Application Guidelines and Campaign Instructions for TAFE State Officer School Candidates

Submit completed application and all supporting materials online by 5 p.m. on January 15, 2027

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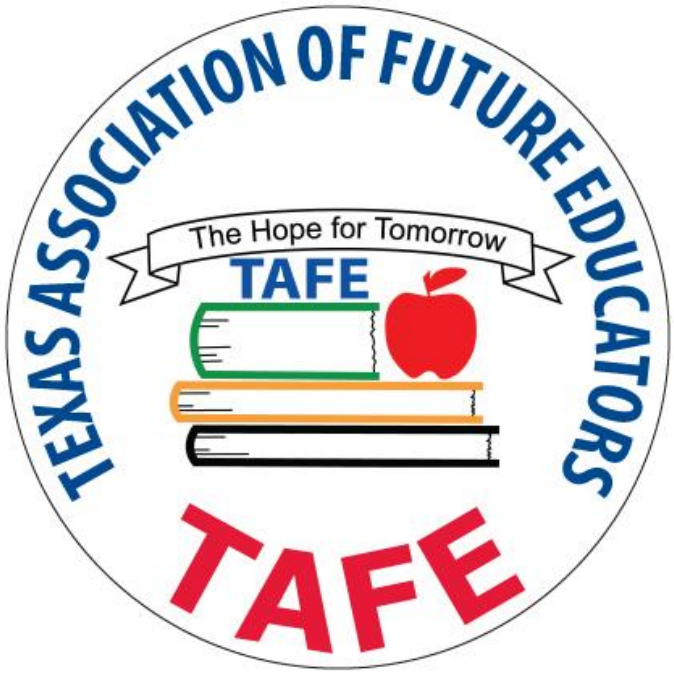


REFERENCE MATERIALS

Goals

Campaign rules are established with several goals in mind:

A. To "equalize" opportunities for running for office among different sized schools and with varying economic potential, etc.
B. To allow each candidate an opportunity to present its views.
C. To insure an organized and safe campaign for all people, facilities and places involved.

Roles and Responsibilities

The primary responsibility of the state officer schools of TAFE is to be ambassadors for the organization and of the teacher profession. Effective state officers are articulate, self-motivated, outgoing, conscientious TAFE students with a passion for TAFE's mission and vision who will promote the organization as essential to the cultivation of tomorrow's great educators. Officers must be comfortable with public speaking and connecting with education stakeholders (students, teachers, administrators, policymakers, etc.) both virtually and in person. (See Duties of the State Officers in the By-laws.)

Each role may contain specific duties unique to it, but all state student officers will:

- Travel several times throughout their term to TAFE events, including but not limited to:
    - Officer Training Workshop
    - TAFE Board of Directors Meetings
    - FCSTAT Conference
    - Area Conferences-when requested
    - Script Writing Meeting
    - Capital Leadership Day
    - TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit
    - Teacher Leader Workshop
    - Educators Rising National Conference
- Help plan the annual TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit
- Participating in regular conference calls with other state student officers
- Serve as student author for TAFE publications
- Perform other duties as assigned as a positive, professional role model

The state student officers of TAFE will accomplish these and other responsibilities with the support of their teacher leaders. The term of office shall be one year, beginning at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit at which the student is elected and ending at the following TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit. * See attached chart for dates and financial responsibilities.

How to Apply for Candidacy

What are the requirements to apply?

To apply for candidacy, you must:
Schools:

- Be a member of TAFE the year preceding their nomination and attend the annual state conference the year preceding their nomination
- Candidate schools for state office must have served as a area officer school within the past 5 years of running for state office.
- Select an Officer Representative Candidate
- All applications and all supporting materials must be submitted online by the posted date.

Officer Representative

- Be a member, in good standing of the Texas Association of Future Educators
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a non-weighted scale
- Be a high school sophomore or junior at the time of application
- Must be in good disciplinary standing.

How does the application process work?
This application is for a state officer school position. This means it is an application to be selected **as a candidate school** for one of the four (4) state officer positions: president school, vice-president school, secretary school, and historian school. **Only *one* application will be accepted *per chapter.*** The TAFE Credentials Committee will review all applications to determine the slate of candidates eligible to run for state office. The officer's role in which the school will serve will be based on the election results.

