

Frequently Asked Questions: NASPAA Executive Council Nominations

Who is eligible to serve on the NASPAA Executive Council?

Faculty from NASPAA institutional member schools are eligible to serve on the Executive Council. Faculty from associate member schools are ineligible.

Can faculty who are not an institution's principal representative serve on the Executive Council?

Yes, faculty members do not have to be their institution's principal representative to serve on the Council.

Are self-nominations accepted?

Yes, self-nominations are welcome.

Can former Executive Council members be re-elected?

Individuals who have previously served on the Executive Council are eligible to serve again, though NASPAA strives to bring new and unique voices to its governance.

What are the benefits of serving on the NASPAA Executive Council?

Serving on the Executive Council provides faculty with the opportunity to shape the future of public service education, engage with leaders from institutions worldwide, and contribute to meaningful policy discussions. Members gain valuable experience in governance, expand their professional networks, and gain insights into accreditation and the global public service landscape, while bringing visibility to their school and providing meaningful service to the field of public affairs education.

What are the responsibilities of Council members?

Council members are responsible for:

- Attending Council Meetings.
- Providing input into organizational policies and strategies to further NASPAA's mission.
- Serving on at least one committee, subcommittee, or task force.
- Reviewing and approving applications for membership.
- Reviewing and approving the annual budget.
- Receiving the annual independent auditor's report and acting on recommendations as needed (Council members have fiduciary responsibility for the organization).
- Conducting the annual review of JPAE editors.
- Conducting the annual review of the Executive Director.
- Reviewing and approving committees' progress towards meeting their charge.
- Reviewing existing sections and approving new ones.
- Performing other duties as assigned by the NASPAA President.

How often does the Executive Council meet?

The Council meets in-person twice a year: in October at the Global Conference and in March in Washington, D.C. Additional virtual meetings are held throughout the year via Zoom. Council members are expected to attend every meeting. The first meeting for new members will be in Seattle, WA on Saturday, October 3, 2026.

Does NASPAA provide financial support for Council members?

Financial support for Council members' participation is the responsibility of their home institution. Special arrangements may be made in cases of financial hardship. Meetings outside of the Global Conference may be held virtually to reduce expenses.

Is experience in NASPAA governance required?

While experience in NASPAA governance is not required, nominees from long-standing member institutions are expected to have prior involvement with the Association. Faculty from member institutions new to NASPAA are encouraged to apply.

Who reviews the nominations?

Nominations for elective officers are made by a temporary Nominating Committee, chaired by the Immediate Past President, and includes the previous past President and three additional members appointed by the President. The 2026 Nominating Committee members are:

Mohamad G. Alkadry, University of Connecticut - *Chair*
RaJade Berry-James, Virginia Commonwealth University
Cullen C. Merritt, University of Maryland, College Park
Erin L Borry, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Yuna Fontoura, Fundação Getulio Vargas

How are nominees appointed?

The Nominating Committee presents a slate of candidates to the membership at least 30 days prior to the annual business meeting. Voting for the slate's approval takes place at the meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by a principal representative or designated alternate from the same member institution.

Who can I contact with questions about nominations?

For questions about Council Member responsibilities, contact Mohamad Alkadry (malkadry@uconn.edu), current members of the Executive Council, or Nominating Committee members. For technical support with the application form, contact naspaa@naspaa.org.