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Candidates for the 2027 Board of Directors

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

(1) Three-Year Term in Each Region

(1) Two-Year Partial Term in the Northeast Region

Following is the slate of nominees as of July 1, 2026.

Central Region – **Kathleen Bruinsma***
Grand Rapids Community College, MI

Northeast Region – **Allen K. Williams***
Monroe Community College, NY

Northeast Region Two-Year Partial Term
Reza Jafari*
Chesapeake College, MD

Pacific Region – **Jose Alcala***
Riverside Community College District, CA

Southern Region – **Terry W. Atchley***
South Florida State College, FL

Western Region – **Carol Scott***
Del Mar College, TX

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

(3) Three-Year Terms

Following is the slate of nominees as of July 1, 2026.

Maureen Banks*
Parkland College, IL

Donald D. Dantzler, Jr.*
Madison Area Technical College, WI

Trinh Nguyen*
Bunker Hill Community College, MA

Keyatta Priester*
Aiken Technical College, SC

Andrew Speer*
Mt. Hood Community College, OR

Oscar Valladares*
Río Hondo College, CA

Olivia Zepeda*
Arizona Western College, AZ

** Candidates with an asterisk received the support of their respective Regional Nominating Committees.*

Note: Nominations will be accepted from the floor for all elections.

Announcement of Board Candidates

The 26-member ACCT Board of Directors consists of 15 directors elected regionally, nine directors-at-large elected by the Senate, and two directors appointed by the ACCT Chair. A full elected term is three years. Directors serve staggered terms.

At the Annual ACCT Congress, one director is elected from each of the five regions during the Regional Caucuses and Meetings, and three directors are elected at-large during the Senate meeting.

Regional Nominating Committees met during the week of February 8, 2026 to interview and nominate candidates for regional directors and support directors-at-large. Candidates are listed above.



2027 Board Candidate Statements

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

CENTRAL REGION



Kathleen Bruinsma
Grand Rapids Community College, MI

I have proudly served as a Director for the Central Region since my June 2025 appointment to a vacated seat and my October 2025 election to complete the third year of that appointed term. I now respectfully request your vote for a three-year term as a Director for the Central Region.

I am passionate about community colleges because open access to quality public education strengthens families, communities, and democracy; and bolsters our economy by preparing students for careers that pay a thriving wage.

My engagement reflects my commitment. I am in my ninth year and second term as an elected trustee for Grand Rapids Community College. I also serve as a member of the Michigan Community College Association Board of Directors and Chair of the MCCA Legislative Committee. I am a staunch advocate for our students during and beyond NLS. I would be honored to continue serving ACCT and its members.

NORTHEAST REGION



Allen K. Williams
Monroe Community College, NY

Monroe Community College Trustee Allen K. Williams has helped to increase opportunities for MCC students to achieve academically and professionally through public higher education. His advocacy reinforces the College's reputation for institutional excellence and innovation and helps the College effectively respond to challenges faced during times of economic

uncertainty and systemic racism. His insights and experience help ensure MCC prioritizes inclusion and a sense of belonging in its programs, policies, campus life, employment, and community involvement. MCC is consistently invited to the table when the Greater Rochester community and New York state seek solutions to increase student success, economic recovery, and workforce development. His work has improved the early childhood to K-12 to college pipeline and responded to the needs of regional employers through MCC's robust career-technical programs. As a trustee Allen Williams inspires MCC to deliver an exceptional educational experience to the college's diverse student population.



Reza Jafari
Chesapeake College, MD

Serving as the Chair of the Chesapeake College Board of Trustees, Reza Jafari has a proven track record in making significant contributions to the ecosystem of community colleges as the engines of economic empowerment through student success. He has served on the ACCT Communication and Education; Finance and Audit; and Government Relations and Policy Committees. He is currently serving on the ACCT Finance and Audit Committee and as the ACCT State Coordinator for Maryland. He is a Board member and Treasurer of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges. He is a successful entrepreneur who has created several innovative and high impact companies focusing on training and education and workforce development. He is a strong advocate of providing opportunities and equitable access to education for all throughout his professional career at small and very large companies as well as his volunteering services at local, state, national and international organizations. He has been

a leading participant in strategic planning for Chesapeake College. He is a recipient of the Gold Award from the Council for Advancement of Science and Technology in Education.

PACIFIC REGION



Jose Alcala
Riverside Community College District, CA

As a Trustee of The Riverside Community College District and in my career as an educator for 23 years, I have been committed to advocating for access of all students.

When truly advocating for all students, our goal should be to provide our students to equal access to all educational opportunities. Access should not be denied because of gender, ethnicity, language, special needs, immigration status, or socio-economic status.

Working to a fully integrated society means that we eliminate by statute and practice, barriers of race, color, national origin, language, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, economic status and genetic characteristics that prevent some individuals, adult or juvenile, from exercising rights enjoyed by others.

Our institutions can truly be transformative for the people we serve because we are not only a partner to our communities; we are the community's colleges.

