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 of nine to twelve people, who generally serve a three-year term. The section council is typically elected by 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 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 provides an opportunity for you to grow and 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 coordinate the section’s social media.

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

- Attend one or two face-to-face council meetings per year
- 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.

The current section structure is under review and a new structure will be piloted in late 2021-2022 for select sections. Sections council members whose section participates in the pilot will have a role within the new structure. If your section does not participate in the pilot and you are elected to the section council, there will be no change in sections council responsibilities. If the pilot is successful and all sections migrate to the new concept all section council members will have a role within the new structure.
Running for Section Council

1. Complete the Expression of Interest form by June 1, 2021.
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 10 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 by phone we will notify you by email.
   • The elected section council members will be announced on SOA.org and will take office at the end of the 2021 Annual Meeting & Exhibits, Oct. 27, 2021.