



DEADLINE TO APPLY: 5 P.M., MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022

Being selected to represent Florida State University on Homecoming Court is considered one of the highest honors for FSU students. We are looking for current FSU students who best represent the diversity and richness of the Seminole experience and who will serve as phenomenal role models and Seminole ambassadors for the entire duration of the 2022-23 academic year.

This year, 12 students will be chosen to represent Florida State University as members of the Homecoming Court. These individuals are selected by a judging panel consisting of staff, faculty, and exceptional student leaders. The Court members are chosen based on their ability to exemplify the qualities of leadership, dedication, spirit, and achievement through their academic success, contributions, and involvement at Florida State University. Additionally, Court members are expected to serve as role models, maintain a positive attitude, and act graciously and ethically during all official functions.

HOMECOMING COURT REQUIREMENTS

- Must have a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative GPA as of July 31, 2022.
- Must have completed or registered to complete at least 90 credit hours
- For graduate students, completed or registered to complete at least 18 credit hours.
- Must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credit hours for the Fall 2022 Semester
- Attended FSU for at least one academic year

PROCESS

An Initial Selection Committee will review all applicants that meet the minimum requirements. The top 15 applicants for both Homecoming Chief and Princess who will be invited for virtual interviews. * These virtual interviews will be recorded. If you cannot obtain business professional clothing, please make this known before the virtual interview starts. These virtual interviews will be reviewed by the final selection committee and the top 6 applicants for both Homecoming Chief and Princess will be elected to Homecoming Court. In the event of a tie, scores from the application will be used as a tiebreaker. All applicants will have their GPA and university conduct verified to ensure that Court members exemplify the best of FSU.

*Business Professional attire is expected for those invited to interview. For information on how to obtain business professional clothing for the interview step and beyond, visit <https://career.fsu.edu/ClothingCloset> for information on the Professionale Clothing Closet.

SELECTION

The Selection Committee strives to select FSU Faculty, Staff, and Student Leaders who are good judges of FSU student academic achievement, campus involvement and representation for the University. While students may be familiar to some judges, we ask that judges treat each applicant on their own merit as a representative of FSU.

Judges will score applicants in four main categories for all parts of the selection process.

1. Contributions to campus life
 - a) Quality involvement in student organizations
 - b) Participations in activities that enhance FSU
 - c) Commitment to the FSU community
 - d) Service to the FSU and communities
2. Strength of application
 - a) Your overall impression of the applicant and totality of the application
3. Overall good ambassador for FSU
 - a) Demonstrate through application and interview a genuine affinity and pride for FSU
 - b) Willing to contribute their time to improve campus life
 - c) Knowledge of FSU traditions and history
4. Authenticity
 - a) Professional manner, respect, and timeliness.

OBLIGATIONS

The members of the FSU Homecoming Court will serve as Seminole ambassadors at numerous university and community functions. Some of these dates may include attending:

- Regional FSU Alumni Association events prior to, or after, Homecoming week.
- Homecoming Parade
- Alumni Awards Gala
- Homecoming Live
- October 1 football game
- Other media activities and/or appearances

Professional attire will be required for some appearances. Homecoming Court members are also expected to attend all training and orientations.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Application window: July 1 – August 1 at 5:00 p.m.
 - Deadline to submit application: August 1 at 5:00 p.m.
 - Homecoming Court Interest Meeting: July 14 at 6:00 p.m. *
 - Resume review with FSU career center: July 21 at 4:00 p.m. **
 - Court initial screenings with university conduct and registrar's office: August 1 – 12
 - Virtual interviews with Homecoming Court candidates: August 12 – 26
 - Homecoming Court is announced: August 26
 - Homecoming Court headshots: August 31
 - Homecoming Chief and Princess voting day: September 28 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 - Parade Day, Chief and Princess announced at Homecoming Live: September 30
 - Homecoming football game: October 1
- * Attendance for the interest meeting is not mandatory, but highly encouraged. Applicants may send a representative to the meeting in their place to obtain information. Register for link can be found here:
<https://fsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMIceutrZ4pGtMc45Tb7QZfVs9us9hkEwrS>
- ** Attendance for the resume review is not mandatory, but highly encouraged. Zoom link can be found here: <https://fsu.zoom.us/j/99949271850>

Please note: This is not an all-inclusive list of the important dates that the Homecoming Court will be invited and/or expected to attend. Any additional dates will be shared with the Court as soon as they are finalized.

BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER OF HOMECOMING COURT

Members of the FSU Homecoming Court represent not only Florida State University but what it means to embody the Seminole spirit. Becoming a member of the FSU Homecoming Court allows you to network with students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and the FSU community. Serving on the Homecoming court is a perfect opportunity to uphold a longstanding FSU tradition, give back to your university, and represent the richness and diversity of the student body. The memories you will make as a member of the court are those that will last a lifetime.

DEADLINE

All application materials are to be submitted by 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 1, 2022. **Late applications will not be considered.** The following is needed to complete your application:

- Completing the online application at <https://alumni.fsu.edu>
- Uploading the following documents <https://alumni.fsu.edu>
 1. A 1-2 page copy of your resume (if help is needed with resume preparation, visit <https://career.fsu.edu/students/resumes-and-cover-letters/careerdocs> for assistance).
 - Please be sure to specify dates of involvement and the extent of your participation.
 2. A letter of recommendation from a Florida State University faculty, staff, or student supervisor member. This letter of recommendation should include:
 - The length of time the person has known you and in what capacity.
 - Why the person believes you are an excellent representative of FSU.
 3. Your written response to the following questions (300-word maximum per question):
 - How have you contributed to enhancing FSU on and off campus?
 - What do you admire the most about the FSU community?
 - Embedded within the official FSU seal are three torches: Vires, Artes, and Mores. **Vires:** Strength of all kinds: physical, moral, and intellectual. **Artes:** Knowledge that we acquire: which transcends skills and embraces the appreciation of beauty. **Mores:** Customs; that build character and tradition. Of the three, which character trait do you most personify and why?
 - Which of your accomplishments at Florida State University are you most proud of and why? (Ex: study abroad, academic honors, awards, first generation student, Dean's List, or athletic achievements)
 - If you were to be selected to Homecoming Court, how would you leverage your position on Court to better the student experience at Florida State University?
 - How do you plan to contribute, or stay connected to Florida State University after your graduation?

Please note, all materials listed above must be completed and submitted by 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 1. **Late materials will not be considered.**

If you experience technological issues, please notify Kevin Costello (kjcostello@fsu.edu) before the deadline.

CAMPAIGN AND SELF PROMOTION POLICIES

This section details policies for campaigning and self-promotional activities. Campaigning is defined as the distribution of use of campaign materials, publicizing or soliciting support for against a candidate of Homecoming Court and calling forth the action to vote for support.

Social Media & Digital Platforms – Individual Posting

- Members of Homecoming Court may **not** create individual posts in support of the Homecoming Court. Members of the Homecoming Court may **only re-share posts created by the FSU SAA or FSU Homecoming social media accounts**.
- Any language included on these posts must be in support of the **entire Homecoming Court and** may not encourage readers to vote for one specific candidate.
- SAA will provide an individual headshot to each Homecoming Court member. This headshot can be used as your social media profile picture on all digital platforms including Zoom, GroupMe, etc. This headshot may not be used for social media posting and/or campaigning. This headshot may not be altered.
- SAA will post a Homecoming Court video and/or graphic highlighting all candidates. When re-sharing this video and/or graphic, it must be posted in its entirety. This video and/or graphics may not be altered to highlight one individual candidate.
- Academic spaces including Canvas, class GroupMe's, class Zooms, class email lists, and classroom time, will not be used for promoting Homecoming Court in any circumstances. Please respect your instructors and classmates by utilizing these resources for their intended purpose of academic use only.
- Creating custom social media images or altering provided social media images is prohibited.
- Private messaging in support of an individual candidate is prohibited. Messages should be in support of the entire Homecoming Court and/or be a suggestion to vote **in general**, rather than for a specific candidate.
- During the Homecoming Court process, candidates can continue to use their personal social media pages as usual. Posts not concerning Homecoming Court are permitted. However, members of the Homecoming Court are considered representatives of the FSU Alumni Association and should reflect the values of FSU. As such, social media posts must be clean and respectful. Posts that are vulgar, disrespectful, feature illegal activities, or are otherwise inappropriate may be subject to a policy violation at the discretion of the FSU Alumni Association in alignment with the Student Code of Conduct.

