

## **SECA ELECTION POLICIES**

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINATION PROCESS**

1. Nominees for SECA President-Elect may be nominated by the following methods:
  - a. By state or local affiliates.
  - b. By individuals who are SECA members.
  - c. By individuals who wish to self-nominate.
2. Notice of acceptance of nominations for President-Elect will be published in SECA publications.
3. A deadline for submission of nominations that is acceptable to the SECA Nominating Committee will be set.
4. All nominations will be sent to the SECA office for consolidation and forwarded to the SECA Nominating Committee.
5. The SECA Nominating Committee will review the nominations and select nominees for interviews by the Committee. The SECA Nominating Committee will conduct the candidate interviews.
6. The SECA office will notify nominees who have been accepted for interviews of the date, time and place that they are to interview with the Nominating Committee. This notification will occur at least 90 days prior to the interviews.

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT ELECTION PROCESS**

1. SECA will produce a ballot and distribute it to the SECA membership, either by mail or insertion in a SECA publication. The ballot will include a check-off to be marked by the member, designating their state membership or non-affiliate membership.
2. The marked ballot will be sent to a designated auditor who will compile the election results according to the following standards:
  - Ballots will be segregated by the membership category checked on the ballot. If no membership category is marked, the ballot will be counted as a non-affiliate ballot.
  - Tallies for each state will be provided to the SECA office.

- The majority vote in each state will constitute that state’s vote for President-Elect.
  - The SECA President will notify the state affiliate president and state affiliate representative of the election results for their state.
  - The State Affiliate Representative will formally cast that state’s vote (based upon the majority vote) for the candidate.
  - Members-at-Large of the SECA Board of Directors will represent the non-affiliate members and cast one vote on behalf of those members.
  - The President will vote only in the case of a tie. The Immediate Past-President will not vote.
3. The outcome of the election will be announced in the next available SECA publication.

**Election Process Timeline**

| <i>Activity</i>                                | <i>Timeframe</i>                                      | <i>Responsible Party</i> |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Nominations Solicited                          | Last quarter of President-Elect’s term                | SECA office              |
| Nominating Committee interviews nominees       | Year 1 of President’s term/prior to annual conference | SECA President           |
| Candidates announced                           | Annual conference                                     | SECA President           |
| Candidates campaign at annual conference       | Annual conference                                     | Candidates               |
| Candidate information published for membership | Spring SECA Reporter<br>Spring/Summer Dimensions      | SECA office              |
| Ballot issued                                  | End of July/Year 1 of President’s term                | SECA office              |
| Ballots received and counted                   | October 1 <sup>st</sup> /Year 1 of President’s Term   | Accounting Firm          |
| Election results announced                     | October 30/Year 1 of President’s Term                 | SECA President           |

**CAMPAIGN POLICY**

The Board of Directors of the Southern Early Childhood Association seeks to promote leadership opportunities and to ensure that capable and qualified leaders are elected to serve as President of SECA. SECA campaign policy is designed to ensure equitable, fair campaigns for President-Elect and to support the efforts of all states to provide leadership for the Association.

- Candidates for SECA President-Elect may use only official statements as they appear in SECA publications.

- State affiliates may publish information about candidates in their newsletters; however, information on all candidates must be included, and the article must be approved prior to publication by the SECA office. Additionally, candidates may be invited to submit articles on early childhood subject areas for state newsletters; however, articles from all candidates must appear in the same newsletter issue.
- Information on the candidates may be distributed at the state/local affiliate meetings; however, information on all candidates must be provided.
- Candidates for SECA President-Elect will sign a statement of intent affirming their agreement to abide by campaign guidelines.