

Policies and Procedures

Title: American Accounting Association Board of Directors Election Voting Policy

Code: GOV 1104

Team: Governance

Effective Date: 02/21/2019

Approved By: Board of Directors

Revision Date:

Policy Statement

This voting policy outlines the American Accounting Association's (AAA's) method to determine the outcome of elections for Board of Director positions. In all cases, the outcome of elections is determined when a candidate receives greater than 50 percent (i.e., a majority) of the votes cast.

Procedure:

When only two candidates are on the ballot for a position, the candidate receiving the most votes has automatically received a majority, and is declared elected.

When more than two candidates are on the ballot for a given Board position, the AAA applies the instant runoff method to determine the majority candidate. The instant runoff method is applied because it eliminates runoff elections that both extend the period for resolving the election and increase administrative costs.

All valid votes are tallied following the process described in this document.

Only the elected candidates are announced after the votes have been validated and tabulated.

- **Application of Instant Runoff Method**

When more than two candidates are on the ballot for a position, the instant runoff method is applied to determine the outcome of the election, as follows:

- 1) When voting, members rank their preferences for the candidates.
- 2) If one candidate receives a majority of the first-preference votes, that candidate is declared elected.
- 3) If no candidate receives a majority of the first-preference votes, then:
 - a. The candidate with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated.
 - b. The eliminated candidate's second-preference votes are redistributed to the remaining candidates. That is, the second-preference votes from members

who preferred the eliminated candidate are redistributed to the remaining candidates based on the voted preferences.

- c. The total votes for remaining candidates are re-tabulated.
 - d. This candidate elimination/vote redistribution process continues until a candidate has reached a majority of the votes cast at which point that candidate is declared elected.
- 4) Preferential voting and the application of the instant runoff method, if necessary, as described in this policy are used whether the ballot is paper or electronic.

Revision History:

| Revision # | Date | Description of Changes | Requested By: |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | MM/DD/YY | | |
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