

D.C. BAR COMMUNITIES
2026-27 ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN RULES

Deadlines/Important Dates:

- Candidate Interest Form due – **January 30, 2026, 11:59 p.m. – NEW DATE**
- Candidate vetting – February 2 – February 26, 2026
- Candidates notified of selection to slate – February 27, 2026
- Candidates begin submitting bios/statements/photos to election website – February 27, 2026
- Last date for candidates to submit bios/statements/photos to election website – **March 20, 2026 – NEW DATE**
- Voting begins – April 15, 2026
- Voting ends – June 3, 2026
- Candidates, public notified of results – June 8, 2026

Eligibility (for steering committee candidates and voters):

- Candidates and voters must be a member in good standing (active, inactive, or judicial) of the D.C. Bar by March 1, 2026.
- Candidates must be a member of the community for which they seek office by March 1, 2026.
- Voters must be a member of the community for which they seek to vote by March 1, 2026.
- Subscribers (D.C. Bar non-members who are Communities members) ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE
- Eligible voters will receive a ballot tailored to their Bar and Communities memberships.
- Candidates may seek election to the steering committee of any community of which they are a member but are strongly encouraged to limit candidacies to two or fewer communities during an election cycle. This promotes greater volunteer opportunities for more members and limits unserious candidacies.

Campaigning:

- Listservs
 - Candidates for Communities steering committees may use the listserv for the community for which they are seeking office once per election period.
 - Candidates for other D.C. Bar offices (Bar officers, BOG) may use the listserv for any community to which they belong once per election period.
 - ALL CANDIDATES contemplating use of any community listserv for campaign purposes must consult with staff at communities@dcbar.org at least 48 hours before use to help control traffic on the listservs. ALL CANDIDATES must wait for a response from staff before using the listserv for campaigning.
 - All messages to the listserv must include “Please do not reply all to this message” above all other content.
 - Candidates are allowed to tout their own qualifications and experience for the position for which they are running and must refrain from commenting on other candidates’ background.

- Only candidates may send campaign messages to the listservs; there should be no campaigning on others' behalf on the listservs.
 - Listserv use is a privilege, and users should practice decorum and civility in their communications, or the privilege may be lost.
 - [Instructions](#) for listserv use.
- Networking:

Feel free to communicate with your firm, organization or agency colleagues. Remember that all individuals must be a member of the community for which you are running to vote for you. Individuals who are members will receive a ballot tailored to their Bar and Communities memberships.
- Communities Office Promotion:

The D.C. Bar Communities Office will provide several announcements indicating the slate of candidates immediately before and during the election period.

Please direct all questions about the D.C. Bar Communities elections to communities@dcbar.org.