IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
FOR THE
ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE 2019 NEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

www.nea.org/delegaterequirements

Please keep in mind the following points as you plan elections for NEA delegate positions.

• Nominations and voting for NEA delegate must be open to all NEA members regardless of whether they are members of a state or local association. NEA Life members—and any other NEA members who may not be members of the state association—must be given an opportunity to nominate and vote for candidates for NEA delegate.
(See Requirements, Section II.B.)

• Voting for NEA delegate must be conducted by secret ballot, except in situations where the number of candidates equals or is less than the number of positions to be filled. Where the number of candidates equals or is less than the number of positions, the election may be declared by acclamation.
(See Requirements, Section II.K.)

• Voting must take place separately for each NEA delegate position. Slate voting where, for example, certain nominees are presented as a unit or a block as the “endorsed slate” of candidates for NEA delegate is not permitted.
(See Requirements, Section II.L.)

• Individuals responsible for conducting delegate elections must allow for the presence of observers representing the candidates.
(See Requirements, Section II.S.)

• An officer of a local association cannot serve automatically as a delegate to the Representative Assembly (RA):
  o unless, in the election of such local officers, the ballot states that the successful candidates will serve in both positions;
  o unless such officers have been elected by the membership “at large” and not by a delegate assembly or any smaller elected body;
  o if the election as an association officer and NEA delegate exceeds the three-year limitation on NEA delegate terms (i.e., no one NEA delegate term can be longer than three (3) years).
This policy also applies to all state association officers except for state presidents.
(See Requirements, Section II.G.)
The election and reporting of successor delegates, in addition to delegates, is very important. The following points should help to minimize the number of individuals who are required to present proof of election status at the RA.

- Local and state associations should be sure to elect and report a sufficient number of successor delegates.
  
  o There is no limit to the number of successor delegates that may be elected. Locals are encouraged to elect as many successor delegates as possible.
  
  o When election results are forwarded to your state association's convention coordinator, list the names of all successful and unsuccessful candidates whose names appeared on the ballot, including any write-ins—i.e., list respectively as delegate or successor delegate.
  
  o Unsuccessful candidates for delegate election are, by definition, successor delegates for purposes of replacing a delegate to the RA.

  (See Requirements, Section II.Q.)

- Delegates cannot be appointed; they must be elected at large by the membership. In the event that none of the individuals elected to serve as delegate or successor delegate are able to attend the RA, the local must again hold an election with open nominations, and conducted by secret ballot, unless the number of candidates equals or is less than the number of positions to be filled. In this situation, the election may be waived and the candidates declared elected.

  (See Requirements, Section II.K.)