

NATA Presidential Election: Rules of Engagement for NATA Entities

This document outlines the proper rules of engagement for all NATA entities (committees, councils, panels, task forces, NATA Board of Directors, volunteer leaders and districts) and the 2026 NATA presidential election candidates (both declared and the final two). These rules apply to virtual and in-person speaking engagements, presentations and attendance, as well as what is and isn't appropriate for NATA entities to share regarding the NATA presidential election. The NATA Presidential Election Oversight Task Force chair will discuss these rules with committee/council chairs during the 2026 NATA Joint Committee Meeting, and in a post-event communication that will be sent to all NATA entities.

All communication regarding the 2026 NATA presidential election must come from the NATA office.

The declared and final two presidential candidates may attend district, state and national meetings, but may not formally address their candidacy unless approved by NATA.

NATA entities can't use their position to endorse and/or advocate for a candidate. For example, if you have a personal social media account that identifies any affiliation with NATA beyond being a member, you can't endorse or discuss anything related to the campaign or election unless the affiliations are removed permanently.

The social media accounts for NATA entities may only retweet or repost content shared by the NATA office (@NATA1950).

NATA entities can't develop, alter and/or distribute any communication and/or information (e.g., flyer, email, phone number) about the declared or final presidential candidates beyond what is provided and/or requested of them by the NATA office.

NATA entities may use their social media accounts to encourage members to vote. However, they may not include any content, assets or links related to the candidates beyond what has been published by the NATA office.

The declared and final presidential candidates can't attend in-person or virtual NATA committee/council/panel/task force meetings, even if invited, unless they were already assigned to serve on the entity prior to starting their campaign. Any exceptions based on subject matter expertise must be cleared by NATA. Entities wishing to invite candidates to participate or present their platforms must afford the same opportunity to all candidates and must request permission from NATA by emailing jessicap@nata.org. Requests will be review and approval by the NATA Presidential Election Oversight Task Force chair and facilitation by the NATA Marketing and Communications Department.

The final presidential candidates may not solicit or accept speaking/presentation requests from NATA entities while campaigning or during the election period in July without following the process outlined above. If either candidate was scheduled prior to JCM to give a presentation to an NATA entity, they can't speak about their campaign/platform or wear their presidential candidate's name badge, and their presentation must be reviewed by the NATA Presidential Election Oversight Task Force and approved by the task force chair.

Throughout the presidential election process, NATA will provide equal exposure to all presidential candidates on NATA's communication channels, with messaging running concurrently or back to back (where applicable). NATA entities must do the same when sharing information from NATA.