

Region 7 Nominating Committee Composition and Selection Process for the Region 7 Associate Councillor/Councillor-Elect Position

Composition of the Nominating Committee

The Region 7 Nominating Committee includes the following permanent representatives: Councillor and Associate Councillor, the Immediate Past Councillor, and the Region 7 representatives to the OPO, Transplant Coordinators, and Transplant Administrators committees.

State Representation in Associate Councillor Elections

Three state rotation: Illinois – Minnesota – Wisconsin (with North and South Dakota eligible to apply at any time)

If a member from either North Dakota or South Dakota is elected, those states will not put forward a candidate for the subsequent three election cycles. Furthermore, the state rotation cycle – at the conclusion of the member's term serving from North or South Dakota – will return to the state that was supplanted in the cycle.

If no candidates apply from the next state in the rotation or from either of the Dakotas, the Nominating Committee will solicit nominations from members within that state, in addition to considering any other applications from those interested outside of the state next in the rotation.

Nominating & Voting Process for Associate Councillor

All nominations must follow the established process. Candidates will complete a biography form. The Nominating Committee will review these forms, taking into consideration each candidate's professional experience, subject-specific expertise, prior OPTN committee experience, participation in regional activities and meetings, and the individual's ability to represent the region nationally. The nominating committee will select up to three candidates based on their qualifications noted on the applications received, and any demographic and specialty needs of the Board of Directors. The state that is next in the rotation may submit an endorsement of a particular candidate to the Nominating Committee for consideration, and this would be heavily weighted by nomination committee during the selection of candidates for the ballot. States may develop their own protocols for endorsing candidates, but these protocols must be transparent to members within the state. Once candidates are approved by the Nominating Committee, ballots will go out to the voting representatives as defined by OPTN Bylaws. Regional voting members include:

- OPOs, transplant centers, independent histocompatibility labs
- Individuals in the region who serve on OPTN/UNOS committees and are not employed by a member institution, medical/scientific or public organization member
- Medical/scientific members with principal offices located in the region

The final selection of the Associate Councillor will be based on whichever candidate receives the highest number of votes. Ballots will not be recalled for submissions made after the nomination deadline.

Filling Unexpected Vacancies

State rotation will not be modified if the Associate Councillor or Councillor relocates within the region. The Associate Councillor and Councillor positions will only be considered vacant if he or she relocates outside the region (or chooses to resign from the role as Associate Councillor or Councillor).

In the event of an unexpected vacancy, a call for nominations will be sent to the region to identify a replacement Associate Councillor. The call for nominations will specify which state is eligible to apply for the position. The state rotation for unexpected Associate Councillor vacancies will be based on the time remaining in their two year term:

- If the Associate Councillor has served less than one year of the two-year term, the replacement Associate Councillor will be selected from nominations received from the state of the departing associate councillor.
- If the Associate Councillor has served 1 year or more of the two-year term, the replacement Associate Councillor will be selected from the nominations received from the next state in the rotation.

In the event that the replacement Associate Councillor will have a shorter term (e.g. less than one year before becoming Councillor), the Nominating Committee should select the candidate(s) in the state rotation with prior experience serving on the Membership and Professional Standards Committee if possible.

When filling an unexpected vacancy, the region will follow the “Nominating & Voting Process for Associate Councillor” procedures described above.

Transparency in Nominating Committee & Associate Councillor Selection Process

Regional guidelines will be posted on the Region 7 Regional Meeting page on Transplant Pro.

Changes to the regional nomination process or committee composition will require a majority vote by Region 7 voting representatives.