

FAQ – Annual Conference Nominations

How do I know what positions are open in a given year?

The Annual Conference website (brethren.org/ac) has a list of open positions under “Nominations.”

Are there skills or strengths particularly needed for some of the positions?

On the list of openings, details are provided describing the role, qualifications needed, term of service and more.

When do nominations open?

Nominations for the upcoming year open at the start of the current year’s Annual Conference. They are due in the Annual Conference Office by December 1.

Who can make a nomination?

Anyone can make a nomination (with or without the consent of the nominee)

What would I need to do to nominate someone?

Fill out the nomination form on the Annual Conference website. You provide contact information for the nominee and the reason you’re making this nomination (along with your own name and contact information.)

What happens after a person is nominated?

The Annual Conference Office sends a message to the nominee, informing the person that they have been nominated, and directing them to the information form they will need to fill out and submit in order to accept the nomination.

Is there anything else I’d need to do as a nominator?

Though not required, you’re encouraged to let the person know you’ve nominated them, and why – and to urge them to prayerfully consider accepting the nomination.

Can I nominate myself?

The Nominating Committee has asked that persons do not nominate themselves. If you feel a strong calling, please ask someone else to nominate you.

How is the list of nominees narrowed to form a ballot?

The Nominating Committee of Standing Committee reviews the nominations to form a preliminary ballot of four nominees for each office. Standing Committee narrows that ballot to two nominees for each office.

Who are the members of the Nominating Committee of Standing Committee?

Standing Committee elects eight people (four yearly, each serving a 2-year term) from its members to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Why do we have a Nominating Committee?

This group seeks to discern God’s leading through worship, prayer, and respectful conversation as each candidate is considered carefully. It takes responsibility for checking that nominees meet eligibility requirements, have (for clergy nominees) no

ongoing ethics charges on their records, and are a good fit for the office for which they're nominated.

How does the Nominating Committee determine who's on the initial ballot?

Nominating Committee meets (usually for several days) to review the list of nominees who have filled out information forms. After prayer, discussion and open discernment, the Nominating Committee prepares a preliminary ballot of four names for each open position to go to the full Standing Committee.

What role does the Standing Committee have in shaping the final ballot?

Standing Committee members are responsible for helping their district provide nominations for the Nominating Committee to consider. After the Nominating Committee has prepared the preliminary ballot, the full Standing Committee votes on that ballot, narrowing the list of nominees to two people for each position. This becomes the Annual Conference ballot, which is published with the Conference booklet in the spring.

Is there any way to add names to the ballot after it is published?

If the published ballot is perceived as inadequate, anyone can make a nomination from the floor of the conference (with the permission of the nominee and the information required on the nomination form.) This name is added to those already on the ballot chosen through the intentional process used by the Nominating & Standing Committees.

How do I submit my nominations?

Go to <https://www.brethren.org/ac/nominations/> and partway down the page click on "Complete a nomination form" – enter the name of the person you want to nominate and be sure to enter their email address, so they can be contacted by the Annual Conference Office. Identify the office for which you are nominating them, fill in the reasons you are nominating them [Note: this is important to the Nominating Committee], and give your name and your email address. Follow up by letting the person know you nominated them and that the nominee must fill out the Nomination Information Form to be considered. That's all there is for you to do! It is important to submit your nominations for the prayerful process of discernment that the Nominating Committee follows. Thank you for submitting nominations for consideration by the Nominating Committee!