

2026 POPA ELECTION RULES

1. Only members in good standing may vote. This means their FY2026 dues have been paid, they are currently signed up for dues deduction from their paycheck, or they are paying dues using the Engage platform as of 11:59 PM (ET) June 30, 2026.
2. Members of the bargaining unit who wish to vote in the Election must have paid dues by 11:59 PM (ET) June 30, 2026 via electronic payment, agency paycheck, or yearly personal check. The employee should keep a copy of their dues payment in the event of a challenge or any question regarding their eligibility to vote.
3. The election shall be conducted by secret ballot by U.S. mail.
4. A ballot will be mailed to the last known address of each dues-paying member. The accuracy of the mailing address is the responsibility of the member. Members should confirm their current address or make a change-of-address request by emailing popamembership@popa.org.
5. All dues-paying members may vote for Officers and may only vote for Area Delegates from their own organizational area (i.e. Chemical, Mechanical, Electrical or Designs & Others).
6. Avoid making any extraneous marks, signatures, initials, etc. on the ballot or return envelope, which could serve as a personal identifier. Such marks may nullify the ballot.
7. Ballots marked with more than the maximum number of votes permitted will be nullified.
8. Members are permitted to run both as an Area Delegate and as an Officer; however, they may only be elected to one position. If a candidate runs for more than one position and is elected to more than one position, the candidate must elect which position to serve in.
9. Election of Officers shall be by a plurality of the vote. Election of Delegates shall be by a plurality of the vote. Delegates within each organizational area shall be determined by ranking the candidates by the number of votes received and choosing a sufficient number of the highest vote getters to equal the number of vacancies in the organizational area.
10. The candidates for Officers and Area Delegates will appear on the ballots in randomly selected order with an asterisk (*) denoting an incumbent.
11. Write-in candidates are permitted. A write-in candidate for an Officer must receive at least fifteen (15) votes to be eligible for election. A write-in candidate for an Area Delegate must receive at least five (5) votes to be eligible for election.
12. Any candidate may appoint an observer for the election. Candidates may serve as their own observer or appoint an observer who is a member in good standing of the Association. The observer may observe the counting of the ballots but shall in no way interfere with the balloting and ballot-counting procedures or with the individuals carrying out the ballot counting procedures. An observer shall not handle any of the ballots. No observer shall be left unattended with the election ballots.

For additional rules or guidelines please see the popa.org website.

**Patent Office
Professional
Association**
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