SOUTHERN REGION



Terry W. Atchley
South Florida State College, FL

I am honored to seek the role of Southern Region Director for ACCT. My Service as Past President of South Florida State College Foundation and current Chair of the District Board of Trustees at South Florida State College

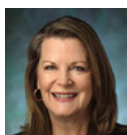


has strengthened my commitment to advancing student achievement and long-term success. I am dedicated to ensuring that our colleges remain the engines of opportunity, especially within the small and rural communities we proudly serve.

With a deep understanding of governance, community partnerships, and the unique challenges facing rural students, I am committed to advocating for policies and resources that elevate educational access and outcomes across our region. I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue serving our institutions, our students, and our communities through this important leadership role.

I humbly and respectfully ask for your consideration and support.

WESTERN REGION



Carol Scott
Del Mar College, TX

With two decades of service in public and higher education, she is currently serving her fourth term as Chair of the Del Mar College Board of Regents. She is past chair of the Community College Association of Texas Trustees and served on the Texas Commission on Community College Finance revamping the model for community finance in the state.

She is the current Western Regional Chair for ACCT and has previously served on the Audit and Finance Committee and was Texas State Coordinator for ACCT for five years.

Carol is a Distinguished Alumni from Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Other leadership roles include: Corpus Christi ISD Board, Leadership Texas, Leadership Corpus Christi, Chamber of Commerce, Texas Public Relations Association (TPRA). She received the TPRA's highest individual honor for service to the

profession, is a member of Public Relations Society of America's College of Fellows and received PRSA's Paul M. Lund Public Service Award.

DIRECTOR AT-LARGE



Maureen Banks
Parkland College, IL

I believe in the community college. Serving as a trustee has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my professional life. My service at Parkland College, especially as board chair, has allowed me to witness firsthand the transformative power of education. Each of my leadership roles – from working with the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA), to serving on the State of Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC) – has deepened my commitment to student success and community impact. My more than 30 years in higher education administration complement my board-level experiences. My service as a trustee at a private four-year university and as a Rotarian has broadened my perspective and reinforced my belief in service. I am passionate about fostering equity, transparency, and resilience, and will strive to ensure our colleges remain places where all students can thrive.



Donald D. Dantzler, Jr.
Madison Area Technical College, WI

Donald D. Dantzler, Jr. is Board Chairman of Madison Area Technical College in Madison WI. Since appointed in 2022, Donald has been active at various levels.

- Locally, Donald has collaborated closely with the college's executive cabinet to develop the new Strategic Framework

and has taken the leading role in the national presidential search process.

- Regionally, he serves on the District Board Association's (DBA) board and the Bylaws Committee.

- Nationally, Donald has represented the college at all ACCT events, including the Leadership Congress and National Legislative Summit. He has also contributed significantly through his roles on various committees and panels:

- Trustee Panelist, Governance Leadership Institute (2024)
- Member, Education and Communication Committee (2023-2024).
- Member, Finance and Audit Committee (2024-Present)
- Member, African American Trustee Caucus (2022-2024)

Donald's commitment to governance, education, and leadership reflects his dedication to advancing the mission and purpose of community colleges.



Trinh Nguyen
Bunker Hill Community College, MA

ACCT promotes high governance standards for students, faculty, institutions and industries, so that it can provide a competitive talent pool to meet the workforce demand of employers. Now, more than ever, this effort is essential to the rapidly changing labor market, federal policies, and needs of different student bodies. I see these challenging dynamics as an opportunity to think creatively and innovatively about how community colleges shape (and will shape) the future of our workforce, and thus contribute to the U.S. economy.

My skill set in operational excellence and strong financial management, and understanding of the core values and programs of community colleges can



help the ACCT leadership and board to successfully accomplish its mission and goals. Additionally, my personal experience as a refugee and immigrant from Vietnam will offer a strong foundation to work together to quickly help identify issues, and to provide solutions for success. Equally important, however, is that being an ACCT board member will help me learn, grow, and share a network of amazing resources so that I can be a better leader as a Trustee at Bunker Hill Community College and public servant for the City of Boston.



Keyatta Priester
Aiken Technical College, SC

I am Keyatta Priester, honored to serve as a commissioner appointed to the Aiken County Commission for Technical and Comprehensive Education, the governing board for Aiken Technical College. I am grateful to Governors Nikki Haley and Henry McMaster for the opportunity to serve a third term.

I serve as Manager of Community Development at Aiken Electric Cooperative, Inc., and am proud to be the first African American woman to hold this role. With more than two decades in the utility industry, my work focuses on community engagement, education, and economic development.

I currently serve on the Impact and Success Committee (formerly the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee) for the Association of Community College Trustees. I am also the first African American female President of the Rotary Club of Aiken and Past Chair of the South Carolina Association of Technical College Commissioners. I remain actively engaged in civic and nonprofit leadership dedicated to strengthening our community.



