



# Arizona

## STATE SENATE

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### Media Rules

The Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms administer media credentials to news organizations requiring on-site access to cover the Arizona State Senate.

Two types of passes are available. Members of the media can either apply for a one-day pass, or a permanent pass, which is valid for two (2) years, concurrent with the two (2) year term of the elected Senators.

1. Administration of the press areas shall be vested in the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms.
2. Media wanting access to the press areas of the Senate Chamber shall make application in accordance with Rules, Ethics and Decorum of the Arizona State Senate, subject to the direction and control of the President, and subject to review and approval by the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms.
3. The Senate Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms shall limit membership in the press areas to bona fide correspondents of repute in their profession, under such rules as the Senate shall prescribe.
4. An applicant for media credentials must fulfill certain criteria in writing that he or she is a full-time, paid correspondent who requires on-site access to Senators and staff. Correspondents must be employed by a news organization and fulfill the following criteria:
  - The applicant must demonstrate that they are employed by a principal business that is engaged in the regular dissemination of original news to a broad segment of the public.
  - The applicant must not be engaged in any lobbying or advocacy, advertising, publicity or promotion for any individual, political party, group, corporation, organization or a federal, state or local government agency, or in prosecuting any

claim before the Senate or any federal government department and will not do so while a credentialed member of the media.

- The applicant's publication must be both editorially independent of any institution, foundation or interest group that lobbies state government and also established principally as a general news organization.
- Media credential applications must include the name of the applicant, the news organization they are employed by, contact information (i.e. phone, email, address, etc.) and a digital photo of the person requesting the credential.
- Freelance and contract employees must apply for credentials through a sponsoring publication, broadcast outlet or website that meets the aforementioned rules. In addition to completing the online application, freelance employees, contract employees, interns and fellows must submit a letter of introduction on the publication's letterhead from their sponsoring publication's bureau chief or managing editor. There will be an exemption for established news reporters with a long history of Capitol reporting.
- The letter should:
  - Verify current employment status;
  - Justify the need for media credentials;
  - Guarantee that the applicant has read and will abide by the Senate Media Rules and Media Decorum;
  - Contain the original signature of the bureau chief or managing editor (no electronic signatures are accepted);
  - Include contact information for both the signatory and the correspondent.

5. Failure to provide information to the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms for this determination, or misrepresenting information, can result in the denial or revocation of credentials.

6. Each news organization is responsible for the conduct of their credentialed members of the media. Failure of an individual credentialed member of a news organization to abide by the Senate Media Rules and Media Decorum may result in the revocation of all credentials issued to that news organization.

7. The Senate Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms may issue credentials to school and university publications, broadcast outlets and websites. Student journalists of such organizations may apply for a permanent pass.

8. The Senate Sergeant-at-Arms and Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms reserve the right to request two (2) recent copies of the publication for review purposes. Additional information may also be required.

9. Members of the media applying for a one-day pass should fill out and submit the online application at least one (1) business day prior to date of the requested visit. Applicants will be notified via email if his or her application is approved. Failure to meet these requirements may result in denial of access to the Senate floor. In situations of breaking news, an exemption to this rule will be made.

10. Any media credential that does not have the current calendar year date will be deemed null and void.

11. Anyone who has been issued a media credential by the Senate and is found to be in violation of these policies will have their media credential revoked and will no longer be granted access to the Senate Chamber for a time period to be determined by the Senate.

12. All rules specified heretofore may be changed at any time without notice by the Senate.