



85th AFT-WISCONSIN CONVENTION

Our Union, Our Voice, Our Movement!

2017 CONVENTION CALL

OCTOBER 27-29
THREE BEARS RESORT
WARRENS, WI

Important Dates to Remember

- August 27: **DEADLINE** for constitutional and bylaw amendments
- September 1: Convention Registration opens
- September 9: AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board meeting in Madison
- September 29: **DEADLINE** for resolutions to be included in printed form
- October 1: **DEADLINE for registration**
- October 2: Delegate list mailed to local president
- October 6: **DEADLINE** for hotel reservations at the guaranteed rates
- October 10: **DEADLINE for signed delegate lists**
- October 13: Mailing to delegates including resolutions, committee assignments, and other pertinent information
- October 27-29: AFT-Wisconsin Convention

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**The 85th Convention of AFT-Wisconsin will be held
On Friday evening, Saturday & Sunday, October 27-29
at the Three Bears Resort, Warrens, WI
(608)378-2500.**

The Executive Board wishes to affirm the fact that all meetings of the Annual Convention are open to all members. However, only duly elected delegates may vote on resolutions and constitutional amendments put before the Annual Convention.

Representation

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — ARTICLE VIII - CONVENTIONS:

Section 3 – Five delegates to the Annual Convention may be elected by each affiliated local. For each 100 members or major fraction thereof, 5 additional delegates may be elected.

Section 4 – The AFT-Wisconsin Retiree Chapter may elect five delegates to the AFT-Wisconsin Convention and shall be entitled to five votes at the Convention.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Bylaws — ARTICLE V - CONVENTIONS:

Section 1 – For the purpose of this Article, membership shall mean the average number on which the per capita dues have been paid for the first 12 months of the 15-month period immediately preceding the month in which the Convention meets, provided:

- (a) That no local in arrears for two months at the time of the Convention shall be entitled to representation.
- (b) That, in the case of locals which have been chartered during the year preceding the Convention, the average shall be computed on the basis of the number of months of affiliation, the minimum for such computation to be two.

Section 2 – For a local's delegates to be seated at convention, the local must be in compliance according to the following:

- (a) Dues must be current as stated in Section 1 (a) of this Article.
- (b) A current membership list must accompany each per capita payment. If a current member list has not been submitted within the last two months prior to the start date of convention, the local will be considered to be in non-compliance and will not be able to seat their delegates.
- (c) The local must be current with their audit submissions. To be seated at convention, the local must have submitted a completed audit for the year ending prior to the year of the convention.

Delegate and Alternate Credentials

Refer to the cover letter enclosed with this mailing for this year's options for submitting your delegate and alternate lists, as well as your committee picks.

Only credentialed delegates may vote in committee meetings and delegate sessions.

Membership

Locals not submitting current membership lists with their per cap payments or via another form as approved by the Executive Board shall not be entitled to representation.

Committees

The following committees will be convened at the 2017 Convention:

- Constitution
- Credentials
- Elections
- Fiscal Policy & Auditing
- General Resolution
- Sergeant at Arms
- Social Resolutions

Delegates are expected to indicate their committee assignment when registering online. **Each delegate will be assigned to a Convention committee and is expected to attend the meetings of his/her committee.**

At the beginning of each committee session, the chairperson will verify (by roll call) the membership of his/her committee as assigned by the Credentials Committee.

Attendance at committee meetings is open to all members of AFT-Wisconsin, but only delegates assigned to the committee may vote.

Chairpersons may open discussion to persons other than committee members at the end of committee discussion on any resolution and before the committee vote is taken. This open discussion period shall be limited to a total of 10 minutes unless the time is extended by consent of the committee.

Amendments

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution — ARTICLE XII - ADOPTION & REVISION OF CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS:

Section 1 – This Constitution may be amended by a two-third (2/3) majority of the respondents to a ballot of the State Federation membership or by a two-third (2/3) majority of State Federation members who attend the Annual Convention of the State Federation. Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted electronically to the Executive Board through the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the Annual Convention and shall be circulated to all affiliated locals at least 30 days prior to the Annual Convention.

Section 2 – The By-Laws may be amended by a majority of the respondents to a ballot of the State Federation membership or by a majority of State Federation members who attend the Annual Convention of the State Federation. Proposed amendments to the By-Laws shall be submitted electronically to the Executive Board through the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the Annual Convention and shall be circulated to all affiliated locals at least 30 days prior to the Annual Convention.

Section 3 – Proposed amendments to the constitution and bylaws may be initiated by members, locals, the Retiree Chapter, or the Executive Board.

Resolutions

Locals, councils, and individuals are requested to present resolutions which will promote the interests of AFT-Wisconsin. All resolutions must be signed by the person submitting them.

Resolutions should be submitted **electronically** to the Secretary at Mdubree@tds.net and copied to kreul@aft-wisconsin.org and should be stated **and typed in resolution form.**

The Secretary will send a confirmation of receipt. If confirmation is not received within five (5) days, please contact the Secretary. Complex resolutions should be accompanied by an explanation of intent so that Convention committees can best understand the action which the resolution requires. Past Convention resolutions are available at the AFT-Wisconsin office and on the AFT-Wisconsin website.

In order to have your resolution appear in the Convention Rule Book, it must reach the Secretary no later than September 29, 2017.

The AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board will meet on Saturday, September 9, 2017, at the AFT-Wisconsin office, 1602 S Park Street, Madison, WI 53715.

