



American Association of University Professors Weighted Voting and Delegate Credentialing Procedures

Weighted voting and delegate credentialing are governed by Article VI of the AAUP Constitution and procedures passed by Council.

AAUP Constitution, Article VI (As amended at the 105th Annual Meeting of the Association in Arlington, VA, June 15, 2019, and effective January 1, 2020).

The pertinent parts of Article VI read:

3. The members in each chapter may elect to each meeting of the Association not more than one delegate from that chapter for each 250 members or fraction thereof, up to a maximum of ten delegates. Delegates must be members elected by secret ballot, provided that no ballot need be taken if there is only one nominee. Chapter officers elected to their offices by secret ballot may serve as delegates by virtue of that election if authorized by the chapter.
4. Chapters with fewer than 250 members each from within a state may form one section of chapters for the exclusive purpose of electing to each meeting of the Association not more than one common delegate for each 250 aggregate members, up to a maximum of ten delegates. No chapter participating in the section shall have any other credentialed delegates at the meeting. The section's delegate(s) shall be entitled to a number of votes equal to the aggregate number of members in the chapters participating in the section. The section delegate(s) must be members elected by a secret ballot of all of the members of the chapters participating in the section. The Council shall establish procedures to be followed for election, designation, and credentialing of section delegates.
5. All members of the Association shall be entitled to attend a meeting of the Association, but only accredited delegates from chapters in good standing or sections of chapters in good standing are entitled to participate in elections and to a voice and vote on matters brought before the meeting.
6. On request of one-fifth of the accredited delegates present and voting, a weighted vote shall be taken on any matter then before the body. In an election or a weighted vote, the accredited delegates shall be entitled to a number of votes equal to the number of members in good standing at their respective chapters as of April 1 of the year of the meeting. In case a chapter or section has more than one delegate, each delegate shall be entitled to an equal portion of the votes to which the chapter or section is entitled, with the delegation distributing any remaining votes.

Weighted Voting and Delegate Credentialing Procedures (As approved by Council, April 1985; amended by Council, November 1987; amended by Council, March 2007; amended by Council, May 2009; amended by Council, June 2014; and amended by Council in November 2019.)

1. Eligibility to Participate in Votes, including Weighted Votes or Elections. Only credentialed (also called accredited) delegates from chapters in good standing or from sections of chapters in good standing are entitled to participate in elections and to a voice and vote on matters brought before the meeting, including weighted votes. Chapter good standing will be determined based upon the standing of the chapter as of April 1. Individual members who are not credentialed delegates attending the meeting are not entitled to vote or to bring a matter before the body. (See Annual Meeting Rules.)
2. Chapter Delegates. A chapter may elect not more than one delegate from that chapter for each 250 members or fraction thereof (e.g., 251 members entitles chapter to 2 delegates), up to a maximum of ten delegates, plus any alternate delegates. Chapter delegates must be members elected by secret ballot, provided that no ballot need be taken if there is only one nominee per position. Chapter officers elected to their offices by secret ballot may serve as delegates by virtue of that election if authorized by the chapter.
3. Section Delegates. Bona fide chapters with fewer than 250 members each from within a state may form one section of chapters for the exclusive purpose of electing to each meeting of the Association not more than one common delegate for each 250 aggregate members (e.g., 251 aggregate members entitles section to 2 delegates), up to a maximum of ten delegates, plus any alternate delegates. Section delegates must be a member of the chapter participating in the section, elected by secret ballot, provided that no ballot need be taken if there is only one nominee per position. No chapter participating in a section shall have any other delegates at the meeting.
4. Apportionment of Votes to Delegates. The credentialed chapter delegates shall be entitled to cast ballots in an election or weighted vote equal to the number of members from the chapter. The credentialed section delegates shall be entitled to cast ballots in an election or weighted vote equal to the aggregate number of members in the chapters participating in the section. The number of members at each chapter shall be based on the number of members in good standing at each chapter as of April 1. A list reflecting this will be available for inspection at the registration table during the Biennial Meeting. In case a chapter or section has more than one delegate, each delegate shall be entitled to an equal portion of the votes to which the chapter or section is entitled, with the delegation distributing any remaining votes. The number of chapter votes each delegate is entitled to cast will be established based on the delegate sign-in (infra section 5, (3)).
5. Delegate Credentialing. In order to be credentialed and to participate in the biennial meeting and to vote in any elections, delegates must complete steps 1, 2, and 3 of the credentialing process.
 1. Chapters and sections must submit to the AAUP a delegate registration form listing all of their proposed delegates, and any alternates, by May 15.
 2. The AAUP will determine the eligibility of the proposed delegates and alternates and will notify each chapter and section by May 30.
 3. Individual eligible delegates must sign in and receive their delegate credentials at the biennial meeting delegate credentialing table no later than the scheduled close of the first day of the biennial meeting.
6. Call for a Weighted Vote. When there is a call for a weighted vote, the staff shall use the following procedure to determine whether one-fifth of the delegates present request a weighted vote. There shall be a count of those delegates in favor, followed by a count of delegates present but not in favor. The first number is the numerator of the fraction, and the sum of the two numbers is the denominator of the fraction.

7. Preparation and Distribution of Weighted Voting (non-election) Ballots. The staff shall prepare weighted voting ballots if a weighted vote is called.

8. Records of Vote Allocation. A list of the number of votes that each chapter and section is entitled to cast shall be available for inspection at the registration table, and a list of chapters and sections which have cast votes shall be maintained and available for inspection in the national office.

9. Challenges to Delegate Election or Eligibility, Vote Allocation, or Chapter or Section Eligibility. Any challenges to the election or eligibility of a delegate, to the number of votes allocated to a chapter or section or its delegates, or to the eligibility of a chapter or section to vote must be filed with the Credentials Committee no later than 3 days prior to the first day of the biennial meeting, unless good cause is shown for a later challenge.