt.

1. Short facts about the university elections 2024

This year's university elections will be held from 10 am on 11 July 2024 to 10 am on 17 July 2024.

Students and enrolled doctoral candidates are eligible to vote in this election. They elect their representatives to the Senate and the Faculty Councils.

The deadline for submitting nominations is 3 pm on 13 June 2024.

The election is held online. During the voting period, you can use your UniAccount to vote at: <https://wahl.uni-freiburg.de/>.

The university elections are held in conjunction with the elections of the legally constituted student body (Student Council election).

2. Detailed information about the university elections

Legal basis

Along with the provisions of the Act on the Higher Education Institutions in the Land of Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgesetz, LHG) and the Constitution of the University of Freiburg, the [Election Regulations \(Wahlordnung, Wahlo\)](#) [DE] form the central legal basis for the university elections.

Election of the Senate and the Faculty Councils

The Senate and the Faculty Councils or Grand Faculty Councils are made up of ex officio members and elected members. The elected members of these committees are determined through university elections. Elections are held separately according to member group (university teachers, academic staff, students, enrolled doctoral candidates, administrative and technical staff).

The term of office usually begins on 1 October. Members of the student and the doctoral candidate groups are elected to a one-year term; all other elected members serve a four-year term.

Eligibility of doctoral candidates

The eligibility of doctoral candidates to vote is tied to enrolment. Only those doctoral candidates who are enrolled at the electoral deadline (2 May 2024) will be eligible to vote as part of this group. Anyone who is not yet enrolled, but is interested in voting or being elected as part of this group should enrol as soon as possible.

Submission of nominations

The university elections are tied to accepted nominations. It is not possible to write in names. This also means that in order for an election to take place, there must be candidates standing for election and accepted nominations. In the absence of valid nominations for the election to a Faculty Council or to the Senate, no election will take place and the seats will remain vacant. To ensure that all member groups are represented in the governing bodies, nominations are requested.

Nominations must be submitted using the nomination forms, which are available on the [election platform](#) [DE].

Nominations should be submitted to the Election Supervisor at the Electoral Office, Friedrichstraße 39 (Rectorate building), Room 05024, 79085 Freiburg. Nominations must be submitted in person or by post. Email submission is not possible. If you wish to submit a nomination in person, please make an appointment in advance (wahlamt@zv.uni-freiburg.de). If you submit a nomination by post, be sure to fill in the nomination forms provided especially carefully and completely. Incomplete information may lead to the rejection of the nomination. Nominations must be personally signed by all candidates and supporters.

Equal representation in nominations

According to Section 10, Paragraph 2, Sentence 2 of the Act on the Higher Education Institutions in the Land of Baden-Württemberg (LHG), women and men should be given equal consideration when determining the composition of a governing body. In this context, Section 10, Paragraph 7 of our Election Regulations (WahlO) applies to elections to the Senate: If a nomination is submitted for the election of members of the Senate that does not include an equal number of male and female candidates, the lack of equal representation must be justified in writing. A nomination is considered to have equal representation if it includes an equal number of male and female candidates. If there is an odd number of candidates, the nomination is considered to have equal representation if the difference between the number of women and the number of men is no more than one. Persons whose gender is specified as non-binary are not included in the calculation of equal representation. The Election Supervisor will publish any justifications on the homepage of the University of Freiburg. Nominations that do not have equal representation and for which no justification pursuant to Section 10, Paragraph 7, Sentence 2 of the Election Regulations (WahlO) is submitted by the deadline specified in Section 10, Paragraph 10 WahlO will be rejected (Section 11, Paragraph 1 WahlO).

Please note: For information on the form and content as well as the deadlines for submitting nominations, please refer to the official announcement of the election and the Election Regulations (both available on the [election platform](#) [DE]).

Election advertising

For the university elections, representatives of accepted nominations (lists) for the Senate and the Faculty Councils or Grand Faculty Councils are permitted to advertise using posters in the period from midnight on 1 July 2024 until 11 am on 11 July 2024 (exclusively). The posters – including any adhesive strips – must therefore be removed by 11:00 am on 11 July at the latest. Any contributions or actions as part of election advertising must observe the rules of fair play.

The representatives of accepted nominations are themselves responsible for the content of the posters and other election advertising.

Online elections

The university elections are held online. During the voting period, eligible voters can log in to the election portal at wahl.uni-freiburg.de using their UniAccount and cast their vote electronically.

It is not possible to vote in person (ballot box voting) or by post (postal voting).

Eligible voters cast their votes in such a way that they mark their electronic ballot for the respective election personally and unobserved. Please ensure that your end device is protected against third-party interference during the voting process. The use of virus protection programmes in particular is an important security measure.

Election results

The counting of votes and the determination of the election results will occur after the end of the voting period and will be open to the university public. The exact time and place where the results will be determined will be publicized with the announcement of the nominations.

The election results will be announced on the election platform and in the university's Official Announcements (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen).

Further information is available in German on the election platform at <https://uni-freiburg.de/zuv/service/wahlplattform/universitaetswahlen/>.

Electoral Office

Central University Administration (Rectorate building), Friedrichstraße 39, 79085, 5th floor, Room 05 024

Contact hours usually Mon–Thu 09:00 am–3:30 pm, Fri 09:00 am–12:00 pm or by arrangement.

Please make an appointment in advance.

Phone: +49 (0) 761 203-4850 or +49 (0) 761 203-4851.

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