



Frequently Asked Questions: Election to CSBA's Board of Directors for 2026-2028 term as a Director-at-Large

How many Directors-at-Large are there? *There are 5 Directors-at-Large – African American, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic, and County. In addition, the Board includes 4 officers, 21 Regional Directors, and 1 statewide Director that represents the county offices of education.*

Which Director-at-Large positions are up for election? *In even-numbered years, the Directors-at-Large, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic are elected. In odd-numbered years, Directors-at-Large, African American, American, and County.*

Who can run for Directors-at-Large? *A nominee must be a board member from a CSBA-member district or county board of education. The Director-at-Large, County must be from a CSBA-member county board of education. Please note that Standing Rule 108 prohibits simultaneous service on state-wide boards that represent the education community such as those that represent labor, parents, special interests, or other areas of the school governance community and Standing Rule 109 prohibits CSBA employees from serving on the Board of Directors.*

Who can nominate the Directors-at-Large? *Any district or county office of education board that is a member of CSBA.*

When are nominations due? *Nomination forms are due from member boards on **Friday, October 2, 2026 by 11:59 p.m.** via online submission. A valid nomination includes the following:*

- **Nomination form:** *A completed, signed, and dated nomination form. Member boards must secure permission of the nominee before placing a name into nomination.*

When are candidate materials due? *Director-at-Large nominees must submit Candidate materials by **11:59 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2026** via online submission or email sent to nominations@csba.org. A completed candidate packet includes:*

- **Candidate Form:** *A signed and dated candidate form completed by the nominee.*
- **Two letters of recommendation:** *A one page, single-sided letter addressed to CSBA President Debra Schade emailed to nominations@csba.org. Recommendation letters should be from a CSBA member district or county board of education or an individual board member from a CSBA member district or county board of education.¹ If a letter from a CSBA member district or county board of education is signed by the Superintendent, it must state in the letter "on behalf of the board."*

¹ *In accordance with Standing Rule 226, CSBA campaigns shall be limited to the voting members and exclude outside influences. Therefore, Letters of Recommendation should only come from CSBA member boards and individual trustees from those boards. This adjustment aligns with Standing Rule 223 and is intended to standardize policies regarding letters of recommendation across all CSBA leadership elections.*

- An **optional**, one-page **résumé** from the nominee may be submitted to nominations@csba.org.

When and where are the elections? Wednesday, December 2, 2026 at CSBA's Delegate Assembly meeting at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina.

How long does a Director-at-Large serve on the Board? All Directors, including Directors-at-Large, serve two-year terms and take office immediately upon the close of the Association's Annual Education Conference and Trade Show. Directors-at-Large may run for re-election if they choose to, there are no term limits.

When and where are the required meetings for Regional Directors? Directors-at-Large are required to attend the Board of Directors meetings and the Delegate Assembly Meetings. There are five Board meetings each year held over a weekend, except for the meetings in May and late November/early December, which are held on a single day in conjunction with the Delegate Assembly.. There are two Delegate Assembly meetings scheduled, as noted in May and late November/early December in host city of the Association's Annual Education Conference. The May meeting takes place in Sacramento the day before the Delegate Assembly meeting. In 2027, the November meeting will take place in Sacramento, the day before the Delegate Assembly meeting, followed by the Annual Education Conference. The meeting in late January/early February takes place at a determined offsite location while the meetings in late March/early April and late September/early October typically take place at the CSBA office in West Sacramento.

What do Directors do? Members of the Board of Directors establish the vision, mission, and goals for the Association, ensure that Association activities and programs remain focused on those goals and the issues identified in the Policy Platform. They provide advocacy on behalf of children, public education, local boards, and the Association; serve on committees, councils, and task forces; and receive reports and updates on major programs consistent with the Vision, Mission, and Strategic Goals of the Association. They also provide two-way communication with Delegate Assembly members from their region or from their statewide constituency group represented by the Directors-at-Large to inform Delegates of Board activities, and support and participate in the Association's activities and events.

In addition, the Board has corporate duties to adopt the Association's budget; adopt and amend the Association's Standing Rules; receive reports on corporate operations; approve the hiring and terms of employment of the CEO & Executive Director, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee; comment annually on the performance, and act on the contract of the CEO & Executive Director, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee; and abide by the Code of Ethics, Conflict of Interest Policy, and Whistleblower Policy, as adopted by the Board of Directors.

Are there campaign rules? Yes. Candidates for Regional Director are expected to read, understand, and follow the rules laid out in the Board Bylaws and Standing rules, including Standing Rule 226 "Rules for Campaigns for Officers, Regional Directors, and Directors-at-Large," which includes the following:

- Officers, Directors, candidates and prospective candidates shall not disparage through misinformation, gossip, or innuendo any other candidate or prospective candidate.
- Candidates and prospective candidates shall engage in any campaign in a professional manner, focused on growing and strengthening the organization.
- Directors and Delegates may provide verbal information, comments, endorsements, opinions, or other influential verbal communications to others regarding candidates or prospective candidates.

- Directors may not provide written information, comments, endorsements, opinions, or other influential communications regarding candidates or prospective candidates. Written comments include comments that are memorialized on paper or in any electronic format including email, social media platforms, or any other form of written communication.
- Delegates may provide written information, comments, endorsements, opinions, or other influential communications regarding candidates or prospective candidates.
- Campaign activities that include any travel outside of the candidate's region to specifically promote their candidacy or obtain endorsements is prohibited.
- Any reception, meeting, or any other event – other than the CSBA sponsored, no-host reception – that specifically promotes a CSBA candidacy is prohibited.
- Election gimmicks or other attention getting devices or items, including but not limited to, pins, banners, signs, posters, balloons, hats, or any other antic, item or activity that promotes a candidate or prospective candidate by name, position, or by other means are prohibited.
- Distribution of written campaign literature that is intended to promote a candidate or candidacy by the prospective candidate, by the candidate, or by anyone acting on behalf of a prospective candidate or candidate must adhere to the rules described in Standing Rule 226.F.5.

This FAQ is intended for informational purposes and is not a substitute for candidates reading, understanding, and adhering to the campaign conduct requirements described in the CSBA's Bylaws and Standing Rules.

For questions or additional information, please contact CSBA's Executive Office at nominations@csba.org.07/2024