

Procedures for Councillor and Alternate Seating

Councillor Credentialing

All certified councillors and alternates must be officially credentialed at the annual meeting.

1. A master list of all certified councillors and alternates will be maintained at councillor credentialing.
2. If a councillor is not certified on the master list, the following steps will be followed:
 - a. Only the component body (chapter president or executive staff, section chair or staff, EMRA president or staff, AACEM president or staff, CORD president or staff, SAEM president or staff, ACOEP president or staff), also known as sponsoring body, can certify a member to be credentialed as a councillor. The component body must also identify whom the new councillor will replace. No councillor will be certified without final confirmation from the component body.
 - b. If the chapter president, section chair, EMRA president, AACEM president, CORD president, SAEM president, ACOEP president, or staff executive of the component body is not available, seating will be denied. Only a certified alternate councillor may be seated on the Council floor.
 - c. If no certified councillor or alternate of a component body is present at the meeting, a member of that sponsoring body may be seated as a councillor pro tem by either the concurrence of an officer of the component body or upon written request to the Council secretary with a majority vote of the Council.

As stated in the Bylaws, Article VIII – Council, Section 5 – Voting Rights:

“Each sponsoring body shall deposit with the secretary of the Council a certificate certifying its councillor(s) and alternate(s). The certificate must be signed the president, secretary, or chairperson of the sponsoring body. No councillor or alternate shall be seated who is not a member of the College. College members not specified in the sponsoring body’s certificate may be certified and credentialed at the annual meeting in accordance with the Council Standing Rules.

ACEP Past Presidents, Past Speakers, and Past Chairs of the Board, if not certified as councillors or alternate councillors by a sponsoring body, may participate in the Council in a non-voting capacity. Members of the Board of Directors may address the Council on any matter under discussion but shall not have voting privileges in Council sessions.”

Whenever the term “present” is used in these Bylaws with respect to councillor voting, it shall mean credentialed as certified by the chair of the Tellers, Credentials, & Elections Committee.”

Only councillors or alternates certified by the component body may be seated on the Council floor. Only the appropriate individual from a component body may authorize seating of their non-certified councillors. All of the College’s past presidents, past Council speakers, and past Chairs of the Board are invited to sit with their delegation on the Council floor. A past president, past Council speaker, or past Chair is only permitted to vote when serving as a certified councillor.

If the appropriate individual from the component body is not present to authorize seating of a non-certified councillor or alternate, then the request for seating must be made directly to the chair of the Tellers, Credentials, & Elections Committee.

Seating of Past Presidents, Past Council Speakers, and Past Chairs of the Board

1. Past presidents, past Council speakers, and past Chairs of the Board are invited to sit with their delegation on the Council floor.
2. Each past president, Council speaker, and past Chairs of the Board sitting with their delegation should be credentialed and are required to wear the appropriate identification giving them access to the Council floor.
3. Past leaders have the full privilege of the floor, including the proposal of motions and amendments, except that they may not vote unless serving as a regular voting councillor or alternate.

Voting Cards and Electronic Voting

1. Each credentialed councillor will receive a voting card with their name and component body.
2. Voting will be conducted by either voting card, online electronic voting, keypads (if applicable), or voice votes at the discretion of the Speaker.
3. The Tellers, Credentials, & Elections Committee will periodically check the Council delegations to ensure that only the authorized voting cards and keypads (if applicable) are used.

Seating Exchange Between Credentialed Councillors and Alternates

1. No exchange between a councillor and alternate is permitted during the Council meeting while a motion is on the floor of the Council. Substitutions between designated councillors and alternates may only take place once debate and voting on the current motion under consideration has been completed.
2. To make an exchange, the councillor should leave their voting card and keypad (if applicable) on the table. The alternate may then proceed to take the seat of the designated councillor, unless debate is occurring on the Council floor. **No exchange is permitted until final action is taken on a particular issue.**
3. If a councillor is leaving the floor of the Council, and there will **not** be an alternate replacement, the councillor must return the voting card and keypad (if applicable) to staff at councillor credentialing. Once the councillor returns, the voting card and keypad (if applicable) will be returned to the councillor. If debate is occurring on the Council floor, the councillor should wait until final action has been taken on a particular issue before returning to the seat on the Council floor.