

**AFL-CIO Young Worker Advisory Council
Young Worker Group Regional Elections 2015
Frequently Asked Questions**

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

What is the AFL-CIO Young Worker Advisory Council?

The AFL-CIO's Young Worker Advisory Council (YWAC) advises and helps implement the AFL-CIO's NextUp young worker program. Councilmembers are voices for economic and social justice in their communities and their unions, and they are charged with helping the AFL-CIO find new and innovative ways to engage the next generation of workers in the labor movement. They will mentor, train, and develop young worker group leaders and publicly represent the AFL-CIO's NextUp program across the country. Groups across the federation, from the AFL-CIO's Executive Council to the State Federation/CLC Advisory Committee, will rely on their counsel as the labor movement deepens its commitment to the engagement and development of workers.

Who serves on the YWAC?

Per [Resolution 19](#) at the AFL-CIO Convention in September 2013 and a February 2014 Executive Council Statement:

- Any international affiliate of the AFL-CIO may appoint a young worker to the YWAC;
- AFL-CIO Young Worker Groups may elect a representative from each of the five AFL-CIO regions;
- Working America may appoint a representative and the Labor Coalition for Community Action (LCCA) may appoint a representative.

What are the responsibilities of YWAC membership?

- For the purposes of this pilot election, each elected member will serve a one-year term.
- YWAC requires a significant, regular, and ongoing commitment, including monthly phone calls and an in-person meeting twice a year.
- Foster and develop young worker networks across the country at the national, state and local level.
- Assist in mentoring and leadership training for young workers and AFL-CIO Young Worker Groups.
- Advise the AFL-CIO on national young worker program development and provide guidance to the State Fed/CLC Advisory Committee on youth engagement.
- Attend and participate in YWAC meetings twice a year and monthly teleconference calls.
- Serve on subcommittees as requested by the Secretary-Treasurer, or as determined by the YWAC itself.

Who is eligible to serve on the YWAC?

Nominees must be members of a nationally affiliated AFL-CIO union or Working America and meet the following basic requirements:

- Candidates should have experience in young worker outreach, programming, or activism within their union, community, or organization. (Experience will vary.)
- Candidates should have demonstrated leadership in some form.
- YWAC representatives should be 35 or under at the time of election.
- Travel costs to YWAC meetings, the AFL-CIO NextUp Summit, and the Quadrennial Convention will be covered by the elected member's State Fed, CLC, or affiliate.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ELECTION OF AFL-CIO YOUNG WORKER GROUP REPRESENTATIVES TO THE YWAC

Who will determine eligibility to run for an elected seat on the YWAC?

- The AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer shall appoint five YWAC members to serve on the Elections Committee.
- Following the Elections Timeline, responsibilities of the Elections Committee will be:
 - The elections committee will send a nomination form which shall be sent to each known Young Worker Group in the country.
 - Upon closing of the nominations period, the committee will review all applicants with the Regional Directors to determine eligibility.
 - The Committee will forward all eligible nominees to the Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO, and will post all nominees on its website, along with a paragraph (up to 500 words) from each nominee.

How does the nomination and election process work for the AFL-CIO Young Worker Group designated seats on the YWAC?

- Each Young Worker Group may, if they choose, conduct an internal process for determining a nominee for election to the YWAC.
- After determining its nominee, the YWG shall submit the attached nomination form to the Elections committee of the YWAC.
- Each AFL-CIO Young Worker Group will receive one (1) vote for a representative from their region. The nominee with the most votes from the region wins the election.
- AFL-CIO Young Worker Groups must submit a ballot that includes the name of the nominee being supported, the date of the vote, the results of the vote, and the signatures of at least three attending members.
- In the event no nominee receives a plurality of Young Worker Group votes, there will be a one-week runoff election for that region's representative.

What is the timeline for YWAC nominations and voting?

May 22	AFL-CIO posts/emails nomination form and begins to accept nominations.
June 12:	Nominations close at 8pm ET

June 16:	Nominees for each region announced
June 19:	Voting Opens
July 10:	Voting closes at 8pm ET
July 13:	Election results announced
July 14-17:	<i>Run-off elections if needed</i>

What qualifies as an “AFL-CIO Young Worker Group”?

- Federation Young Worker Groups that have a formal relationship with their relevant State Federation, Central Labor Council, or Area Labor Federation have standing to nominate and vote on a representative.
- Federation Young Worker Groups that have no formal relationship, but demonstrate a clear intent to formalize their relationship via the passage of the Structural Resolution through their State Federation, Central Labor Council, or Area Labor Federation at the earliest opportunity also have standing to nominate and vote on a representative.
- The AFL-CIO will post an initial list of eligible AFL-CIO Young Worker Groups by May 1.

Where do we send nominations and votes?

Votes and nominations must be must be **received** by the Secretary-Treasurer’s Office by 8pm ET on the deadline day (June 12 for nominations, July 10 for votes).

You must either scan your ballot into a PDF and email it to Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler at nextup@afcio.org or mail it to:

Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler
815 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20006