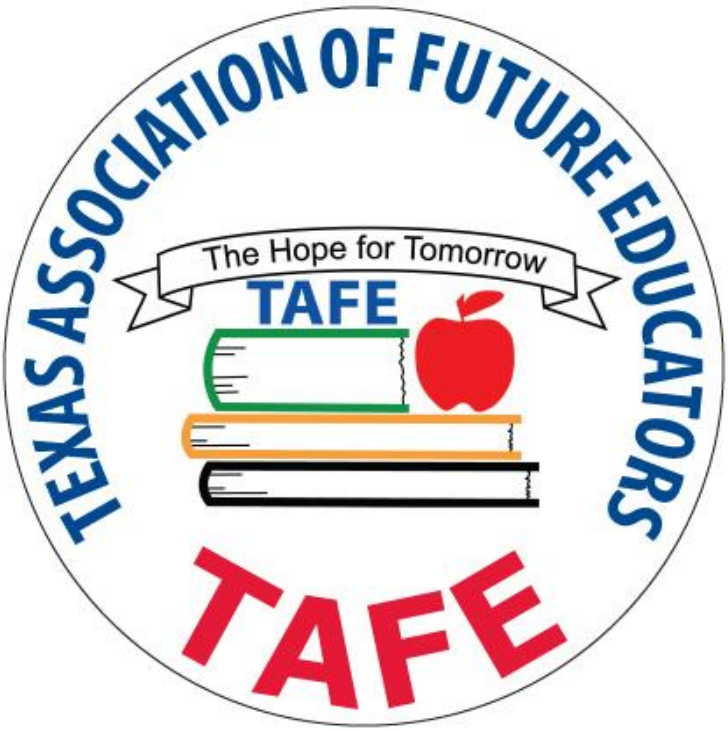
Materials Description and Submission Checklist

Below is a complete description of ***all materials you must submit ONLINE when applying for a state office***. You may use this as a checklist to make sure you have all materials prepared correctly. The following information must be submitted by the Officer School Representative Candidate.

- ❑ **Résumé -** This should focus on your work and academic experiences, including your involvement in TAFE at the local or state level. Your résumé should highlight the skills and accomplishments that make you an exemplary candidate for a state student officer position.
- ❑ **Cover Letter -** This should complement your résumé and introduce you to the TAFE Credentials Committee.
- ❑ **Application Forms**
    - **Statements of Understanding –** included in this document.
    - **Administrator Approval Form** – included in this document.
    - **TAFE Officer and Teacher Leader Agreement -** included in this document
    - **Social Media Code of Conduct** - included in this document
    - **Photo Consent and Release Agreement** – included in this document.
    - **Transcript Release** – included in this document.
- ❑ **Transcript**
- ❑ **Two Signed Letters of Recommendation**
- ❑ **Preliminary Campaign Finance Report** – included in this document.
- ❑ **Candidate Bio** - not to exceed 200 words. The bio should highlight the candidate's TAFE experiences and any other relevant information that describes why (s)he should be elected as a TAFE student officer. All candidates' bios will be posted on the TAFE website/APP.
- ❑ **Candidate Photo**
- ❑ **Campaign Website** – To include at least:
    - Picture
    - About Me
    - List and describe at least 4 TRAFLES activities your chapter does. May include photos.
    - Campaign Video Link
    - Video of Campaign Speech – can be your political rally speech or similar to it.
- ❑ **Campaign Video** - Applicants must provide a professional campaign video not to exceed three minutes with your voting peers as the intended audience. Beyond what is listed below, anything relevant to the credentials or commitment of the officer can be included in the video. The following guidelines should be followed:
    - The video should be filmed in an appropriate and creative setting.
    - Candidates should be dressed professionally. All persons present in the video should be dressed appropriately in accordance with standard school dress-code guidelines.
    - Video should be recorded in landscape orientation and be mindful of the sound quality of the recording.
    - Video must be uploaded to YouTube and link provided when applying.
    - Video should contain:
        - About you and your TAFE involvement
        - What does TAFE mean to you? How has TAFE helped you?
        - What would you like to change/do during your term as a TAFE Officer?

PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF EVERYTHING YOU SUBMIT FOR YOUR RECORDS.

All applications and all supporting materials must be submitted online 45 days prior to the Teach Tomorrow Summit.



APPLICATION FORMS

Statements of Understanding

Please read the statements below thoroughly. Next to each statement, write your initials to affirm your understanding.