Functions of the Executive Board regarding resolutions shall be to:

1. Correct errors in submitted resolutions (misrepresentations and grammatical corrections).
2. Combine similar resolutions if appropriate. (If such combining occurs, all resolutions on the topic, in their original form, will be printed along with the suggested change.)
3. Obtain background information pertaining to resolutions for the benefit of Convention committees and delegates.
4. Write resolutions involving areas of critical concern not addressed by submitted resolutions.

All Executive Board actions and recommendations are subject to approval by a majority of the Convention Committee if challenged by an individual committee member.

The Convention shall first consider those resolutions which were received by the September 29 deadline and then any resolutions which the Executive Board recommends as timely. As in the past, resolutions from the floor of the Convention are considered special orders of business and require a 2/3 vote of the convention delegates in order to be considered. *Special orders of business are meant to address issues that arise between the resolution deadline and convention. **They are not intended to be a substitute for failure to submit resolutions in a timely fashion.***

Elections

Election of president, executive vice president, secretary, treasurer, four (4) at large vice presidents, and one (1) vice president for each council will take place at the 2017 AFT-Wisconsin Convention. Descriptions of duties, responsibilities and expectations for all positions can be found on the AFT-Wisconsin website or obtained upon request.

A nomination form is enclosed. Additional forms may be obtained from the AFT-W office or website (www.aft-wisconsin.org). Nominations must be sent to AFT-Wisconsin, ATTN: Nominations, 1602 S Park Street, Room 227, Madison, WI 53715.

Each candidate is encouraged to submit, no later than September 29, 2017, a position paper (300 words maximum) and a recent color photo for use in a pre-Convention informational email.

Each at-large candidate will have an opportunity to speak for three minutes at the opening session on Saturday, October 28 if the election is contested. Each council candidate will be provided an opportunity to speak before the council he/she wishes to represent. The election of officers will be held on Sunday, October 29.

Special Interest Councils:

1. PK-12-for locals representing employees of local education agencies;
2. WTCS-for locals representing employees of the Wisconsin Technical College System;
3. University-for locals representing employees primarily from the University system;
4. State Employees-for locals representing employees of State agencies;
5. PSRP-for locals representing paraprofessionals and school related personnel; and
6. Graduate Employees-for locals representing assistants employed by a university.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution-Article V-Executive Board

Section 1 – Representation on the Executive Board shall be limited to one Vice President per local except that a local representing more than one bargaining unit may have one Vice President from each bargaining unit and that a local having more than 20 percent of AFT-Wisconsin membership may have a maximum of two Vice Presidents, and locals having over 40 percent of AFT-Wisconsin membership may have a maximum of three Vice Presidents. For purposes of this section, the term “bargaining unit” includes potential bargaining units for non-bargaining locals. Council VP positions take precedence over At Large VP positions when the number of representatives elected from a local exceeds the maximum allowed per this section. The Executive Vice President is a statewide officer of AFT-Wisconsin and shall not be considered in the maximum number of vice presidents per local.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Constitution-Article VII-Elections

Section 1 – A call for nomination of officers shall be made six months prior to Convention by notice to all locals and to all members at large.

In each case, the Convention shall be informed of who the nominators are.

Section 2 – Voting for officers of the State Federation shall be by roll call vote, under the rules in force for such votes.

Section 3 – At Large Vice Presidents shall be elected by vote of the entire Convention. The four candidates for At Large Vice President who receive the most votes shall be elected. The President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a majority of all votes cast. The remaining Vice Presidents shall be elected by a majority of all votes cast by their respective councils. In the event that no candidate for President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Vice President representing a council receives a majority of votes cast on the first ballot, a runoff election shall be held immediately following the count, between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for that office.

Each council will be represented on the AFT-Wisconsin Executive Board by one (1) Vice President elected by the councils at the Convention in odd numbered years.

As per AFT-Wisconsin Bylaws – Article IV – Elections

Section 1. Nomination of officers may be made as follows:

- (a) Up to 30 days prior to Convention, nomination may be made by any local or by petition

of any 10 members of the State Federation for any offices except Council Vice Presidents. Nominations for Council Vice President may be made by any local attached to the respective Council or by petition of any 10 members belonging to the respective Council. The word "days" shall be construed to mean calendar days throughout the AFT-Wisconsin Constitution and Bylaws unless otherwise noted.

- (b) If fewer than two nominations are received for any position other than Council Vice President by 30 days prior to the Convention, nominations may be made by any local or by any 10 accredited delegates to the Convention until 15 days prior to the opening general session. Nominations for Council Vice Presidents may be made by any local attached to the respective Council or by petition of any 10 delegates to the Convention who belong to the respective Council.
- (c) If an elected position is uncontested at any time within 14 days of the Convention, nominations shall be made as in subsection (b) above up until 9:00pm on the opening evening of the Convention. If no candidate files for an office, the incoming elected president will appoint the position with the advise and consent of the newly elected Executive Board. This situation applies when fewer than four (4) individuals run to fill the At Large Vice Presidents positions.
- (d) A candidate may only be nominated or appear on the ballot for one Executive Board position during the same election year.
- (e) The AFT-W Retiree Council V-P/President shall be nominated and elected at the biennial retiree council meeting by the members present.

Section 2. Persons nominated before 30 days prior to Convention may submit to the Executive Board before 30 days prior to the Convention statements of position, and the Executive Board, subject to such rules as they shall from time to time enact, shall circulate these to all members of the State Federation or to all locals before 15 days prior to Convention.