

Overview of AAA® Election Services

Election of Officers
Contract Ratifications
Representation Elections
Dues Referenda
Bylaws Amendments
Affiliations
Mergers
Employee Card Checks
Proxy Elections
Delegate Elections

The AAA has administered thousands of elections for unions, corporations, retirement systems, associations, professional athletic organizations and colleges. In each case, the AAA adheres to applicable Department of Labor (DOL) Rules, the AAA Election Arbitration Rules and the client's Constitution and Bylaws.

The AAA offers the following election systems and methods:

Mail Ballot Voting

This cost-effective method offers innovative ballot designs and skilled management of the complete balloting process, and encompasses officer elections, contract votes, referendums and bylaw/constitution changes. Typically, the client provides the AAA with a list of eligible voters. The AAA then designs a ballot according to the client's needs and mails them to all eligible members. If a member does not receive the ballot, the AAA has a duplicate request line where the voter can request that another ballot be sent. After the stated deadline for reception, the AAA reviews any issues with the Election Committee. Then ballots are tabulated by optical scanning or manually, depending on the client's needs. Unofficial results are provided after the completion of tabulation with a Certification of Results provided within 48 hours of the count. This is the most popular method of the elections process.

Polling Site Voting

For any polling site election, the AAA can provide on-site assistance utilizing paper ballots, voting machines, or interactive audience response systems. A polling venue is selected by the client with explicit hours for the polling to occur. Members must provide proper identification to receive a ballot from AAA staff. Results are tabulated either manually or by optical scanning upon the closing of the polls. Polls can last one or more days and encompass more than one venue. Voters are assigned districts in which they are eligible to cast their vote as determined by the client.



Touch-Screen Voting

Touch-screen voting is an accurate, user-friendly (ATM voting style) voting method using lightweight, portable voting machines. It works over wireless or hotspot internet connections in the same manner as polling site voting. Rather than handing a member a physical paper ballot, the member is directed to a computer that will register their vote electronically.

When the polling site is closed, the AAA downloads the results without the need to conduct manual or optical scanning. Like polling site voting, touch-screen voting can occur at multiple venues.

Optical or Image Ballot Scanning

The AAA can scan approximately 12,000 paper or card ballots per hour providing instantaneous results. Image scanning is also utilized for reviewing survey data. Each ballot has an optical picture taken and an impression made to ensure that it has been registered properly. Results are 99.9999% accurate. This method is recommended for more complex voting needs such as slate voting, multiple ballots, and multiple offices, and significantly reduces the time tabulating results.

Automated Telephone Voting (ATV)

Telephone voting is a secure voting method for a geographically diverse client providing easy access 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Voters are provided a PIN through regular mail or via email that is unique to them and serves as their access ID to vote. This method is used for all voting options except for officer elections as no position has been taken by the DOL with regards to the validity of the final results. Unions not governed by DOL Rules and Procedures can opt for this method for all elections if they so choose.

Online Voting

Online voting is quickly becoming a popular method that allows voters to download extensive ballot information (candidate biographical sketches and contracts) and vote 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All information is the same as ATV except the user must log into a website rather than call a toll-free number to cast their vote. It is common for clients to bundle ATV and Online Voting for the same election.

For more information about AAA Election services, please contact:

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