

Policy for Endorsing APA Presidential Candidates

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Overview

It shall be the policy of the Division of Independent Practice to consider endorsing one or more APA presidential candidates upon the request of candidate(s). There is no requirement for an endorsement on every presidential cycle. It is not mandatory that the division endorse a presidential candidate every year. The decision to endorse one or more candidates will be made by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

A request for endorsement must be formally made and sent by a candidate to the Division's administrative director who will notify the president. The administrative director will send to the candidate the "Template for APA Presidential Candidates" or direct them to a link on the website, to be completed and returned by a time certain to be determined by the president. A notice in the Independent Practitioner (IP) and on the website will alert candidates of this process. Notice of this policy will be placed in the Spring issue of the IP, and readily visible on the division's website. The Board will not specifically invite candidates to seek endorsement.

The Board will discuss and vote upon possible endorsements. If more than one candidate is to be endorsed, they can be equally endorsed (co-endorsed) or ranked in endorsement by a majority vote of the board. A rationale for each endorsement written by the past president and endorsed by the Board will be placed in the IP and on the website.

The Division will not provide financial support to any candidate.

Procedure

Each candidate seeking the endorsement of the division will complete the "Template for APA Presidential Candidates" as outlined in this policy. Candidates' responses to each question will be published by the Division in the IP and on the Division website after the board's endorsement process has been completed. In addition, all formally endorsed candidates by the division will be invited to submit an article to the IP about practice related issues. This will be accompanied by a headshot and brief author biography with an indication that the author is running for the APA presidency.

The ranked candidates' photos will also appear prominently in the IP with a statement of the Division's endorsement.

At the Board's discretion, a telephone tree may be organized to support the endorsed candidate(s). The Division's Past President, as Chair of Nominations and Elections, is responsible for ensuring that the endorsed candidate(s) script is developed and written. The Past-President has the authority to utilize members of that committee or to appoint a new committee to develop a telephone tree script for implementation in any given year. In such instances, the Board must approve, by majority vote, the final message to be implemented and given to division members. It must be brief, identify the caller, the division origin of the call and include any ranking by the Board. Only members of the Division can participate in the phone tree, and only 42 members may be contacted.

Should any candidate wish to personally address the Board of Directors, each candidate must have met all the stated policy requirements above, including having met any and all specified timelines as set forth by the division's president. Each candidate must ask the division president, within a reasonable period of time, as set forth by the President, for permission to address the Board prior to the specified Board meeting. Only officially nominated candidates will be allowed to address the Board about their candidacy. Should any candidate not meet any of the specified policy procedures as set forth in this document, he or she forfeits his or her right to personally address the Board of Directors.

Template for APA Presidential Candidates Seeking Division 42 Endorsement

1. Please describe your contributions to the independent practice of psychology.
2. What do you see as the most important issue(s) facing the independent practice of psychology. How do you intend to address these issues during your presidency?
3. What initiative(s) are you planning that directly impact independent practice if elected?
4. Please list and describe any positions held/committee work you have been involved with in Division 42. Positions and committee work can be those held in the past and/or currently.
5. Please describe any contributions you have made to Division 42.
6. Other specific questions may be added depending upon the extant practice environment; e.g., healthcare financing, health care reform.