Initials	Statements of Understanding
	I understand that this is an application for TAFE state officer candidacy, and that my candidacy is not guaranteed unless and until I receive confirmation from TAFE Credentials Committee Chairperson that I have been selected for state student officer candidacy.
	I understand that I am running as a candidate for a TAFE State Office — not for a specific office (i.e., President). If I am selected as a TAFE State Officer, I am prepared to take on the responsibilities of the specific office offered to me (i.e., President, Vice President, Secretary, Historian).
	I understand that if I am selected for candidacy, I will be responsible for conducting an election campaign. I understand that I am responsible for funding this campaign through private donations, use of my TAFE chapter's treasury, and/or fundraising efforts.
	I understand that if I am selected for candidacy, I must attend the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, where the on-site voting will take place.
	I have read the requirements and job description for state officers, and I agree to abide by them if elected to office at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit.
	I understand that, if elected to office at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, I may be relieved of said office immediately at any point during my term if I do not conduct myself, collectively and individually, in good faith while maintaining a high level of ethical and professional behavior whether in person or on social media.
	I understand that, if elected to office at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, I may be relieved of said office during my term if I do not comply with all areas of the TAFE Officer Code of Conduct. Such situations will be reviewed and decided on a case-by-case basis by TAFE Board of Directors.
	I understand that TAFE state officers are required to travel during their term of office. If elected to office at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, I agree to cooperate with TAFE in arranging travel.
	I understand that TAFE state officers are required to travel during their term of office. If elected to office at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, I agree to take the necessary steps to ensure that all school absences and missed work are pre-approved by my school administration.
	I understand that TAFE state officers are required to submit various assignments, such as newsletter articles, to the TAFE state director. I agree to submit assignments in accordance with all deadlines and guidelines.

I understand and agree to abide by all the above statements.

_____	_____	_____
Applicant Signature	Applicant Name (Please print or type)	Date

I understand and agree to support the applicant in abiding by all the above statements.

_____	_____	_____
Teacher Leader Signature	Teacher Leader Name (Please print or type)	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Parent/Guardian Name (Please print or type)	Date

TAFE Officer and Teacher Leader Agreement

Please read carefully and sign at the bottom, signifying your willingness to follow all the rules as stated.
The following conduct code must be followed by any person serving as a State or Area Officer for the Texas Association of Future Educators.

1. I will accept the authority of my teacher leader and any authorized adult in charge of the TAFE event.
2. I will attend **all** required meetings for the entire time and will plan to report them to my chapter, area or any designated individual(s).
3. I will always be courteous and respect the rights of others. This will include guest speakers, workshop presenters, other meeting participants and our nation's flag.
4. I will adhere to any rules set by the hotel/university property and respect the rights of other guests of the hotel/university.
5. I will not purchase, possess, consume or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs at any time. This includes mock cocktails.
6. I will not purchase or have in my possession any kind or fireworks/firearms.
7. I will be appropriately dressed and groomed at all TAFE events in accordance with the professional TAFE dress code and the school's dress code policy.
8. I will be in my hotel room with the lights out at the designated time set by the state or my teacher leader (only if the teacher leaders' time is earlier than that set by the state). I will remember that there are other people in the hotel, and I will not leave my hotel room after curfew.
9. I will get my installation attire for the state meeting approved by the state director prior to the Officer Workshop.
10. I will be appropriately dressed and out of my room by the designated time each morning.
11. I will be present at each meal.
12. I will be on time and actively participate in all sessions that I am responsible for attending.
13. I will not leave the group unaccompanied. I will always be with at least 1-2 members of the delegation, including in my sleeping room.
14. I will not have members not assigned to my room in my hotel room **at any time** – unless an adult is present.
15. I will not participate in any PDA (Public Display of Affection).
16. I will be present at the Area/State Officer Training and **ONLY** under pre-approved circumstances may I be allowed not to attend or miss any part of the training/planning.
17. I will assist in organizing and participate in the required officer training.
18. I understand that my duties as an officer start immediately after the Area/State Conference and are not over until after the conference follow-up has been completed.
19. I will conduct myself, collectively and individually, in good faith while maintaining a high level of ethical and professional behavior.
20. I will consider myself as a "trustee" to ensure that TAFE always operates in the best interest of the organization and its members.
21. I will utilize opportunities to increase public awareness of TAFE.
22. I will use TAFE resources with scrupulous regard and only for the purpose for which they are intended.
23. I will keep well informed about developments relevant to TAFE and bring to the attention of the decision-making bodies any issues that may have an adverse effect on the organization.
24. I will declare conflicts of interest and abstain from voting or discussion when appropriate.
25. I will listen to and respect the opinions of others and support majority decisions.
26. I will not post any pictures/graphics/language/updates to any social media account that may jeopardize the image of TAFE officers, staff, and organization (*see social media contract below).
27. I understand that any sexual misconduct, regardless of gender, will not be tolerated.