Andrew Speer
Mt. Hood Community College, OR

Andrew Speer has served on the Board of Trustees at Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) since 2019. Andrew has served MHCC as committee chair, board vice chair, board chair, and chaired the MHCC political action committee for the successful May 2025 bond campaign, the first bond passed in over 50 years. Andrew has also served on the board of the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) and has served as board vice president and board president for OCCA. He has also served ACCT four consecutive years on committees through service on the Finance (2x) and Public Policy and Advocacy (2x) Committees in addition to a two-year term on the Pacific Region Nominating Committee. Andrew holds a bachelor's and master's degree in economics from Portland State University and is a graduate of MHCC. Professionally, he works for the City of Portland in Oregon as a program manager and public policy expert.



Oscar Valladares
Rio Hondo College, CA

As a proud former Dreamer and graduate of East Los Angeles Community College, and a current Trustee on the Río Hondo College Board, I respectfully ask for your support and vote for Director – Pacific Region. Community college transformed my life, and now I have the honor and privilege to collaborate with Trustees across the country to strengthen our community college system.

Since 2020, I have volunteered with ACCT as a committee member, Board Director, Secretary-Treasurer, and currently as Vice-Chair. Access and success in postsecondary education made it possible for me—and many other Americans to change our social and economic realities.

In my role as a public servant with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, I serve my community by providing vital mental health services. As a Trustee, I am deeply committed to Student Success through access and completion, ensuring that students' basic needs—such as housing, food, technology, and mental health services are met.

I believe that together we can continue building a 21st-century community college experience that empowers all students to transform their socioeconomic futures.



Olivia Zepeda
Arizona Western College, AZ

I am honored to seek election to the ACCT Board of Directors, representing the Pacific Region. For 14 years, I have served as a Trustee for Arizona Western College, including six years as Board Secretary, advocating for strong governance, equitable access, and student success in diverse rural and border communities. With more than 40 years in education and leadership experience across school districts, community colleges, and universities, I bring a deep understanding of P-20 systems, community engagement, and workforce needs.

My ACCT involvement includes attending 11 Leadership Congresses, five National Legislative Summits, and serving on four Associate Committees. In 2025, I was appointed by ACCT Board Chair Carol Del Carlo to complete a one-year term on the Board.

I am committed to advancing ACCT's mission by promoting effective governance, accessible and affordable education, strong advocacy, and trustee development. I bring dedication, collaboration, and a meaningful regional perspective.

Learn. Connect. Grow. Lead.

Your Trustee Leadership Journey Starts Here.

ACCT Connect is ACCT's year-round online community where trustees learn, collaborate, and stay connected. Access educational resources, engage with peers from across the country, participate in communities of practice, and continue learning long after Congress ends.



Take Your Learning Further with ACCT Excel

Built within ACCT Connect, **ACCT Excel** is ACCT's cohort-based professional development program designed to help community college trustees build the knowledge, skills, and confidence to lead effectively. Through self-paced online learning, live educational opportunities, and stackable digital badges, participants create a personalized learning pathway while working toward the **ACCT Excel Certificate of Achievement**.

One Connected Ecosystem for Trustee Success

- **Learn** through expert-led educational content and on-demand resources.
- **Connect** with trustees nationwide to share ideas, ask questions, and build lasting professional relationships.
- **Grow** by earning digital badges and developing expertise across key areas of community college governance.
- **Lead** with the knowledge and confidence to make informed decisions that strengthen your institution and improve student success.



Scan the QR code to explore ACCT Connect and begin your learning journey today at **connect.acct.org**.



About the ACCT Board of Directors

The ACCT Board of Directors represents community college trustees throughout the United States and several outlying territories. ACCT's membership territory is divided into five regions (Central, Northeast, Pacific, Southern, and Western).

The 26-member ACCT Board of Directors consists of 15 directors elected regionally, nine directors-at-large elected by the Senate, and two directors appointed by the Chair. A full elected term is three years. Directors serve staggered terms.

At the Annual ACCT Leadership Congress, one regional director is elected from each of the five regions (Central, Northeast, Pacific, Southern, and Western) at the Regional Caucuses and Meetings, and three directors are elected at-large at the Senate Meeting.

Regional Nominating Committees meet during the Community College National Legislative Summit (NLS) in February to interview and nominate candidates for regional directors and support directors-at-large. While meeting with Regional Nominating Committees is not required to be elected to the ACCT Board of Directors, it is *highly* encouraged, as candidates supported by their respective Regional Nominating Committees are designated as such during Regional Caucuses and the Senate meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Annual ACCT Leadership Congress on all elections, however, provided that the nominee has a letter of support from his or her local board.

How to Join the ACCT Board of Directors*

Declaring your candidacy for a seat on the ACCT Board of Directors indicates that once elected, you will honor your commitment as a board member to attend and participate in all committee and board meetings. These meetings are held during the ACCT Annual Leadership Congress, the National Legislative Summit, and the Annual Summer Board Retreat; and when necessary, via teleconference between these three annual meetings if and when required to transact the business of the association. Your declared candidacy also serves as confirmation that your institution is willing to financially support your expenses related to travel and hotel accommodations during these meetings.

