



SOA Section Elections Fact Sheet

Section Council members represent one of the largest leadership groups of the Society of Actuaries (SOA). Each of the SOA's 20 sections are led by a section council comprised of nine to 12 people. The section council is typically elected by fellow section members who are also SOA members. The Joint Risk Management Section is the one exception to this rule as it is jointly sponsored by the Casualty Actuarial Society, the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and the SOA. Members of all three organizations can run for a Section Council and vote.

Running for a seat on a section council and volunteering with a section is a great way to connect with colleagues who share your interests in a particular area of practice. It may also provide an opportunity for you to use your collaboration, communication and leadership skills.

Section council members can choose from a variety of roles and responsibilities. They may serve as officers, manage publications, coordinate meeting sessions, conduct research or organize networking events.

If you are elected to a section council, you will participate in a monthly council conference call and may be asked to:

- Attend one or two face-to-face council meetings per year, often in conjunction with other SOA meetings,
- Participate in webcasts that cover strategic and operational topics and/or
- Write an article or paper, make a presentation, organize continuing education meetings and events or lead a section research project group.

Section Council members are expected to provide thoughtful leadership to guide sections. They also are asked to encourage and support the career and personal development of individuals who are interested in the section mission and goals. The guidance Section Council members provide encompasses an eye toward education, collaboration, sharing resources and networking.

Running for Section Council

1. Complete the [Expression of Interest form](#) by May 23, 2017.
2. Section leaders may contact you to learn more about how you would like to be involved with the section.
3. If you are chosen to be on a section ballot:
 - A webcast will be held on June 7, 2017 to explain the next steps.
 - You will complete a candidate questionnaire and provide a picture to be posted on the website.
 - You will be contacted with the results. We will attempt to contact you by phone but if we are unable to reach you we will notify you by email.

- Winners will be announced on [SOA.org](https://www.soa.org).

Section Officers—Descriptions

Chairperson: The chair serves as the main contact to the wider SOA, develops meeting agendas, vets and fills council openings, manages performance and attends the SOA Council of Section Chairs meeting twice each year.

Vice-Chair: The vice-chair leads in the absence of the chair, develops and vets council election candidates, attends the SOA Council of Section Chairs meeting twice a year and is typically elected as the next chair.

Secretary/Treasurer: The person in this position takes council notes during calls and meetings, finds volunteer replacements in case of absence, reviews financial statements as prepared by SOA staff, reports financials to council and develops the annual section budget.

All Council Members: Council members are responsible for an annual plan of work. They must prepare and participate in most council calls and face-to-face meetings; have a fiscal responsibility for using section resources wisely; and comply with the SOA conflict of interest policy.