



PRSSA 2023 LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY

Guidelines for Candidates Running off the Floor

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A student running off the floor for a position on the PRSSA National Committee must be:

- A. A member in good standing of an active PRSSA Chapter;
- B. Able to maintain PRSSA membership during the term on the National Committee; and
- C. A full-time student from the time they are elected through the fall semester.

II. NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

- A. The presiding officer will accept nominations from the floor before the candidate Q&A period.
- B. Nominations will be accepted only from Assembly delegates. The nomination must be seconded by an Assembly delegate from a Chapter other than the one sponsoring the nominated candidate.
- C. Candidates nominated from the floor who are not registered as an official representative, or general member, must meet the requirements for candidate eligibility and verify those qualifications prior to the election. All nominated candidates must meet with the appointed election officials immediately following the session to verify their qualifications. They must verify their PRSSA membership by showing a letter from their Faculty Adviser. The nominated candidate must be approved by a majority of the elections subcommittee to officially qualify as a candidate.
- D. Students interested in running from the floor must email nationalpresident@prsa.org and jeneen.garcia@prsa.org by 2 p.m. ET April 3 for specific instructions on submitting his/her nomination form, essay and letter of recommendation.
- E. Candidates nominated from the floor shall be treated in all respects as an official candidate.

III. ELECTION TIMETABLES

Each candidate seeking a national office position will have the opportunity to address Assembly delegates at a special session held during the Assembly.

- A. Presentations by candidates for vice president positions shall last no longer than five minutes. Presentations by candidates for National President shall last no longer than ten minutes.
- B. Delegates may address questions to all of the candidates. This question-and-answer forum shall last fifteen minutes for each office. An extension of the Q&A can be granted only by a vote of the Assembly. The question-and-answer forum is mandatory for the election process and cannot be waived.
- C. When more than one candidate is running for a position, the order of candidates will be decided by a drawing conducted by the presiding officer at the onset of the session.

Candidates may remain in the rooms for the entire Q&A period, however, no question may be directed by another candidate for the same office.

Only official Assembly delegates shall be allowed to direct questions to the candidates. No delegate shall be allowed to ask a candidate a second question until all other delegates have had the opportunity to question that candidate.

IV. CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

The official nomination forms, essays, letters of recommendation, candidates' speeches and the question-and-answer forum shall be the sole basis upon which elections shall be carried out.

Absolutely no campaigning either before or during the Leadership Assembly is allowed. Infringements of this ruling, either by the candidate or the candidate's supporters, shall be grounds for immediate disqualification of the candidate by the Elections Subcommittee.

For Assembly Delegates:

- A. Roll call will be taken at the Leadership Assembly meeting by the presiding officer to ensure proper Assembly delegate representation. A master list of Assembly delegates shall also be available to the Elections Subcommittee, should the authenticity of a delegate be in question.
- B. There shall be no provision for absentee ballots. Votes may be cast only by Assembly delegates present at the Leadership Assembly meeting.
- C. Assembly representatives not able to attend either the candidate speeches or the Leadership Assembly meeting because of an emergency must immediately notify and be excused with reason by Senior Vice President of Programs or National President. Absent Assembly representatives not excused shall forfeit their hotel and registration coverage (if applicable).
- D. In the case of an excused emergency absence by an Assembly delegate, the elected alternate or appointed representative may substitute for the Assembly delegate, if the Elections Subcommittee is notified of such a substitution.

V. SANCTIONS

- A. In the event of alleged infractions of campaign rules and/or ethical behavior, the Elections Subcommittee shall have original jurisdiction through a majority decision.
- B. Those candidates found to have violated the rules set forth by the Elections Subcommittee shall be subject to immediate disqualification.
- C. In case of appeal, the Elections Subcommittee shall present factual reports to the PRSSA National Committee at a special meeting held at Leadership Assembly. The accused candidate shall have the opportunity to present his or her case to the National Committee. A decision shall be made by the National Committee through a majority of those present and voting, if a quorum is present. The National Committee shall have final jurisdiction in all decisions.
- D. Any alleged infractions committed before or during the Assembly must be brought directly to the attention of the Parliamentarian. In this case, the Parliamentarian will call for a break in the Assembly procedures for discussion of this matter before an appointed committee.