



# Board of Directors Election Procedure

## National Indian Education Association

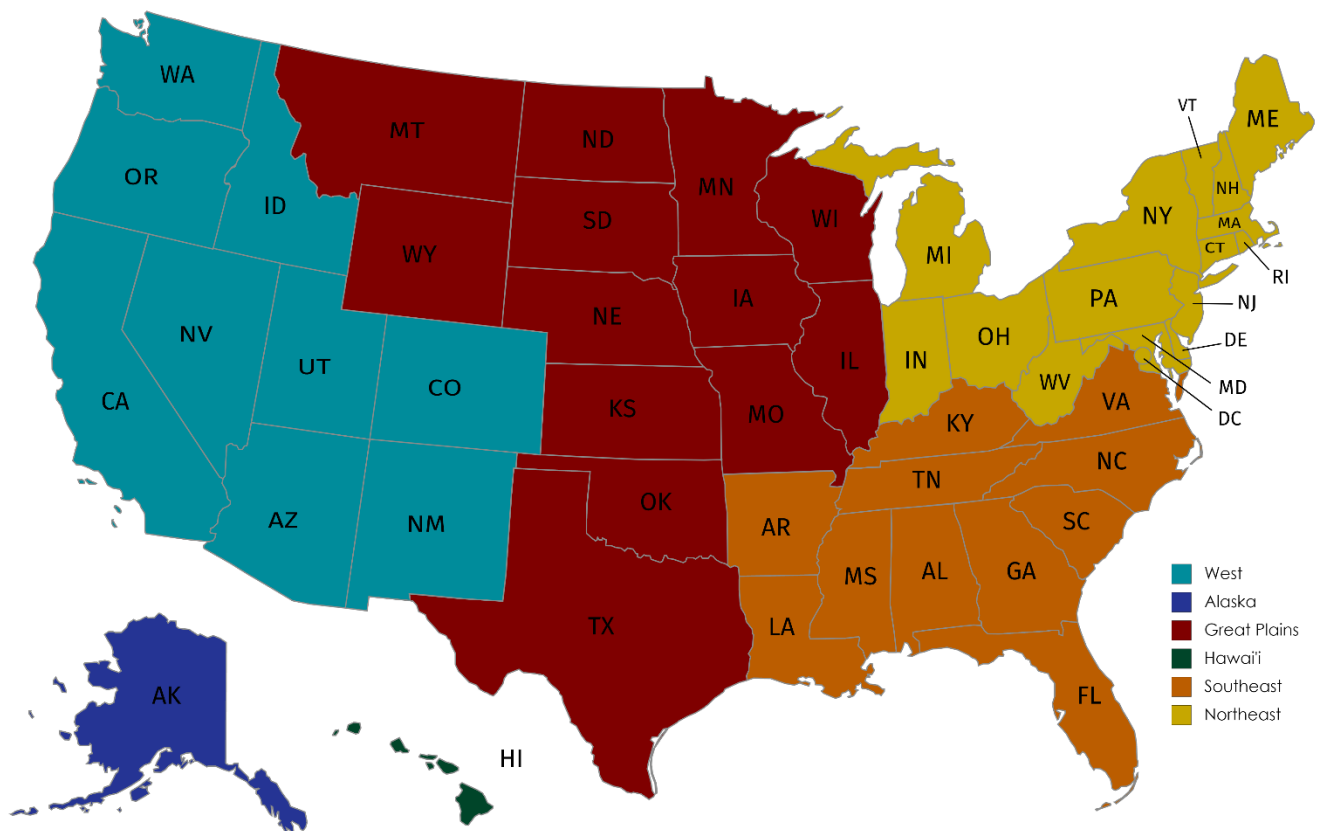
### 2019 Annual Convention & Trade Show

The NIEA Board of Directors consists of twelve seats held by ten General Board Members and two Student Board Members. Both General Board Members and Student Board Members serve staggered terms on the Board of Directors. General Board Members elected in 2019 will serve a four-year term and Student Board Members will serve a two-year term. All members of the Board of Directors must remain **members in good standing** for the duration of their term.

### Regional Representation

In October 2018, the NIEA membership amended the Constitution and By-Laws to require regional representation on the NIEA Board of Directors. To comply with these new requirements, the NIEA Board of Directors is currently in the process of transitioning to a Board that consists of the following:

- Six (6) Regional Board Members elected to represent one of the following regions, within which the Board Member is required to reside—West, Alaska, Great Plains, Hawai'i, Southeast, and Northeast; and
- Four (4) At-Large General Board Members elected to represent Native students throughout the United States. At-Large seats may be filled by a qualified candidate, regardless of where they live within the United States.



### 2019 Board Vacancies

For the 2019 Board of Directors election, there will be four (4) vacancies:

- One (1) General Board Member representing the Southeast Region. Qualified candidates must reside within the NIEA Southeast Region (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA); and

- Two (2) General Board Members representing the At-Large community. Qualified candidates may reside anywhere within the United States; and
- One (1) Student Board Member.