As an Area/State Officer Teacher Leader:

1. I will be present at the Officer Training and ONLY under pre-approved circumstances may I be allowed not to attend or miss any part of the training/planning. Teacher Leader is expected to always remain with students during planning and workshops unless a separate teacher leader activity has been planned by TAFE.
2. I will attend all meetings with my officer and be present with them at all meetings when a teacher leader is involved. This includes Officer Training Workshop and assisting the officer as needed.
3. I am aware that my officer and I may need to travel to one other area conference, other than my own, and know that TAFE will cover the cost of hotel, meals, and mileage for both me and my officer.
4. I am aware that my officer is required to attend monthly planning meetings, script writing and Capital Leadership, as well as their Area Leadership Conference and the State Conference.
5. I understand that my officer's duties are not over until after the State Conference follow-up has been completed.
6. I will assist my officer in all their duties throughout the year, including over-seeing their TAFE correspondence and holding them accountable to deadlines.
7. I will utilize opportunities to increase public awareness of TAFE and keep informed about developments of the organization.
8. Keep administration informed of all meetings and travel, as well as the officer's responsibilities.

Any infraction of these rules will not be tolerated. Should ANY rule be broken, the school and parents will be called, and arrangements will be made to send the officer home immediately. If, for any reason, the officer is sent home early, any additional cost, including total repayment for officer's attendance at the event, must be assumed by the parents/guardians. TAFE staff will decide upon a consequence that fits the transgression, which could include being placed on probation or removal from office.

_____	_____	_____
Student's Name (print)	Student's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent's Name (print)	Parent's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Leader's Name (print)	Teacher Leader's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Principal's Name (print)	Principal's Signature	Date

TAFE Area/State Social Media Code of Conduct

TAFE Area/State officers are representatives of TAFE and must use social media responsibly and abide by this Social Media Code of Conduct in both their role as an officer and in their personal use. Area/State officers are responsible for monitoring and regulating all content posted to or tagged on their social media accounts. It is recommended that privacy and/ or tagging permission settings be implemented for all personal social media accounts. Students should use all communication, including social media, as a means of positively impacting others and TAFE, spreading awareness of TAFE, and promoting unity among TAFE members.

TAFE Area/State Officers are expected to set an example for other members and should create and maintain a social media image that is positive, ethical, professional, and kind. Social media should never be used to air your grievances. Be aware that if you post your attendance or participation in an activity that you are endorsing that activity or product.

"Social media" refers to all websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking, whether it is associated or affiliated with the organization, as well as any other form of electronic communication. These include, but are not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, YouTube, TikTok, LinkedIn, blogs, vlogs, and other online threads.

Below are the guidelines that we would like for you to be aware of in using both your personal as well as your official TAFE social media sites.

- **Protecting your own privacy**-privacy settings on social media platforms should be set to what you are comfortable with. Be mindful of posting information that you would not want the public to see. What you publish will be around for a long time, so consider the content carefully and be cautious about disclosing personal details.

- **Be honest**-Do not say anything that is dishonest, untrue, or misleading. If you have a vested interest in something you are discussing, point it out. But also, be smart about protecting yourself and your privacy.

- **Respect your audience, TAFE, and your fellow members**-They reflect a diverse set of customs, values and points of view. Don't say anything contradictory or in conflict with the TAFE website. Don't be afraid to be yourself but do so respectfully.

- **Social Media Tips**- The best way to be interesting, stay out of trouble, and have fun is to write about what you know. Quality matters. Use a spell-checker. If you're not design-oriented, ask someone whether your graphics look decent, take their advice on how to improve it. If in doubt over a post, or if something does not feel right, either let it sit and look at it again before publishing it or ask someone else to look at it first. Remember pictures last forever, think about who, what, and where the picture is being taken.

Area/State Officers will be utilizing the following social media platforms during their term in office, they will be logging into the TAFE organization accounts with provided usernames and passwords created by TAFE:

- Instagram
- TikTok
- Youtube
- X

☐ I do give _____ permission to utilize the social media sites listed above.
☐ I do not _____ permission to utilize the social media sites listed above.

_____ _____ _____
Parent's Name (print) Parent's Signature Date

Please review the details of the agreement and sign and date acknowledging you understand the expectations as an area/state officer of TAFE.