There are two ways to run for a seat (Regional Director or Director at-Large) on the ACCT Board of Directors:

To declare your candidacy in advance of elections at the ACCT Leadership Congress and appear in the <i>Advisor</i> , you must:	To run for a seat from the floor at the ACCT Leadership Congress, you must:
• Be a trustee in good standing at an ACCT member college.	• Be a trustee at an ACCT member college
• At the time of election, you must have completed a minimum of one year of volunteer service to ACCT and have attended at least one ACCT Leadership Congress and one Community College National Legislative Summit. "Volunteer service to ACCT" is defined as service as an elected or appointed member of a Standing Committee or the Governance and Bylaws Committee, service as an elected or appointed member of a Regional Nominating Committee, or service as an appointed Coordinator in the ACCT State, Province and Territory Coordinators Network.	• At the time of election, you must have completed a minimum of one year of volunteer service to ACCT and have attended at least one ACCT Leadership Congress and one Community College National Legislative Summit. "Volunteer service to ACCT" is defined as service as an elected or appointed member of a Standing Committee or the Governance and Bylaws Committee, service as an elected or appointed member of a Regional Nominating Committee, or service as an appointed Coordinator in the ACCT State, Province and Territory Coordinators Network.
• Submit a letter of declaration to run for office.	• Must be nominated from the floor by a voting delegate from the candidate's respective institution.
• Submit a letter of support from your local board indicating your institution's commitment to provide financial support for your service as an ACCT Board member, including participation in the ACCT Leadership Congress, Community College National Legislative Summit, and Annual Summer Board of Directors Retreat and Meeting.	• Submit a letter of support from your local board indicating your institution's commitment to provide financial support for your service as an ACCT Board member, including participation in the ACCT Leadership Congress, Community College National Legislative Summit, and Annual Summer Board of Directors Retreat and Meeting.
• Submit a one-page resume that emphasizes community college-related service and other civic activities. Information about professional history and education may also be included.	
• Submit a narrative statement that details qualifications, not to exceed 150 words, for inclusion in printed voting materials.	
• Provide ACCT with a print-quality (300 dpi or higher) head-and-shoulders photograph by e-mail, for inclusion in printed voting materials. If an electronic photo is not available, a 5" x 7" head-and-shoulders photo, preferably color, may also be accepted. (Photos will not be returned.)	
• Provide an optional second letter of support from another ACCT member board (for example, a state association). This letter of support must be limited to one page.	

The deadlines to submit nominations for inclusion in the fall 2026 ACCT Advisor newsletter and to be considered for the 2026 Nominating Committee interviews have passed. Nominations will be accepted from the floor on all elections.



57th Annual ACCT Leadership Congress

HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS • OCTOBER 21-24

ACCT REGIONAL CAUCUSES AND MEETINGS

Thursday, October 22, 2026

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Regional Caucus Rules of Procedure
3. Regional Nominating Committee Report
4. Election of Regional Director(s)
5. Election – Nominating Committee Members
6. Introduction of Director-at-Large Candidates
7. Regional Meeting
 - a. Update on the ACCT State, Province, and Territory Coordinators Network
 - b. Regional Business as Determined by the Regional Chair

REGIONAL CAUCUS RULES OF PROCEDURE

As specified by the ACCT Bylaws, each region shall, at a Regional Caucus held during the Annual ACCT Leadership Congress, prior to the Senate Meeting, elect a Regional Director and Regional Nominating Committee members.

Meeting Logistics:

Seating arrangement: The Regional Caucus Meeting room will be divided into two areas: The Voting Delegate Area and a General Seating Area.

1. The Voting Delegate Area is restricted to the voting delegates only.
2. In order to vote, voting delegates must wear their ACCT badges with “Voting Delegate” credentials.
3. In order for a delegate’s vote to be counted on any matter, the delegate must be seated in the voting delegate area.
4. The ACCT Bylaws provide for nominations from the floor on all elections. Nominations must be made by a voting delegate from each candidate’s respective institution. The voting delegate making the nomination must make the nomination on behalf of the member board and provide a letter affirming the member board’s support at or before the nomination.
5. ACCT’s regional teller is responsible for distributing ballots to voting delegates, collecting ballots, counting ballots, and reporting results to the Chair. The assistant regional teller and sergeant-at-arms help the regional chair with these responsibilities.
6. Candidates for director-at-large positions may be introduced individually within an organized group and may speak for two minutes.

Positions to be elected:

a. Regional Director:

Regional director elections will take place in accordance with rules listed in the ACCT Bylaws. A majority of ballots cast is necessary for election as director. On any ballot, voting delegates may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled. On any ballot, only one vote may be cast for a candidate. If one or more candidates is elected on any ballot, then the remaining candidates shall continue to be eligible for election to any position remaining to be filled. If no person is elected on any ballot, then the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on that ballot shall be dropped before the next ballot. If there are no more candidates than positions to be filled, the election shall be by acclamation.

b. Regional Nominating Committee Members:

Each Regional Nominating Committee is responsible for the nomination of Directors of the Association and shall be composed of five members each. These members shall be elected from the voting members of that region at the caucuses held during the Annual Congress of the Association. No more than one member shall be from the same state. Vacancies shall be filled by the regional chair with consideration given to filling the vacancy with a trustee from the same state as the committee member who vacated the position. A member of the Board of Directors cannot serve as a member of the Nominating Committee. In order to be considered for nomination to the Board of Directors, a nominating committee member must tender his/her resignation to the regional chair, postmarked 30 days prior to the scheduled nominating committee meeting at the National Legislative Summit.

