

CONCURRENT LOCAL UNION ELECTIONS AND DELEGATE/ALTERNATE DELEGATE ELECTIONS

Elections of Local Union Officers and elections of Delegates/Alternate Delegates can be run concurrent subject to the following:

1. The required notices of nominations and elections must be separate, meaning that the notices must be separate documents; however, the notices can be sent to the applicable membership in the same envelope (it is recommended that the notices be printed on different colored paper).
2. The nominations meeting can be conducted on the same day; however, the meetings must be conducted separately, meaning that the nominations for Local Union Officers' positions must be closed and then as a "next order of business" the floor be opened to accept nominations for Delegates/Alternate Delegates.
3. The ballots must be separate and should also be printed on different colored paper and must be sent in separate secret ballot envelopes. The return ballot envelopes for the Local Union elections and the Delegates/Alternate Delegates elections must be distinctive through being printed on different color paper.
4. The ballots must have separate post office boxes for each election.
5. The count can be on the same day but the counts must be separate processes – for example, the count for the election of Union Officers must be completed before commencing the count for the Delegates/Alternate Delegates. The Rules for Conducting International Officer Elections (Rules) specify a schedule for mailing and collecting ballots in Delegates/Alternate Delegates elections that is different than the schedules used for most Local Union officer elections. Specifically, the Delegates/Alternate Delegates ballots may not be sent earlier than thirty (30) days after the last nomination meeting. In contrast, Local Union officer ballots are usually mailed ten (10) to fifteen (15) days after the nominations meeting. The deadline for the return of Ballots for the Delegates/Alternate Delegates election cannot be earlier than twenty-one (21) days after the ballots were distributed. In Local Union officer elections, the ballots can be due back thirty (30) days after the nomination meeting. Thus, if you intend to count the ballots for both elections on the same date, you must comply with the Delegates/Alternate Delegates schedule, which means a longer campaign period than normal for the Local Union officer election.

6. Additional requirements in Delegates/Alternate Delegates elections involve the postings of notices and the submission of affidavits verifying compliance with those requirements. The Local must post the names of candidates for Delegates/Alternate Delegates, and any slate affiliation, on all Union bulleting boards within five (5) days after the nomination meeting(s). Verification of such postings must then be provided to the Election Supervisor within three (3) days of the postings. Notices of Election must also be posted on all Union bulletin boards no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the return date for the Delegates/Alternate Delegates ballots and similar verification sent to the Election Supervisor.
7. Local Unions should carefully review the Rules regarding sending notices related to the Delegates/Alternate Delegates nomination and elections through Union publications.