

Election Rules - 1511

In accordance with the Association's Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall establish policies governing the conduct of elections.

Candidate Eligibility

An Officer or Director candidate shall be a full-time K-12 or Education Service Provider Member at the time of election. Candidates shall have been a K-12 or Education Service Provider member of TASBO for the immediate three preceding years and hold a TASBO certification.

Effective January 1, 2022, candidates for Director shall have been a member of TASBO for the immediate five preceding years.

Employees of sponsors of the Association or the sponsor's parent organization who otherwise qualify for membership as an Education Service Provider are not eligible for a position on the Board of Directors.

Effective January 1, 2022, candidates for Director shall have attended three of the last five Annual Conferences prior to the filing deadline and shall meet one of the following additional requirements:

- Served as an Officer of a Committee;
- Served as an Officer of an Affiliate Chapter;
- Presented at TASBO Annual, Summer or Maintenance and Operations Conference;
- Presented at a TASBO workshop or academy;
- Presented two or more webinars for TASBO;
- Served as an instructor for a TASBO certification course; or,
- Written curriculum for a TASBO certification course.

Any member who has served one complete three-year elected term as a Director is eligible to be elected to the office of the Vice-President or President-Elect, provided they meet the rules of Candidate for Director.

Director and Officer candidates must comply with applicable rules and regulations as prescribed by the Board of Directors to be eligible for election.

Officers and Directors must maintain their certification and be an active K-12 or Education Service Provider during their term of office.

Leadership Development Committee

The Board of Directors shall establish a Leadership Development Committee to identify and mentor potential leaders of the Association. The committee shall be charged with providing training in the Association's policies and the responsibilities of Board members. The committee shall identify other opportunities for leadership development.

Beginning in 2023, candidates for the Board of Directors shall be required to adhere to guidelines established by the Board of Directors in conjunction with the Leadership Development Committee.

Term Limits

Individuals shall be limited to election to two full three-year terms as Director. Terms do not have to be consecutive. Individuals who have completed the term of Past President and who have only served one term as Director shall be eligible to run for a second Director term after a one-year break in service.

If a Director chooses to run for an Officer position prior to the end of their second term as Director, the Director position shall be declared vacant for the upcoming election.

In the event an elected Officer does not serve as President, that individual shall be eligible to run for Vice President for a subsequent term or they may choose to seek a second term as Director after a one-year break in service.

Notification of Intent to Run

An Officer or Director candidate must submit a written notification of intent to run for a position on the TASBO Board in a format provided by TASBO. The notification shall include a letter from the candidate's immediate supervisor indicating their support and approval of the time and effort required to be a Director or Officer of the Board of Directors.

The notification must reach TASBO no later than 5:00PM CST on December 1st of the calendar year preceding the election. If December 1st falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline shall be the following business day by 5:00PM CST.

After verification that the candidate meets the qualifications set forth in Article 9 of the Association's bylaws and this policy, the Executive Director shall notify the candidate of receipt of the intent to run for Board in writing. If disapproved because of a lack of/failure to meet qualifications, the notification will indicate the reasons.

Conducting the Election

Candidates shall be asked to respond to a series of questions coordinated by Association Staff which shall be used to create informational election materials, including videos or podcasts. The information furnished by the candidate, along with responses to written questions and interviews, will be publicized by the Association in a variety of formats including the Association's website, community forum, and publications.

Voting shall be electronic by TASBO official ballots with all officers and candidates on one ballot. Candidate order on the electronic ballot will randomly change each time a voter opens the ballot. Voters shall be allowed to cast a ballot for one officer position and for the number of open Director positions.

In 2022, the election of the Vice-President and Directors of the Association shall be held during the annual meeting of the Association. K-12, Education Service Provider, Life and Retired members in good standing who are registered for conference shall be permitted to vote.

Beginning in 2023, the Board shall designate a two-week voting period which ensures that voting is complete prior to the Annual Conference. The initial voting period shall be established no later than August 31, 2022. All K-12, Education Service Provider, Life and Retired members of the Association who are in good standing shall be permitted to vote.

No ballots will be counted until the official closing time for the election. The candidate(s) receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by drawing of lots.

The Executive Director will annually select three election judges from a list of past members of the Board of Directors. The election judges shall address any concerns brought forth by members regarding the election process.

The Board may declare each unopposed candidate elected to the office without the necessity of conducting an election. The Board may make this declaration upon receipt of certification from the Executive Director that the candidates are unopposed.

Those elected as Directors and Officers shall be installed prior to the conclusion of the Association's Annual Meeting.

Prohibited Activities

Dissemination of candidate information shall be provided solely by the Association in accordance with the election rules and regulations.

To ensure a fair election by restricting candidate information to the content submitted during the candidate application process and interviews conducted by Association staff members, the following activities are prohibited:

- The dissemination of campaign messaging in any format or communication channel, including but not limited to, signs, flyers, buttons, gadgets, email, web or social media;
- Visits to Affiliate chapters of the Association, other than the candidate's local Affiliate chapter, for the purpose of campaigning;
- Hospitality functions set up for the purpose of supporting a candidate for Director or Officer;
- Campaign speeches except for the interviews of candidates arranged by Association staff.

Violation of the election rules may disqualify candidates. Candidates are expected to adhere to the spirit of the rules and encourage supporters to honor them as well. Wide scale abuse of the election rules by supporters, even without a candidate's knowledge or permission, could be grounds for disqualification.

In the event of a complaint regarding a candidate's behavior, the Board shall follow the grievance procedures outlined in the Association's bylaws.

Process for Filling Officer and Director Vacancies

If there is a vacancy in the position of President, the President-Elect will move to the position of President. If the President-Elect position is also vacant; the Vice-President would move to the position of President.

If there is a vacancy in the position of President-Elect, the Vice-President would move to the position of President-Elect.

If there is a vacancy in both the President-Elect and Vice-President positions, qualifying candidates may file necessary documents to run for an officer's position. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to fill these positions, i.e., the candidate with the most votes will be named as President-Elect and the candidate with the second highest number of votes will be named Vice-President. In the event of a tie vote, the winner will be determined by drawing lots.

If a President resigns or is unable to complete their term of office, the President-Elect shall be appointed as President and the President-Elect position shall remain vacant for the remainder of the unexpired term.

A President-Elect appointed to fill a vacated Presidency will serve to fill the unexpired term of the vacated office and complete the full term of their elected President position.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President, the Board shall leave the office vacant until the next annual conference at which time the office shall be filled by an election.

If a vacancy occurs in a Director position during the last year of the Director's term, the position shall remain vacant. If more than one year is remaining on the Director's term, the position shall be filled during the next regular election or by appointment by the remaining members of the Board. If the position is filled by election, the three individuals, who received the highest number of votes for the Director positions, shall each be seated for a full three-year term. The next individual in the election results shall be awarded the partial Director term resulting from the vacancy.

Amended 12.03.2021