Nominating Committee members shall serve for two-year staggered terms. They may serve more than one term, but terms may not be consecutive. The chair of each nominating committee shall be elected by the respective nominating committee at the close of the regional caucus and meeting.

Note: Campaign materials are not to be posted or distributed at the voting delegate sign-in table. Active campaigning is not allowed at the voting delegate sign-in table.



57th Annual ACCT Leadership Congress

HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS • OCTOBER 21-24

ACCT SENATE MEETING

Friday, October 23, 2026

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Senate Rules of Procedure
3. Introductions
4. Election of Directors-at-Large
5. State of the Association and Financial Report to the Membership
6. Ratification of Amendments to the ACCT Bylaws
7. Other items

SENATE RULES OF PROCEDURE

As defined by the Association Bylaws, the Senate has the full authority of the membership and is composed of the voting delegates of the Voting Members of the Association.

The Senate will elect three Directors-at-Large during the Annual Meeting of the Association.

The Senate shall hold at least one meeting annually which is the Annual Meeting of the Association. Special meetings of the Senate may be called by the chair or a majority of the Board of Directors. The following Rules of Procedure will be followed during all Senate Meetings.

Meeting Logistics:

Seating arrangement: The Senate Meeting room will be divided into two areas: The Voting Delegate Area and a General Seating Area.

1. The Voting Delegate Area is restricted to the voting delegates only.
2. During the official Senate proceedings, non-voting members and guests are restricted from the Voting Delegate Area.
3. In order to vote, voting delegates must wear his/her ACCT badge with "Voting Delegate" credentials.
4. ACCT's regional teller is responsible for distributing ballots to voting delegates, collecting ballots, counting ballots, and reporting results to the Chair. The assistant regional teller and sergeant-at-arms help the regional chair with

these responsibilities.

5. All voting delegates must wear their ACCT badge with "Voting Delegate" designation.
6. In order for a delegate's vote to be counted on any matter, the delegates must be seated in the voting area.
7. Only voting delegates may speak on any motion and must go to the microphone in order to speak: No voting delegate may speak to any motion for more than two minutes. No voting delegate may speak to any motion a second time until all voting delegates who wish to address the motion have been recognized. Voting delegates may be recognized for further discussion at the will of the Chair.
8. During the official Senate proceedings, non-voting trustees are restricted from the voting delegate area.
9. The ACCT Bylaws provide for nominations from the floor on all elections. Nominations must be made by a voting delegate from each candidate's respective institution. The voting delegate making the nomination must make the nomination on behalf of the member board and provide a letter affirming the member board's support at or before the nomination.
10. The ACCT coordinator of tellers supervises the ballot counting reporting process in accordance with Bylaws rules and regulations.
11. Campaign materials are not to be posted or distributed within the Senate meeting room.
12. A majority of ballots cast is necessary for election as director-at-large. On any ballot, voting delegates may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled. On any ballot, only one vote may be cast for a candidate. If one or more candidates are elected on any ballot, then all remaining candidates shall continue to be eligible for election to any position remaining to be filled. If no person is elected on any ballot, then the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped before the next ballot.
13. Director-at-large candidates shall receive only one opportunity to address the Senate in support of their candidacy. The order in which director-at-large candidates will address the Senate shall be determined by lot.

Director-at-Large Candidacy:

1. If a candidate is to be nominated from the floor at the Senate Meeting and has notified ACCT 10 days prior to the date of Regional Caucuses, the candidate will be eligible to address voting members at Regional Caucuses along with other nominated candidates. **Candidates who notify ACCT fewer than 10 days prior to the date of Regional Caucuses WILL NOT be eligible to address voting members at Regional Caucuses.**
2. Candidates shall meet with ACCT staff 15 minutes prior to the start of regional caucuses. The order of addressing the caucuses shall be determined by drawing a number. Candidates will be allowed to speak for two minutes at each caucus. After nominations from the floor have been completed, each candidate may address the delegates for two minutes. The order of speaking at the Senate will be the reverse of the order at the caucuses. Candidates will meet with ACCT staff at the side of the room in pre-determined order. The parliamentarian will serve as timekeeper for candidate speeches.

Voting Procedure:

1. The ACCT coordinator of tellers, appointed by the chair, supervises the ballot counting reporting process in accordance with Bylaws rules and regulations.
2. A majority of ballots cast is necessary for election as director-at-large:
 - a. On any ballot, voting delegates may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled.
 - b. On any ballot, only one vote may be cast for a candidate.
 - c. If one or more candidates are elected on any ballot, then all remaining candidates shall continue to be eligible for election to any position remaining to be filled.
 - d. If no person is elected on any ballot, then the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped before the next ballot.
 - e. If there are no more candidates than positions to be filled, the election shall be by acclamation.



