

**OFNHP, Local 5017, AFT, AFL-CIO  
2026 Nominations and Elections  
Officers, Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons, and Delegates**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What rules govern the election?**

The nomination and election of OFNHP Officers, Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons, and Delegates are conducted in accordance with OFNHP Constitution and Bylaws, the federal Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA) of 1959, as amended, and the guidelines and practices developed by the Election Committee.

**2. What restrictions apply to campaign activities?**

Most significantly, the LMRDA and the OFNHP Constitution and Bylaws prohibit the use of any union or employer resources to promote the candidacy of any person in a union officer election. This prohibition applies not only to union or employer *funds*, but also to anything of value that belongs to *any* union or employer, such as the use of meeting rooms, e-mail systems, equipment, vehicles, office supplies, etc. As a result, neither OFNHP's nor any other unions' or employers' e-mail systems, messaging systems (including voicemail), cell phones (including text messaging), Fax Machines, or Healthconnect/electronic record keeping systems may be used for campaign purposes. By the same token, employees may not campaign on union- or on employer-paid time, and union officers and member staff may not campaign on union-paid time. This prohibition applies to the resources of all unions, not just OFNHP, and to the resources of all employers, whether or not OFNHP or any other union represents any of their employees. (For further information, please see the US Department of Labor manual, "Conducting Local Union Officer Elections" Chapter 8: Union and Employer Funds)

**3. To whom do these restrictions apply?**

These restrictions apply to everyone. Violations can result in the setting aside of an election whether or not the successful candidate(s) knew of or approved the improper activity, and whether or not those who engaged in it were aware that it was prohibited. As a result, it is important for every candidate to do everything possible to ensure that their campaign activities do not use any union or employer resources, and that their supporters' activities do not do so, either. If you have questions regarding the permissibility of particular campaign activities, please contact the Election Committee at [Elections@OFNHP.org](mailto:Elections@OFNHP.org).

**4. When can a potential candidate begin collecting signatures?**

When nominations open January 18, 2026. If you are collecting signatures the Election Committee requests that you have petitioners print their name as legible as possible to make confirming viability easier.

**5. When can a potential candidate begin campaigning?**

There is no restriction on when one can campaign, as long as the candidate follows the rules of the LMRDA and OFNHP Election Committee.

**6. Can a candidate arrange to have campaign material mailed to members?**

All duly nominated candidates have the right to have campaign material mailed to the membership (or to particular bargaining units of members) at their own expense, but candidates must themselves make the related arrangements and payments, working directly with the mail house: Kramer's Metro Mailing Service, 16745 SE Ken's Court, Ste. A Milwaukie, OR 97267. The contact person is Eric Brending at (503)274-1638 or [Eric@kramersmailing.com](mailto:Eric@kramersmailing.com). Candidates should make their mailing arrangements with Kramer's promptly to ensure that they have plenty of time to process and complete their requests.

**7. May candidates inspect the membership list?**

All candidates have the right, once within 30 days before the election, to inspect (but not to copy) the membership mailing list, in the presence of Administrative Office Staff or an Election Committee Member. Please contact the Election Committee at [Electrons@OFNHP.org](mailto:Electrons@OFNHP.org) in advance to schedule a time to look at the membership list.

**8. How will Candidates' names be listed on the ballot?**

Candidates' names will be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order grouped by position. Candidates' names will appear in the form they shall have specified, which may include a nickname, but if candidates do not specify otherwise, their names will appear in the same form that they appear in the member database, as indicated to the nominee on the nominee receipt letterhead. However, academic degree and credential designations, titles, and other like references, will not be listed on the ballot under name, but you may choose to reference this in your optional biography. Candidate biographies will be submitted to the election committee no later than **3:00pm Friday, February 17, 2026** and shall not exceed 100 words. We advise sending any biographies or photo for ballot at the same time as your nomination petition.

**9. When will the ballots be counted?**

Ballots will be counted virtually at Ryder Graphics at approximately **5:45 pm on Thursday March 19, 2026**.