Social Media & Digital Platforms – Others Posting on Your Behalf

- Other individuals, organizations, departments, entities, etc., may **not** create individual posts in support of the Homecoming Court. Other individuals, organizations, etc., may **only re-share posts created by the FSU SAA or FSU Homecoming social media accounts**.
- Any language included on these posts must be in support of the **entire Homecoming Court and** may not encourage readers to vote for one specific candidate.

- Share these guidelines with any organizations, colleges, departments, etc., that may post on your behalf in support of your candidacy. Please ensure that they are aware that these policies must be followed for all social media and digital platform posts.
- SAA will do our part to inform RSOs, campus departments, and other entities of these social media guidelines. However, it is **your responsibility** to ensure those wishing to support you on social media follow these guidelines. Third party actions (actions of organizations, friends, etc.) can directly impact your candidacy.

Sample Post & Language for Organizations, Departments, etc.

- Posts: Posts must only be re-shared from the FSU SAA or FSU Homecoming social media accounts. Original content in support of Homecoming Court candidates is not permitted.
- Language: Post captions must support the **entire Homecoming Court**, not just the individual member/candidate. For example:
 - “Our member, Kevin, has been selected as a member of Homecoming Court! We are so proud of her. Remember to vote for Homecoming Chief & Princess on September 28!”
 - “College of Business student Madeleine Moore is a member of this year’s Homecoming Court! Congratulations, Madeleine. Make sure to support the Homecoming Court by voting on Wednesday, September 28th!”

Campaign Materials and Regalia

- SAA will provide a Homecoming Court sash and nametag to each member of the Homecoming Court. SAA will inform you of the specific events and places you are permitted to wear your sash and nametag.
- Below is a list of prohibited campaign materials. You may not create, distribute, or otherwise utilize the following materials unless pre-approved or provided by SAA.
 - Banner displays (including Greek houses)
 - Signs
 - Buttons
 - Chalk on sidewalks
 - Wall paintings on (College, Jefferson, Copeland, and Park)
 - Custom apparel
 - Hashtags (outside of the SAA provided hashtag)
 - Social media events/pages to campaign for one individual candidate

Voting Day

Voting for Homecoming Chief and Princess will take place on Wednesday, September 28th from 8 p.m. – 5 p.m. Voting Day can be a stressful but exciting day, and we want to make sure it runs as smoothly as possible!

- On Voting Day, you are welcome to wear your Homecoming Nametag to class and other activities.
- SAA will provide an opportunity for Homecoming Court to gather on Voting Day and promote voting to the student body. Details about this will be forthcoming.
- Any messaging/communication on Voting Day should be a suggestion to vote, **not** to vote for a specific candidate.
- Our objective on Voting Day is to ensure a large turnout and encourage as many students to vote as are able.

Violation Policies

This section details the process for reporting violations of the above policies, as well as the consequences when violations of these policies occur. These processes are in place to ensure an equitable experience for all members of the Homecoming Court. A violation is defined as any action that violates the policies listed above.

Reporting Violations

- All violations of the policies above **must be submitted via the Campaign Violations Qualtrics**, which SAA will provide and share a link to.
- Submissions to the Campaign Violations Qualtrics should be as detailed as possible and **must include digital proof of the violation**.
- It is the responsibility of the SAA Homecoming Team to evaluate and act on violations that are reported. The SAA Homecoming Team will not be constantly searching for violations. If you see something that you believe is a violation, **it is your responsibility to report it** via the Qualtrics form.

Consequences for Violations

- Policy violations will be handled on a three-strike system.
- The first violation counts as the first strike. The first strike will receive a written warning from the SAA Homecoming Team via email.
- The second violation counts as the second strike. The second strike will require a meeting with SAA Advisor, Kevin Costello, for a discussion of their candidacy and a review of the Homecoming Court Policies.
- The third violation counts as the third strike. If a candidate receives three strikes, the FSU Alumni Association and SAA Homecoming Team reserve the right to remove a candidate's name from the Homecoming Chief & Princess ballot and/or invalidate all votes submitted for that candidate.