### Eligibility Requirements

All candidates must meet the following requirements to run for the NIEA Board of Directors during the 2019 Annual Convention & Trade Show:

1. Be a verified (by the organization) as a voting member of NIEA at the time of application submission;
2. Submit documented proof of Native enrollment, lineage, or descent;
3. Present a record of service and good standing to NIEA, as detailed in the section below;
4. Be willing to fulfill the required roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors; and
5. Must have served fewer than three terms on the Board.

A record of good standing shall include serving on Board Committees, as outlined in the NIEA Constitution and By-laws.

#### NIEA Board Committees

- |              |                                      |             |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Governance | • Membership                         | • Fiscal    |
| • Advocacy   | • Native Control of Native Education | • Executive |
| • Ad Hoc     |                                      |             |

**Student Board Member:** In addition to the requirements outlined above, candidates seeking to become a Student Board Member must show proof of full time enrollment, as defined by their institution, in a post-secondary institution of higher education at the time of the election and must remain a full-time student for the duration of their two-year term. NIEA will work with the student Board member(s) and their current educational institution to seek and document enrollment verification on semester by semester basis throughout the two years of Board service. Each student member will be responsible for providing verification of enrollment at the beginning of each period (e.g., semester, term) in which full-time enrollment is recognized by the educational institution; and notify the Board President and Executive Director of any change or pending change in full-time enrollment status as soon as possible.

### Timeline for the 2019 Elections

Date	Description
Friday, August 9, 2019	Candidates may submit nomination material for the NIEA Board of Directors via the online portal located on the NIEA website at <a href="http://www.niea.org/our-story/board-of-directors/bod-elections/">http://www.niea.org/our-story/board-of-directors/bod-elections/</a> .  <i>The deadline for applications from interested candidates is Friday, August 9, 2019 before 12am EST.</i>
August – September 2019	All candidates are required to participate in one of 2 trainings hosted by the NIEA Board of Directors to review election rules and procedures for the 2019 Elections.
Wednesday, September 11, 2019	The NIEA Board of Directors will publish the final slate of candidates running during the 2019 Convention & Tradeshow.
Tuesday – Saturday, October 8-12, 2019	All candidates are required to participate in all election sessions hosted during the 2019 NIEA Convention & Tradeshow. These

Date	Description
	sessions will be described in more detail during the trainings hosted by the Board of Directors.
<b>Friday, October 11, 2019</b>	Elections will be held on Friday, October 11, 2019 during the 2019 Annual Convention & Trade Show. Voting will begin by 9:00am (Central) and end by 5pm (Central).
<b>Saturday, October 12, 2019</b>	NIEA will announce the results of the election during the final General Assembly on Saturday, October 12, 2019.
<b>Saturday – Sunday October 12-13, 2019</b>	All newly elected members of the Board of Directors are required to attend new member training and a Board meeting scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, October 12, 2019 and all day on Sunday, October 13, 2019, respectively.

*\*Prospective Board Members are responsible for all travel and lodging and should anticipate staying for the Board meeting following the conclusion of the convention.*

### **Election Procedures**

Election of the NIEA Board of Directors will be held on-site at the NIEA Convention and will follow the election procedures established and published by the NIEA Board of Directors. Per the Constitution and By-Laws, candidates will be elected by vote of eligible members of NIEA; each voting member shall be entitled to one vote; proxy votes shall not be allowed.

### **Voting On-Site | Friday, October 11, 2019 by 9 am CST**

On-site elections will be conducted during the 2019 Annual Convention & Trade Show at the designated voting area.

### **Voting by Absentee Ballot | Due Tuesday, October 8, 2019 by 12am EST**

Individuals who have paid their 2019 membership may request absentee ballots from the NIEA office, if they are unable to attend the 2019 Convention. Absentee ballots must be submitted by Tuesday, October 8, 2019.

*Please e-mail the NIEA office to request an absentee ballot at [NIEA@niea.org](mailto:NIEA@niea.org).*

### **Election Results**

The process of tabulating the official votes for Board of Directors candidates will adhere to Article IV of the NIEA Constitution, and all votes will be tabulated on-site by the NIEA Board Ombudsman, Governance Committee, and/or their designates. The candidates with the highest number of votes will be offered a seat on the new of Board Directors. Election results will be announced at the final General Assembly.

### **Election Challenge Procedure**

If there is a challenge to the election results, it must be filed with the NIEA's Ombudsman by 12:00 pm (Central) on Saturday, October 12, 2019. In the event of an election challenge, the NIEA Board of Directors will convene to address it.

*Please contact NIEA Legislative Analyst Adrienne Elliott at [aelliott@niea.org](mailto:aelliott@niea.org) or 202-847-0040 with any questions or concerns.*