

Nominations and Elections

Sec. 209.

(a) The election of Local Union Officers, Local Union Executive Board Members, delegates to central bodies, and District Councils shall be held on the last meeting in June and nominations for the same shall be held on the last meeting in May.

(b) Notice of the nomination meeting and the election meeting shall be given by mail posted to the last known home address of all members at least five (5) days prior to the nomination date and at least 15 days prior to the election date. Such notices shall clearly state the date, time, place and purpose of these meetings.

(c) Each Local Union shall elect its officers and delegates to central bodies by secret ballot for a term of three (3) years, and shall elect Delegates to the District Council by secret ballot for a term of four (4) years. Officers and said delegates shall hold office until their successor is duly elected.

Sec. 210.

(a) To be eligible to run for any elected position, a member must meet the following requirements:

(1) The member has been in continuous good standing in his or her Local Union for two years immediately prior to the date of nomination;

(2) The member has attended at least one meeting, and attended, or excused his absence from, at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the meetings held by the Local Union during the 12 months immediately prior to the date of nomination; a member may excuse his or her absence on the basis of a work conflict, illness, or personal emergency, so long as he or she submits the excuse in writing to the Local Union no later than five (5) calendar days after the missed meeting; and

(3) The member (A) was employed, actively seeking employment, or unable to be employed or to seek employment due to temporary disability, within our trade during the major portion of the twelve months prior to the date of nomination, and (B) is currently active in the trades and not drawing a pension from a plan sponsored by or affiliated with the International Union or any subordinate body of the International Union. "Employed" and "employment" means "full-time" employment as defined in Section 211(j).

(b) A member otherwise eligible shall not be rendered ineligible under this Section if he or she was employed full time during the major portion of the 12 months prior to the date of nomination by the International Union, a Local Union or District Council of the International Union, the AFL-CIO, or any department thereof, a central body recognized by the Local Union of which he or she is a member or in any department of the local, state,

provincial and/or territorial or Federal Government. For the purpose of this section, “full-time” shall mean working at least 870 hours per year, determined by dividing the total of the office holder’s earnings during the twelve (12) months preceding the month of nominations by the lesser of the journey-person’s hourly rate of compensation, or the officeholder’s lowest hourly rate of compensation.

(c) Where no members are initially nominated who meet the eligibility requirements set forth above, the Local Union may accept the nomination and election of others from among its members who are not specifically disqualified under other provisions of the General Constitution. Where the General President, in his or her sole discretion, determines that conditions in a given Local Union warrant, he or she may waive one or more eligibility requirements.

(d) In every case, it shall be a requirement of eligibility to be nominated or elected that the member must be a resident of the United States or Canada.

(e) War veterans now serving or having served in the armed forces of the United States or Canada, shall be credited with continuous good standing for the period of such service insofar as eligibility for delegate to the General Convention is concerned.

(f) Any member who enters the land, naval or air forces of the United States or Canada, by enlistment or conscription, and becomes disabled while in service and receives an honorable discharge, shall not be debarred from holding office or serving as a delegate or representative of the Local Union, provided the member is otherwise qualified under the provisions of the Constitution.

(g) Every member in good standing shall have the right to nominate, vote for or otherwise support the candidate of his or her choice, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

(h) No member whose dues have been withheld by his or her employer for payment to the Local Union pursuant to his or her voluntary authorization provided for in a Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be declared ineligible to nominate, vote for, or be a candidate for office in the Local Union, by reason of alleged delay or default in the payment of dues by his or her employer to the Local Union.

(i) Local Unions may not impose eligibility requirements different than those set forth in this Section.

Sec. 211.

(a) No member shall be nominated if not present unless absent due to: (a) official Union business; or (b) confinement to his or her home or a hospital due to temporary illness.

(b) No member shall be nominated for, nor accept nomination for, nor hold, two (2) or more full-time or part time elected positions (including District Council or International positions) at any one time; provided that the position as Delegate to the General Convention or to a District Council shall not be construed as an elected position for the purpose of this Section. An exception to the above may only be granted upon the Local Union receiving written permission from the General President.

(c) Nominations shall not be closed until a call for further nominations has been made three (3) times by the presiding officer without further nomination being made.

(d) The Financial Secretary shall at the time of nominations review the eligibility for office of any candidate and make a report on each candidate at the nominating meeting.

(e) Any question of the eligibility of candidates nominated at such meeting shall be decided forthwith by the presiding officer of the Local Union, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, and shall be appealable to the General President in accordance with Section 211(f), below.

(f) Any member may appeal the eligibility determination of the presiding officer to the General President. Any such appeal must be received by the General President, within 48 hours of the presiding officer's determination. The General President or his or her designee shall decide such an appeal, within 14 days. In reviewing eligibility questions, the General President may examine all available and pertinent Local Union, District Council and International Union records provided; however, that in all cases the General President may place full reliance on the membership records on file at the International Union and his or her decision in that regard will be final and binding on all concerned.

(g) A member who is ruled ineligible for office on appeal to the General President may submit a further and final appeal to the General Executive Board within two (2) days following his or her receipt of the General President's decision. The General Executive Board shall decide the appeal as soon as practicable, but no later than its next regularly scheduled meeting.

(h) In the event only one (1) candidate is nominated for any office, no election shall be conducted for such office unless required by law, and such unopposed candidate shall be declared elected by acclamation at the election meeting.

(i) In elections held to fill vacancies, a member who holds an elected Local Union position other than delegate to the General Convention or District Council delegate must resign said position in writing before accepting nomination as a candidate for another elected Local Union position and all existing vacancies, including those left by such resignations, shall be filled

by the same nominations and elections. The notice of the nominations meeting shall state that nominations will be accepted for the position vacated, and any other positions that come open as a result of any such resignation.

(j) The term “full-time” as used in this section shall mean employment during which the officeholder has served at the rate of 870 hours per year. The 870 hours will be determined by dividing the total of the officeholder’s earnings during the 12 months preceding the month of nominations by the lesser of the journey-person’s hourly rate of compensation, or the officeholder’s lowest hourly rate of compensation during that 12month period.

Sec. 212.

(a) At elections the presiding officer shall appoint two (2) tellers and one (1) judge who shall constitute the election committee. The presiding officer shall then announce the names of the candidates in rotation and a vote shall be taken.

(b) Voting shall be conducted by secret ballot among the members in good standing. Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote. There shall be no proxy vote. There shall be no write-in candidates.

(c) After voting is complete, the tellers shall collect the ballots and the Election Committee shall count the ballots. Each candidate shall have the right to have an observer present at the polls and at the counting of the ballots. An observer must be a member in good standing of the subordinate body conducting the election.

(d) When there are two (2) or more candidates for an office or delegate, the candidate or candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

(e) All officers shall be installed immediately after election.

(f) All nomination and election records, including the minutes of the nomination meeting and the ballots cast, shall be preserved for a period of at least one (1) year.

(g) Any protests concerning elections or other issues subject to secret ballot vote must be presented to the General President within 14 days after the vote.

(h) Any member aggrieved by a ruling by the General President under subsection (g) may appeal to the General Executive Board within seven (7) days following the member’s receipt of the General President’s ruling.