

2019-2020 State Officer Candidate Election Procedures

The Missouri FCCLA Association would like to congratulate you on being elected as your region's State Officer Candidate!

As the State Officer Candidate, you may seek the office of State President, State First Vice-President, or National Officer Candidate. Your office will be determined at the upcoming State Leadership Conference. Until that time, you will be known as a State Officer Candidate. All fourteen State Officer Candidates will participate in the elections process at the State Leadership Conference.

Terms to know: SEC- State Executive Council

SEC candidate- a current State Executive Council member running as a State Officer Candidate

SOC- State Officer Candidates

SECA-State Executive Council Adviser

STATE OFFICER CANDIDATE APPLICATION:

Each region shall elect a state officer designated as State Officer Candidate. Any elected SOC may be a candidate for the office of State President **OR** National Officer Candidate. The SOC may choose to be a state vice-president and not to seek the office of State President, State First Vice-President, or National Officer Candidate. His or her office will be determined at the upcoming State Leadership Conference. Until the representative's office is determined at the State Leadership Conference, the representative will be known as a State Officer Candidate (SOC).

KNOWLEDGE TEST:

SOCs will take an FCCLA Knowledge Test. **All** candidates must report at the specified time on the agenda for testing. Following the test all candidates and their advisers must report for orientation and information relating to holding the SOC position. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Your test score will be provided to the Nominating Committee. You will be notified of your test score in a letter on Sunday morning.

The knowledge test will come directly from the Missouri FCCLA Officer Candidate Study Guide Missouri Membership Handbook or State Executive Council Handbook (revised 2019). You should study these materials well — it will help prepare you for your term in office.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE INTERVIEW:

The Nominating Committee will consist of no more than five members (members include alumni, educators, and business associates) who are chosen by the state adviser. The Vice-President of Elections serves as the Nominating Committee Chair. **ALL** SOCs will be interviewed.

The interviews will take place with the Nominating Committee on Saturday evening. Each interview is estimated to last no longer than ten minutes. Your interview will consist of several questions. The question categories include, but are not limited to: personality, situational, or question(s) based upon your application. There will be a two-minute time limit on each question. We also ask that **ALL** candidates present a 30 second speech on the conference theme **“Back in Time, Back in Style”** which can be used during the opening general session should the candidate be selected as a candidate for the elected positions.

If there are current SEC members running as SOC's, they will be interviewed first in order to allow them to return to rehearsals. All candidates will be interviewed in a predetermined order.

The Nominating Committee may nominate up to six SOCs. The top six SOCs **MUST** consist of at least two State President Candidates. This is so that the offices of State President and First State Vice-President will be filled. You will be asked by the nominating committee if you wish to seek the offices of State President, State First Vice-President, or National Officer Candidate and why during your interview. Please take the time to discuss if you would like to seek these offices with your adviser, parent, and administrators prior to your interview.

You will be notified as to whether you are among the top six SOCs or amongst the eight State Vice-Presidents in the form of a formal letter given to you at the designated meeting area on Sunday morning. This letter will include your FCCLA Knowledge Test score.

OPENING SESSION:

During the Opening General Session, all conference delegates will have the chance to see the top six SOCs who are seeking the offices of State President, State First Vice-President, and National Officer Candidate. If you are one of the top six State Officer Candidates, you will introduce yourself by giving your name, stating your choice of candidacy (State President Candidate or National Officer Candidate), the name of your FCCLA chapter, and region. Following this introduction, you will present a 30 second speech addressing the conference theme **“Back in Time, Back in Style”**, which is the same speech requested in nominating committee. Rehearsal for Opening Session will take place on Sunday.

MEET THE CANDIDATES:

This session is designed to test your public speaking skills, ability to think on your feet, and also gives you the chance to have interaction with the voting delegates.

The top six SOCs will be presented to the voting delegates in the Meet the Candidates Session on Monday. For the Meet the Candidates Session, candidates will give a two- minute speech on the following topic: **“As FCCLA members, we all experience triumph and failure. As a state officer, how do you plan to use your past experience to better your future as a leader?”** During this

session, you will deliver your speech and answer two questions: one ice-breaker and one situation-based.

The SOC's will be individually interviewed. You will first be introduced to the voting delegates by an appointee. Then, a current state officer will ask your ice breaker question. After answering the ice-breaker question, a current state officer will then give you a signal to begin your speech. Once you begin, a green sign will be raised by an appointee. This means that your two minutes have begun. A yellow warning sign will be raised when there are 30 seconds left. At the two minute mark, a red sign will be raised by the appointee. At this point, you may finish your thought or sentence, but not the remainder of your speech. After your speech has been finished, a current state officer will then ask you your situation-based question. After answering this question, you will then be escorted into a holding room. There will be a short debriefing before the SOC's are dismissed.

After the Meet the Candidates Session is finished and the polls are closed, all final points will be calculated. The top six SOC's will be ranked from highest score to lowest score. The State President candidate with the highest number of votes will receive the office of State President, and the State President candidate with the second highest number of votes will receive the office of State First Vice-President. The National Officer Candidate(s) (up to two) with the highest number of votes will be selected as Missouri's National Officer Candidate(s).

If only one National Officer Candidate is elected, the office of State Vice-President of Scholarships will be added to the State Executive Council for the term. If the offices of both National Officer Candidates are vacant, the offices of State Vice-President of Scholarships and State Vice-President of Parliamentary Law will be added to the State Executive Council for the term.

The nominating committee will reconvene and determine the SOC positions on the executive council. All SOC's will receive a formal letter to notify them of their selected offices on Tuesday morning following breakfast.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Note that all of the SOC's will be participating in the Closing General Session and Installation. Males should wear a black business suit (long-sleeved blazer and slacks) with appropriate black shoes and matching black socks, with a white button-down oxford shirt with collar and a black tie. Females should wear a black business suit (long-sleeved blazer and solid black, a-line, pencil skirt at least knee length) with appropriate closed-toe pumps (no more than two inches in height), and a white button-down oxford shirt with collar (no tie or scarf). Nude (or appropriate color for skin tone) colored hosiery is required (no tights). Jewelry is acceptable in silver or gold (no visible body piercings with the exception of ears). Earrings may be simple or small hoops – no dangling earrings. All hair should be groomed neatly and in a manner complementing a business suit.

The individual(s) elected as National Officer Candidate(s) will receive additional paperwork to complete for the National Leadership Conference after State Leadership Conference.

Pointers:

- Keep your speech on the title/topic requested.
- Practice with family, friends, and teachers on speech's and answering situational or ice-breaker style questions. The more practice you have, the easier it becomes.
- Campaigning is not permitted. Asking someone to vote for you (verbally, with signs, social media, etc.) is campaigning and is not allowed (this includes other members as well). Violations in this area are taken very seriously and may result in disqualification. **Please read the election procedures policy as approved by the SEC.**
- Dress conservatively for the conference, making sure your attire meets the dress code requirements. The dress code can be found at www.mofccla.org.
- Further rules, processes, and regulations can be found in the bylaws and handbooks. SOCs should make sure to read all information provided in mailings and posted online.
- We wish you the best of luck as you prepare for the Missouri FCCLA State Leadership Conference elections. If you need any help or information, please contact the state staff.