

**RULES GOVERNING THE 2026 ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE AFT
AND DELEGATES TO THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION**

1. THE CREDENTIALS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

- a. The Elections Committee is combined with the Credentials Committee whose members are appointed pursuant to Article II of the AFT bylaws.
- b. The Credentials and Elections Committee shall have plenary powers to run the election and determine any disputes that may arise during or out of the election subject only to the provisions of Article VI of the AFT bylaws, which specify the procedures for nomination and election. It may engage the services of an entity to carry out election procedures.
- c. The Credentials and Elections Committee shall receive the names of the nominees for office from the secretary-treasurer no later than 8:30 a.m. on the third day of the convention (Sat., July 18, 2026) after an opportunity for declinations as provided in Article VI, Section 1 of the AFT bylaws.

2. OBSERVERS

- a. Each candidate or slate shall appoint their own observer who shall have access to the polling and counting of the ballots.
- b. There shall be one observer per candidate or slate for each tabulation room.
- c. Observers may take notes and ask questions but may not interfere in the election process. No photos, videos, or recordings may be taken in or of the tabulation room.
- d. The candidate or slate shall notify the chair of the Credentials and Elections Committee of the names of the observers at a time determined by the Credentials and Elections Committee.
- e. An observer must be a member of the AFT.

3. SLATES

- a. Two or more candidates for office may organize themselves into a slate for election.
- b. Candidates for office may organize themselves into a slate, and they shall designate the name of their slate. No slate can use the name of any other slate that has historically used a certain name. Otherwise, the slate shall determine their own name.
- c. Delegates have a choice of voting for a slate or voting for individual candidates.
- d. Every candidate and every slate shall make themselves known to the chair of the Credentials and Elections Committee so that proper information can be provided for the printing of ballots no later than 8:30 a.m. on the third day of the convention.
- e. Requests for table space and for meeting rooms outside of the convention hall by caucuses sponsoring slates shall be made to the director of conventions, meetings and travel at least 15 days prior to the convention in accordance with established procedures.
- f. Individual requests for previously unarranged table space and meeting rooms outside of the convention hall, shall be made to the director of conventions, meetings and travel no later than 10 a.m. on the first day of the convention (Thurs., July 16, 2026) after picking up nomination forms from the Credentials and Election Committee.

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4. VOTING PROCEDURE

- a. An announcement shall be made to the convention of the time and place to secure ballots for distribution to delegations, which shall be no later than 4:30 p.m. on the third day of the convention. Balloting shall be completed by 7:30 p.m. as provided in Article VI, Section 2 of the AFT bylaws. The Credentials and Elections Committee may change the starting time of the election to accommodate the convention schedule and adjust the ending time to allow three hours for voting.
- b. Each affiliate shall select a ranking delegate who shall be responsible for securing ballots, delivering them to the delegates and returning the executed ballots to the same place they were first distributed. The ranking delegate shall receive only the number of ballots necessary for the delegation as certified by the Credentials and Elections Committee. Any unused ballots must also be returned.
- c. Every ballot shall be signed by the delegate voting that ballot. No ballot shall be counted that is not signed.
- d. Delegates shall be instructed by the ranking delegate on the voting procedure. When a delegate wishes to vote for a slate, that delegate shall place a mark in the box or circle identifying the slate as per the instructions for voting. Delegates must choose between voting by slate or individually. When the vote is by slate, the delegate is limited to voting for one slate only and may not combine slate voting with individual candidate voting. When a delegate wishes to vote for individual candidates, that delegate shall put a mark by the candidate's name in the box or circle as per the instructions for voting. The delegate who votes individually may vote for each of the vacant positions as indicated on the ballot.
- e. Upon receipt of the ballots from the ranking delegate, the Credentials and Elections Committee shall separate the ballots into separate piles consisting of blank ballots, unsigned ballots, overvotes,¹ votes for each slate and individual candidate votes or other piles deemed necessary by the Credentials and Elections Committee and election tabulation vendor. The procedure for distribution and voting is part of the balloting process and begins at the time indicated in Article VI, Section 2 of the AFT bylaws or at such time as established by the Credentials and Elections Committee to accommodate the convention schedule.
- f. The tabulation of votes begins as soon as practicable on the third day of the convention in a place to be announced.
- g. The value of each vote is determined by computer by dividing the local's votes to four decimal places and assigning this number to each delegate as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the AFT constitution.

¹ An overvote occurs when a delegate votes for a combination of slate and individuals or the number of candidates selected exceeds the number of vacancies.

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- h. The results of the election will be announced at the opening of the convention on the following day. Election votes may be posted in writing prior to that time if they are by then completed.

5. CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

No candidate or supporter may solicit or accept financial support or any other direct or indirect support of any kind from any non-member of AFT.

6. DELEGATES TO AFL-CIO CONVENTION (when applicable)

Delegates to the AFL-CIO convention are the president, the secretary-treasurer and the executive vice president. In addition, other delegates may be elected in a number to be determined by the executive council. The election of these delegates, other than the specified officers, shall follow the procedure for election of officers as set forth in these rules.