ACCT CAMPAIGN REGULATIONS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

1. Campaign materials are not to be posted or distributed at the Voting Delegate Sign-In Table. Active campaigning is not allowed at the Voting Delegate Sign-In Table.
2. Campaign materials are not to be posted on the walls or distributed within the Senate meeting room or within Regional Caucus rooms.
3. Election volunteers shall not affix or wear campaign materials during the Senate or Caucus meeting.

Caucus election volunteers are the following:

Regional Chair (or designee), Regional Teller, Regional Assistant Teller, Regional Sergeant at Arms, Regional Nominating Committee Chair (or designee), ACCT staff and parliamentarian.

Senate election volunteers are the following:

ACCT Chair (or designee), Coordinator of Tellers, Assistant Coordinators of Tellers, Regional Tellers, Regional Assistant Tellers, Regional Sergeant at Arms, ACCT staff and parliamentarian.

4. Candidate promotional material will be displayed on a table provided by ACCT. The amount of table space will be

determined by ACCT and in relation to space constraints at each respective Congress location. Additional tables and/or easels shall not be purchased or used to display campaign material outside of the ACCT provided table space. Campaign material, posters, buttons and paraphernalia shall not be displayed on or leaned against an easel designated for Caucus Room signage or Senate room signage.

5. The ACCT Coordinator of Tellers and the Assistant Coordinators of Tellers shall be responsible for making sure that candidates comply with campaign material rules.
6. Candidates must comply with the ACCT Coordinator of Tellers and/or the Assistant Coordinators Tellers request(s) for removal of campaign material from undesignated areas. If the candidate does not comply, the Coordinator of Tellers and/or the Assistant Coordinators of Tellers remove the material.
7. Declared candidates, upon request, will be provided with a list of trustee mailing address by region in electronic form or on paper for use for in their campaign only. Staff shall provide a mailing list as long as the request was made 30 days prior to the Congress.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CANDIDATES?



Visit <https://www.acct.org/about/acct-governance/candidates>



ACCT Board Committees Seek Associates for 2027

Inviting member trustees to serve on ACCT Board Committees expands membership participation in the governance of the Association, while bringing new ideas and expertise to committee deliberations.

Committees for 2027 will be formed before the first of the year. Member trustees are asked to indicate their interest in serving as associate committee members for a one-year term by **November 1, 2026**. Those interested in serving should submit the 2027 Associate Committee Interest Form indicating committee preferences (*if only one choice is listed and you are not selected to serve on the committee of your choice, you **may not** be placed on another committee unless second and third choices are indicated*). If you wish to include comments relating to your committee choices and areas of expertise, please include them in the "Comments" section of the form. Each request **must** have a letter of nomination from the individual's board supporting the appointment to an ACCT Committee.

ACCT Board Committees seeking volunteer members are:

- **Impact and Success** – The Impact and Success Committee provides the expertise to ensure that the membership has access to best practices leading to effective policy-making for student success.
- **Finance and Audit** – The Finance and Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring executive compliance with fiscally related Policies and Bylaws, reviewing the annual budget, the financial audit, establishing procedures for the periodic audit of Association programs and services, and reporting to the Board of Directors.

- **Governance and Bylaws** – The Governance and Bylaws Committee is responsible for reviewing resolutions related to the governance of the Association, amendments to the ACCT Bylaws, and Board Policies. In fulfilling this charge, the Committee helps ensure that the Board of Directors is fulfilling its role to represent member boards in determining and demanding appropriate organizational performance through its written governing policies.

- **Member Communications and Education** – The Member Communications and Education Committee is responsible for evaluating and making recommendations to strengthen the Board's links with the membership; identifying issues that require member input; and recommending strategies to gather input. Additionally, committee members evaluate and make recommendations to strengthen current ACCT education programs and recommend additional programs that promote effective board governance through advocacy and education.

- **Public Policy and Advocacy** – The Public Policy and Advocacy Committee is charged with reviewing public policy issues and recommending positions to the Board of Directors.

ACCT Board Policy states that the ACCT Chair will appoint committees. In making appointments, the chair will consider regional representation and other factors. Each committee chair shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

Associate members may be appointed to a committee under the following conditions:

1. They shall be selected from voting members.
2. They may serve three consecutive one-year terms per committee.
3. No more than one associate member from a college shall serve on any one board committee.
4. All related expenses are the responsibility of their college.
5. They have full voting rights.
6. They shall have a letter of nomination from their board supporting the appointment to an ACCT committee.

Please Note: Associate Committee Members currently serving in 2026 MUST re-apply if they are interested in serving in 2027. Colleges may submit a letter of support covering two years of service, but the Committee Interest Form must be filled out each year.

ACCT committees will meet in 2027 just prior to the Community College National Legislative Summit, scheduled February 7-10, 2027 at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, D.C., and a day or two before the Annual ACCT Leadership Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on October 13-16, 2027. Committee work may also be done through e-mail and postal mail.

If you are interested in serving and **your board will send a letter of nomination and financially support your attendance**, please submit the following:

1. 2027 Associate Committee Interest Form
2. A letter of nomination from your board supporting your appointment to an ACCT committee.

These documents must be received at ACCT by November 1, 2026. Send to the ACCT Chair, via <https://www.acct.org/membership/benefits/acct-board-committees/board-committee-interest-form>.



