

2021 AALJ Election Procedures and Timeline

Eligible voters: Members of AALJ in good standing as of **September 1** who are non-managements judges [Article VI, Section 8].

Eligible nominees: Any member nominated to any office must have been a member in good standing of AALJ for a continuous period of six months before his or her nomination [Article VI, Section 2].

List of eligible voters: The Secretary shall prepare a list of active members who are (a) in good standing as of September 1 and (b) eligible to vote. The list must contain the member's name, home address, and non-government email address, if any, and shall be available for inspection by any candidate for office within the 30-day period of time prior to the election [Election Rules 5.2 and 7.3].

Method of voting: "All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot and by mail" [Article VI, Section 6]. With respect to any office in which "no majority is achieved, a run-off election for that office shall be held forthwith between the two candidates who received the highest number of votes in the original election" [Article VI, Section 8].

Campaigning during duty time is prohibited: "There shall be no campaigning or electioneering during duty time" [Election Rule 7.7].

Use of union or government funds or equipment to promote the candidacy of any person is unlawful [Election Rule 7.8].

August 1:

By **August 1**, the President, with the approval of the National Executive Board, shall appoint a Nominating Committee and an Elections Committee [Article VI, Sections 3 and 6].

August 15:

The Elections Committee submits the election timeline to the membership no later than **August 15, 2021**.

The Secretary provides the election rules to the membership no later than **August 15, 2021**.

The Elections Committee and Union Secretary should contact **AAA** to negotiate a contract to provide election services; contract should be presented to the NEB for vote. The Union Secretary will sign the contract on behalf of the NEB.

Once the NEB has entered into a contract for election services, the Elections Committee should work with AAA to come up with a sample ballot and schedule the counting of the ballots.

September 1:

Not later than September 1, the Nominating Committee shall notify the membership of the opening of nominations for each of the offices set forth in Article IV [Article VI, Section 3], to include the nomination timeline.

Nominations for President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are made by a petition signed by at least 15 members in good standing [Article VI, Section 4]. Nominations for Regional Vice Presidents are made by a petition signed by at least five members in good standing of the candidate's region [Article VI, Section 4]. **Individual personal emails from members who have electronically signed a petition within the email will be accepted. Candidates are requested to bundle their signed petitions into one PDF document, but individual signed petitions will be accepted.** The petitions shall be submitted **via email only** to the Nominating Committee, and no person may be a nominee for more than one office [Article VI, Section 4].

September 25:

Nominations close at midnight on September 25 [Article VI, Section 3].

After September 25:

Upon closing, the Nominating Committee shall “promptly” notify nominees of their nominations after they are certified by the Secretary [Article VI, Section 5].

Following the certification of candidacy, the candidates and their supporters may campaign until the balloting period closes [Article IV, Section 7 & Election Rule 7.2]. **The 2021 election cycle begins upon nomination committee and secretary certification of the candidates. All candidates for the same office will be certified at the same time.** In determining what is a reasonable time for campaigning, the Election Committee will consider such factors as the method of nomination, the number of members of the AALJ, and the geographic area in which the contest(s) will take place [Election Rule 7.2].

September 28:

Deadline for nominees to refuse their nomination [Article VI, Section 5].

October 2-17:

Mailing of ballots.

October 17 – Deadline for ballots to be prepared and sent to all eligible members [Article VI, Section 7; Election Rule 5.3].

November 2:

Deadline for receipt of ballots. “Only votes received on or before midnight, November 2 shall be counted and the tally report furnished to the National Executive Board” [Article VI, Section 7].

November 3, 2021:

Votes will be counted and reported to the membership.

November 9:

Deadline for the Elections Committee to provide a tally report to the National Executive Board [Election Rule 5.5].

January 1:

New terms of office begin [Article VI, Section 1].

Election Committee

Judge Penny Loucas
Judge Lesley Troope
Judge Francine Serafin