

APPROVED: March 19, 2022

## **Utah Area Election Guideline and Procedures**

The purpose of this guideline is to describe eligibility and the procedures for the election of Utah Area Officers and Coordinators. This guideline is not intended to replace the information in the Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual but to supplement the Service Manual.

Because of the unique nature of both programs, Al-Anon/Alateen members who are also AA members do not hold office leading to membership in the World Service Conference (WSC).

The term of office is three years beginning January 1 of the year following the election.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **AREA OFFICERS**

All present or past members of the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) are eligible to stand for any area officer position. There are no term limits except for the delegate who may serve only one consecutive term. If the alternate delegate must finish the term of the delegate, regardless of the time left in that term, the alternate delegate is eligible to stand for his/her own three-year term as delegate. Area officer positions are Chair, Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Group Records Secretary.

#### **AREA COORDINATORS**

All present or past members of the AWSC, Group Representatives or interested active Al-Anon members with at least 1 year of active membership (2 years for the Alateen Coordinator position) are eligible to stand for an Area Coordinator position. Area coordinator positions are: A.A.I.S., Alanews, Alateen, Alateen Process Person, Archives, Forum, Guidelines, Literature, Public Outreach, Technology, and Website.

### **PROCEDURES**

It is a long-standing principle of one vote per group. During the Fall Election Assembly prior to January 1, the outgoing Group Representatives elect the incoming Area Officers and Coordinators. An Alternate GR or a group member requested by the group to represent them may vote if the GR is unable to attend the assembly. Elections will be held by written ballot. Each Area Officer and Coordinator will be elected by a two-thirds majority vote. (Utah Area motion log, Voting, motion 3-20-1993)

#### **AREA OFFICERS**

1. Names of all candidates eligible to stand for any Area Officer will be listed in full view of the conference. The Chair will go through each name and ask if they are willing to stand for the position being elected. Those willing to stand for each position will be posted on another list for the purpose of counting the ballots.

2. The Secretary calls the roll of voting members. Non-voting members are selected to serve as tellers, collectors of ballots and to record and tally votes.
3. Ballots are cast, collected and given to the tellers to count. Votes will be recorded alongside the names of the candidates.
4. The first candidate to receive a two-thirds vote is elected.
5. If after three votes no one has the required two-thirds vote, and if two candidates each have 40 percent or more of the total vote, the Chair may suggest the two leading candidates stay and the others withdraw. Another ballot is taken. If there is still no two-thirds majority, the choice will be made by lot between the two high candidates.

**AREA COORDINATORS**

1. **For Area Coordinators only** - anyone eligible and willing to stand for a Coordinator position but unable to be present at the assembly may submit a Letter of Intent and, if possible, a picture to the Area Chair two weeks before the Election Assembly. An Al-Anon resume shall be included with the letter.
2. For each Coordinator position the Area Chair will ask all interested and eligible members to stand. The Chair will solicit nominations from the Assembly and ask any nominated member if she/he is willing to stand for the position. All eligible candidates will be listed in full view of the conference for the purpose of counting the ballots.
3. Voting will follow the same procedures in #2-5 as for Area Officers.

DATE	CONTACT	REVISION
9/5/2015	Chris C.	Added Alateen Process Person and Guidelines Coordinators. Clarified titles of area officers. Made formatting changes where necessary for consistency.
9/26/2015	Denise L.	Presented at 2015 Fall Assembly and approved by the body.
3/19/2022	Patrick M.	The following changes were presented to the Spring 2022 Assembly and approved: 1. Adjusted wording in certain paragraphs for clarity 2. Clarified that the Alateen Coordinator must have 2 years of active membership to serve 3. Updated certain paragraphs to reflect current technology 4. Removed the requirement to list the names of all individuals eligible to stand

		for a Coordinator position, substituting having those members interested and eligible to stand 5. Allow for nominations from the floor for Coordinator positions 6. Clarified the procedure for standing <i>in abstencia</i>