2027 Associate Committee Interest Form

Please rank the committees in your preferred order of service (1=Least Preferred; 5=Most Preferred).

An online version of this form can be completed at
<https://www.acct.org/membership/benefits/acct-board-committees/board-committee-interest-form>.

- If only one choice is listed and you are not selected to serve on the committee of your choice, you may NOT be placed on another committee.

- _____ Impact and Success Committee
- _____ Finance and Audit Committee
- _____ Governance and Bylaws Committee
- _____ Member Communications and Education Committee
- _____ Public Policy and Advocacy Committee

INFORMATION:

(Please fill out completely)

PREFIX	NAME	SUFFIX
TITLE		INSTITUTION
ADDRESS		
CITY / STATE / ZIP		
PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL

PROFESSIONAL BOARD STAFF

NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
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☐ Letter of nomination from your board supporting the appointment to an ACCT committee enclosed

COMMENTS:

This form must be returned to assocmemb@acct.org by November 1, 2026.

Association of Community College Trustees • 1101 17th Street, NW • Suite 300 • Washington, D.C. 20036



Seeking Regional Nominating Committee Members for 2027-28

ACCT Regional Chairs invite member trustees to serve on Regional Nominating Committees. The commitment of Nominating Committee members in carrying out their duties helps to ensure that the Association's future leadership is comprised of member trustees who have demonstrated quality leadership in community colleges. Nominating Committee members nominate candidates who are committed to and support the fulfillment of ACCT's mission – *Through the Association of Community College Trustees, community college governing boards are THE LEADING ADVOCATES of the nation's community college system.*

Benefits of Serving on a Regional Nominating Committee

- Identify effective future leaders;
- Serve as a stepping-stone for you to aspire to a future leadership position;
- Strengthen leadership in your region; and
- Ensure more benefits to your college and state through strong, effective leadership of the association.

Responsibilities

Regional Nominating Committees are the key to a successful election process for the ACCT Board of Directors. Each year, the committees are responsible for reviewing candidate applications, interviewing candidates, and nominating trustees for Regional Director. Nominating Committees may also support Director-at-Large candidates.

Election/Composition/Terms

Each of ACCT's five regions elects a nominating committee member from the Voting Members of that region at the regional caucuses held during the Annual ACCT Leadership Congress. Nominating Committees are composed of five members each. No more than one member shall be from the same state. Nominating Committee members shall serve two years on staggered terms. They may serve more than one term, but terms may not be consecutive. The chair of each Nominating Committee shall be elected by the members of the respective Nominating Committee at the close of the regional caucus.

Below are the seats that need to be filled for 2027-2028 terms:

CENTRAL REGION

Two (2) seats are available to members from the following states/territories: *Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin*

Tom Riley (IA), Laura Wedekemper (IL), and Patty Wood (MO) will continue to serve in 2027.

NORTHEAST REGION

Two (2) seats are available to members from the following states/territories: *Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont*

Sheila Ireland (PA), Israul Marrero (MA), and Connie Walker (NY) will continue to serve in 2027.

PACIFIC REGION

Two (2) seats will be available to members from the following states/territories: *Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Idaho, Utah, Washington, American Samoa, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Republic of Palau*

Heather Brown (NV), Josephine Crenshaw (OR), and Greg Pensa (CA) will continue to serve in 2027.

SOUTHERN REGION

Two (2) seats will be available to members from the following states/territories: *Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands*

Jennifer Curtis (SC), Archie Hall (LA), and Mary Schneider (AR) will continue to serve in 2027.

WESTERN REGION

Five (5) seats will be available to members from the following states/territories: *Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming*



ACCT STATE, PROVINCE, AND TERRITORY COORDINATORS NETWORK

CENTRAL REGION

Regional Chair

Amanda Howland

College of Lake County, IL

Iowa

Bob Jennings

Iowa Lakes Community College

Michigan

Mary Kay Thayer

Monroe County Community College

Minnesota

Cheryl Tefer

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Missouri

Doris Graham

St. Louis Community College

Ohio

Thomas Milligan

Edison State Community College

Wisconsin

Margaret Kastner

Fox Valley Technical College

NORTHEAST REGION

Regional Chair

Anthony Colón

Mohawk Valley Community College, NY

Maryland

Reza Jafari

Chesapeake College

Massachusetts

Trinh Nguyen

Bunker Hill Community College

New Jersey

Jessica Purnell

Camden County College

New York

Ann Fleming Brown

SUNY Schenectady County Community College

PACIFIC REGION

Regional Chair

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg

Kern Community College District, CA

Arizona

Patty Garcia

Coconino Community College

California (Northern)

Hal Gin

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

California (Southern)

