

FAQs for APA Presidential Election and APA Board of Directors

The election for APA President and the Board of Directors has begun. This document provides some quick questions and answers to help SIOP members vote.

1. When do we vote?

Voting began on August 3 and will close on September 16. Ballots will be sent via e-mail.

2. What are the election rules?

Just like the voting process for SIOP President, you vote by ranking candidates from most preferred to least preferred. This process allows for instant-runoff voting when no candidate has a majority of votes in a round of vote counting. A subsequent round of vote counts is made when the last-placed candidate is eliminated and his/her votes are redistributed across remaining candidates, based on those voters' rank-order.

For more information about the voting process, go to:

<https://www.apa.org/about/governance/bylaws/rules-110>. Section 110-2.2 describes the Ware System for preferential voting.

3. How many rounds of voting are typical in an APA election?

Since 1996, only one election went less than 3 rounds (Rosie Phillips Bingham, the candidate that SIOP endorsed in 2018, won in Round 2). Historical data indicate that in many elections, the winner was not determined until the final round. Thus, it is important to rank-order as many candidates as you can.

4. Are there any SIOP members running this year?

No

5. Is SIOP endorsing any candidate this year?

YES! SIOP has formally endorsed Margaret Bull Kovera for APA President-Elect. You can read about this endorsement below.

SIOP is not endorsing any candidates for APA's Board of Directors.

6. What if I like one candidate best? Should I just rank that person #1 and leave the rest unranked?

No! You should rank order the others in order for your vote to influence subsequent rounds.

7. What happens if I don't rank all candidates?

Not ranking a candidate guarantees that person will never receive your vote. However, not ranking two or more candidates will exhaust your ballot should vote counts go to late rounds with your unranked candidates. Thus, if the last rounds only consist of your unranked candidates, you would not have any influence over the final outcomes.

8. Any last words of advice?

Yes – VOTE! APA has more than 70,000 voting members, but it took fewer than 4,000 to elect recent APA Presidents. We can make an impact on APA elections --- Please vote your conscience before the September 16 deadline!