

NASW NATIONAL NOMINATION & ELECTION PROCESSES

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1. Who is eligible to be considered for a national elective leadership position?**
 - Regular members in good standing, i.e., active membership and no pending sanctions.
 - Student members enrolled in CSWE-accredited programs and who, if elected, would have at least a year to complete their BSW/MSW program when they take office.
- 2. Who is ineligible to be considered for a national elective leadership position?**
 - Members in the Associate Member category.
 - Members who are full, part-time, or contractual NASW staff.
 - Members who served as NASW staff and who, if elected, would have less than two (2) years of separation from the Association as of the date they are slated.
 - Members who are subject to a potential conflict of interest, for example, leaders of other organizations whose policies may conflict with NASW policies and whose service would overlap with NASW's service if elected. Potential conflicts may be examined on a case-by-case basis.
- 3. What are the qualities that are considered for a national leadership position?**
 - A list of desired qualities can be accessed [here](#).
 - Those seeking a leadership position must be:
 - a) Committed to the mission and goals of the Association.
 - b) Prepared to commit to the time required to fulfill their leadership responsibilities.
 - c) Willing to promote the organization externally.
- 4. As a chapter board member, can I run for a national elective position?**
 - Chapter board members can run for a national elective position while completing a board term. If elected, they must complete or resign from their chapter board position before they can assume their national position.
 - Chapter leaders cannot simultaneously hold a chapter and national elective position.
- 5. What is required for the nomination?**
 - Applicants must complete the online nomination form and upload a current copy of their CV or resume. Applicants must also submit a platform statement, which states why they are interested in the position, why they are qualified for the position and what they hope to accomplish.

6. When will I receive a response regarding my nomination?

- Decisions regarding the slate are made by the National Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (NCNLI), a committee of your peers, each representing an electoral region. The NCNLI Slate Development Meeting is held in early January, and its decisions are communicated to all applicants within two weeks after this meeting.

7. What recourse do I have if I am not slated?

- Each applicant who has not been slated may file a nomination petition within thirty (30) days after the preliminary slate is issued. For information about the requirements for filing a petition, click [here](#).
- If a petition is successfully filed i.e., the petition was filed by the deadline with the required number of valid signatures, the NCNLI will recertify the slate to the Secretary, and a final slate will be issued.

8. If I am slated to run for a position, will I need to campaign?

- The level of campaign activities may vary among candidates. Be sure to review the [campaign do's and don'ts](#), which apply to virtual and in-person events.
- The national office promotes the election through NASW's communication channels.

9. How can I find out more information about the campaign rules?

- A list of Campaign Do's and Don'ts is posted on the NASW governance web page (<https://www.socialworkers.org/about/Governance/National-Elections/Campaign-Dos-and-Donts.aspx>). If in doubt about what is appropriate, contact your [NCNLI Representative](#) or write to governance@socialworkers.org.
- You can also access the election standards and procedures [here](#).

10. What does it mean to have an alleged charge of campaign violation brought against you?

- The NCNLI is charged with monitoring the campaign and investigating alleged violations of campaign rules. During the campaign period, if someone believes that a slated candidate or any unit of the Association has violated a campaign rule, they may file a complaint. The alleged violation can be brought to the NCNLI by any unit of the Association, a national/chapter leader, a member of the NCNLI, staff, the candidate's opponent, or any member.
- Each case brought to the NCNLI is investigated to determine if a violation has occurred. If it's determined that a violation has occurred, a ruling is made based on the severity of the infraction. For more information about the complaint process or to file a complaint, click [here](#).

11. When will the election begin?

- The election is held during the month of May. It begins on the first business day and ends on the last business day of the month.

12. When will I be notified of the election results?

- The election results are provided in writing to each candidate, before the Annual Meeting of Members, which coincides with the June NASW Board Meeting.
- Results of the election are announced by the Secretary at the Annual Meeting of Members and are ratified by members present and voting.

Please send related inquiries to governance@socialworkers.org

To reach the NCNLI Representative for your region, click [here](#)