Desirée Portillo Rabinov

Glendale Community College

Federated States of Micronesia

Suzanne Gallen

College of Micronesia-FSM

Guam

Carlo M. Leon Guerrero

Guam Community College

Nevada

Amy Carvalho

Nevada System of Higher Education

Oregon

Diane Noriega

Mt. Hood Community College

Republic of Palau

Emais Roberts

Palau Community College

Washington

Marilee Scarbrough

Clark College

SOUTHERN REGION

Regional Chair

Yvonne Barnes

Trident Technical College, SC

Florida

Terry W. Atchley

South Florida State College

Georgia

Patricia Goodwin

Augusta Technical College

Louisiana

Sabrina Hogan

Louisiana Community and Technical College System

South Carolina

Helen Rosemond-Saunders

Tri-County Technical College

West Virginia

Joseph Oliverio

West Virginia University at Parkersburg

WESTERN REGION

Regional Chair

Carol Scott

Del Mar College, TX

Kansas

Mary Martha Good

Butler Community College

Nebraska

R. J. Savely, Jr.

Western Nebraska Community College

New Mexico

Evelyn Rising

New Mexico Junior College

Texas

Gigi Edwards Bryant

Austin Community College

Wyoming

Jess Ketcham

Laramie County Community College

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carol Del Carlo, Chair

Nevada System of Higher Education, NV

Pretta VanDible Stallworth, Chair-Elect

Houston City College, TX

Oscar Valladares, Vice Chair

Rio Hondo College, CA

Tim Hardy, Secretary-Treasurer

Louisiana Community and Technical College System, LA

Rich Fukutaki, Immediate Past Chair

Bellevue College, WA

Amanda Howland, Central

Regional Chair
College of Lake County, IL

Anthony Colón, Northeast

Regional Chair
Mohawk Valley Community College, NY

Nan Gomez-Heitzeberg,

Pacific Regional Chair
Kern Community College District, CA

Yvonne Barnes, Southern

Regional Chair
Trident Technical College, SC

Carol Scott, Western Regional Chair

Del Mar College, TX

Terry W. Atchley

South Florida State College, FL

Shawn Boldt

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Kathleen Bruinsma

Grand Rapids Community College, MI

Donald D. Dantzler, Jr.

Madison Area Technical College, WI

Manny Gonzalez

Austin Community College District, TX

Andra Hoffman

Los Angeles Community College District, CA

Deborah Ikeda

State Center Community College District, CA

Reza Jafari

Chesapeake College, MD

H. Allen Langley

Cleveland Community College, NC

Vivian Malauulu

Long Beach City College, CA

Robert Proctor

Lansing Community College, MI

Jermaine Reed

Metropolitan Community College, MO

Sharmila Swenson

Highline College, WA

Allen K. Williams

Monroe Community College, NY

Pat Wojcik

Northeast Community College, NE

Olivia Zepeda

Arizona Western College, AZ

CURRENT STATE, PROVINCE AND TERRITORY COORDINATOR VACANCIES

Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arkansas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Marshall Islands, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia.



ACCT COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(Subject to change.)

HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS • OCTOBER 21-24, 2026

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19th	
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	ACCT Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20th	
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Finance and Audit Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Member Communications & Education Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Governance and Bylaws Committee Meeting
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Public Policy and Advocacy Committee Meeting
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Trustee Advisory Committee Meeting
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Impact and Success Committee Meeting
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21st	
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Voting Delegate Desk
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	ACCT Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Pre-Congress Academy: Preparing for a Strong Candidacy in the CEO Search Process: Showcasing Essential Skills and Experience (<i>Special Registration Required</i>)
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Pre-Congress Academy: The Chair's Academy (<i>Special Registration Required</i>)
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Pre-Congress Academy: Effective Board Governance (<i>Special Registration Required</i>)
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Pre-Congress Academy: The Trustee Role in Advocacy (<i>Special Registration Required</i>)
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Meeting: ACCT Corporate Council Roundtable
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	ACCT Regional and Network Meeting: ACCT State, Province, and Territory Coordinators
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	OPENING GENERAL SESSION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22nd	
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
	Voting Delegate Desk
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Student Trustee Advisory Committee
9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Community College Lawyers Roundtable
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION LUNCHEON



ACCT COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEADERSHIP CONGRESS

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(Subject to change.)

HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS • OCTOBER 21-24, 2026

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22nd	
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	ACCT Regional Caucuses and Meetings
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Work Session for Professional Board Staff Members
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Association of Latino Community College Trustees Meeting
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	African American Trustees Meeting
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native American Trustees Meeting
4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Joint Constituency Groups Meeting
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	WELCOME RECEPTION & ENTERTAINMENT
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd	
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Voting Delegate Desk
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	ACCT Senate Meeting
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Professional Board Staff Network Business Meeting
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	REGIONAL AWARDS LUNCHEON
2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	ACCT Board of Directors Meeting
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	ANNUAL AWARDS GALA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24th	
8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	SPECIAL SESSION: ACCT Regional and Association Awards Program
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	CLOSING GENERAL SESSION BREAKFAST



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ACCT DEADLINES

Visit www.acct.org for more information.

- ▶ **Application to Serve as Associate Committee Member in 2027**
November 1, 2026
- ▶ **National Legislative Summit Early Bird Registration**
December 18, 2026
- ▶ **Board of Directors Candidate Nominations**
January 7, 2027
- ▶ **National Legislative Summit Hotel Registration**
January 14, 2027

Contact us at 202-775-4667

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