

WFSE Biennial Convention
October 9 &10, 2021

RULES FOR THE NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Nomination for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be conducted and completed separately and in the exact sequence listed in this sentence. Nomination of officers shall be a Special Order of Business at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday of the convention.
2. The Chair of the Elections Committee shall call for nominations for each office and immediately after nominations are closed for each office, the Chair of the Elections Committee shall offer the opportunity to each nominee to decline the nomination.
3. All nominations shall be made from the floor during a general assembly of the delegates. No member shall be a nominee for more than one office. No one shall be entitled to nominate or participate in the election of a candidate for any of the offices designated in the above section unless they are an accredited delegate, or an accredited alternate upgraded to a delegate in the absence of a delegate from their Local.
4. Each delegate, when making a nomination, will identify themselves and their Local prior to making the nomination. Only one nomination and one second to the nomination shall be allowed per candidate. Nominating speeches shall not exceed two (2) minutes each and seconding speeches shall not exceed one (1) minute each.
5. If more than one candidate is nominated for an office, an election by secret ballot must be held. If only one candidate is nominated or all nominees decline except one, then no balloting will be required, and the Chair of the Elections Committee shall immediately declare said candidate to be duly elected by acclamation.
6. Any nominee who, subsequent to close of nominations, wishes to withdraw, may do so by announcement from the floor or by written communication addressed to the Council Secretary using the email: Convention2021@wfse.org no later than 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. The Council Secretary shall announce to the convention the receipt of such communication prior to the recess of the afternoon session on Saturday. If such withdrawal results in only one candidate remaining for the specific office, no balloting will be required, and the Chair of the Elections Committee shall immediately declare the remaining candidate elected by acclamation.
7. Any challenge concerning the eligibility of any nominee shall be filed in writing with the Chairperson of the Elections Committee prior to the noon recess on Saturday. The Elections Committee shall report on the eligibility of the nominee not later than 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.
8. Elections for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer may be conducted and completed concurrently. Should elections be required, a special order of business for election of officers shall begin at 6:30a.m. and end at 8:30a.m. prior to convention reconvening on Sunday.

Local Union delegates may cast their allotted number of votes at any time during which the polls are open.

9. Regardless of the number of delegates, locals shall be entitled to vote on the basis of one (1) vote for each member. Locals entitled to more than one delegate may send fewer than their quota of delegates and the delegates present may cast the entire vote of the local in all elections coming before the Convention.
 - a. The number of votes shall be divided equally among the registered delegates, with any remaining votes to be cast by the Chairperson of the delegation. No fractional votes shall be permitted. The number of votes to which a delegate is entitled will be determined following the final report of the credentials committee and will not be recalculated if a delegate fails to appear at the polls and vote for any reason.
10. Another delegate cannot cast an absent delegate's votes on an individual basis.
11. The membership of locals for the purpose of computing the number of delegates and votes to which each local is entitled at the biennial Convention shall be determined on the basis of their average monthly per capita tax payments to the Council for the twelve-month period ending ten full calendar months before the month of said scheduled meeting; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the membership of locals which affiliate after the beginning of the above-defined twelve-month period shall be determined on the basis of the average monthly per capita tax paid to the Council for the full period of their affiliation up to the month preceding that of the biennial Convention.
12. In the balloting for Council officers, each registered delegate shall vote separately.
 - a. Delegates shall have the opportunity to vote between 6:30a.m. and 8:30a.m. on Sunday.
 - b. The Elections Committee will issue via BallotPoint (secure election vendor approved by AFSCME) each delegate link to ballots for the offices being elected, and will contain the number of votes to which the delegate is entitled as determined by the Credentials Committee following the its final report. Votes to which a delegate is entitled shall not be recalculated after the final report of the Credentials Committee regardless of the number of delegates voting or not voting.
13. If a local delegation so desires, the Chairperson of their delegation may cast all the ballots for all of their registered delegates (block vote) by presenting to the Chairperson of the Elections Committee the proper authorization form signed by all registered delegates prior to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Block voting authorization must be for all offices being elected. The block vote form will be provided to the Chairperson of each Local upon registration. In the event of a runoff election, block vote requests will be available prior to the time of balloting. If a registered delegate cannot be present at the time of balloting for the runoff, they may give their authorization for block voting in advance by filling out the form provided by the Chairperson of the Elections Committee.
14. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to elect a candidate. When more than two candidates are nominated for a single office, and none of them receives a majority of all votes cast,

all candidates, except the two who receive the most votes, shall be dropped and a second ballot shall be cast.

15. The Chairperson(s) of the Elections Committee shall announce the results of the Election of Officers.
16. Any candidate shall have the right to have one (1) official observer of their own choosing (who must be a member of the WFSE and not a member of Elections Committee) present in videoconferencing rooms where BallotPoint presents the results. The observer shall be given and must wear an observer's badge. In addition, the following rules shall apply:
 - a. Candidates shall file via email to Convention2021@wfse.org with their choice of observer addressed to the Chair of the Elections Committee prior to 1:00p.m. of on Saturday.
 - b. On Election Day, designated Observers shall present themselves at the BallotPoint Election Room at 8:30a.m.
 - c. In the event an observer wishes to intervene, the observer shall raise their hand and assistance will be provided.
17. No campaigning, campaign signs, buttons, T-shirts or any and all other campaign material shall be allowed within the election room. Violations are cause for removal of Observer by Sgt. At Arms.
18. No pictures or videos will be allowed to be taken during elections/tabulation.
19. Any protest concerning the conduct of the election must be lodged during the final day of convention (Sunday) by filing such protest in writing with the President of Council 28, with a copy to Convention2021@wfse.org and the Elections Committee Chair, within ten days following the election. All interested parties shall be afforded the opportunity to be heard. The Executive Board of Council 28 may decide such protest or request AFSCME take jurisdiction to decide such protest not later than 30 days after the filing of the protest.