I, _____, agree to follow all the guidelines of the Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) regarding social media use. I agree to not publish, post, share, like, or release content containing or involving:

- Information that is confidential or not for public consumption.
- An individual's private information (your own or someone else's).
- Commentary, content, or images that are inappropriate, defamatory, proprietary, harassing, libelous, volatile, potentially inflammatory, contain vulgar or inappropriate language, and/or that can or do create a hostile environment.
- Guns, weapons, alcohol, smoking, vaping, violence, protests, sexual content, nudity, and/or any illegal activity that reveals me or anyone else participating in questionable activities.
- Pictures or statuses that reveal public displays of affection (PDA)
- Politics, religion, and/or other controversial topics which may alienate individual members or misrepresent the views of TAFE as a whole.
    - TAFE Area/State Officers represent an organization of diverse members with various backgrounds and views. As an educational organization, TAFE is bipartisan.
- Fake, false, or misleading information.
- Negative statements about TAFE or anyone affiliated with TAFE.

In addition, officers will abide by the following guidelines:

- Embodying the leader's lifestyle in everything – living it and posting it.
- Promoting TAFE and building excitement for members through my social media pages whenever it is asked of me.
- Always being respectful on social media

TAFE State Officers:

- TAFE State Director will have access to all TAFE social media accounts and will determine what email and phone numbers are to be used for those accounts.
- State officers may not change passwords without written permission from the TAFE State Director.
- State Officers will confirm the TAFE State Director has all the correct passwords before leaving their office at the end of term.
- Officers are not allowed to begin posting on a new platform without prior permission from the TAFE State Director.

If I am found in violation of any of these areas, TAFE staff will decide upon a consequence that fits the transgression, which could include being placed on probation or removal from office.

_____	_____	_____
Student's Name (print)	Student's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent's Name (print)	Parent's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Teacher Leader's Name (print)	Teacher Leader's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Principal's Name (print)	Principal's Signature	Date

Administrator Approval Form

Ask your school administrator to read the statements below thoroughly, and next to each statement, write his/her initials to affirm understanding. You will be asked to upload this completed document when applying online.

I understand that _____ (Applicant Name) is applying for consideration as a **candidate** for a state officer position in the Texas Association of Future Educators.

Initials	Statements of Understandings
	I understand that if this student is selected for **candidacy**, (s)he will be responsible for conducting an election campaign, which includes a campaign booth at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit. **I understand** that (s)he is responsible for funding this campaign through private donations, use of the TAFE chapter's treasury, and/or fundraising efforts, **and I agree** to consent to fundraising activities in the school, if such activities do not violate school and/or district policies.
	I understand that if selected for candidacy, this student must attend the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, where the on-site voting will take place. **I agree** to allow this student to attend the conference without penalty to his/her attendance record and to allow him/her to make up any work missed due to conference attendance.
	I understand that TAFE state student officers are required to travel during the term of office. If this student is **elected to office** at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit, **I agree** to allow this student to attend TAFE events and training without penalty to his/her attendance record and to allow him/her to make up any work missed due to said travel **both this academic year and next academic year**

By signing below, I affirm my understanding of the requirements for the Texas Association of Future Educators State Officer candidates. I agree to support, to the greatest extent possible, this student's efforts to run for office (and serve as a state student officer, if elected to the position).

_____ _____

Administrator Signature

Administrator Name (Please print or type)

_____ _____

Administrator's Title

Date

_____

School Name

Transcript Release Form

_____	_____	_____
Student's Name (print)	Student's Signature	Date

Applicants for candidacy as a Texas Association of Future Educators state student officer must submit a copy of their most recent school transcript. By signing this form, you consent to release the above-named student's school transcript to the Texas Association of Future Educators.

_____	_____	_____
Parent's Name (print)	Parent's Signature	Date

Photo/Video Release

I,_____(Applicant Name), hereby give the Texas Association of Future Educators the absolute right and permission to photograph me. I hereby grant to the Texas Association of Future Educators all rights to reproduce and disseminate such photographs and images (as well as those I provide to the organization), in whole or in part, in conjunction with presentations, programs, and publications by the Texas Association of Future Educators.

I further grant the Texas Association of Future Educators all rights to make further reproductions of such pictures through any media for educational purposes, art, entertainment, advertising, and internal use for other lawful purposes. I also grant the Texas Association of Future Educators the right to copyright such pictures and images in its own name or to publish, to market, and to assign without compensation or report to me or my parent(s)/guardian(s).

I also give permission to the Texas Association of Future Educators to post my photo along with my name and school for identification as a leader of the Texas Association of Future Educators on the organization website, programs, newsletters, and social media sites.

I hereby waive the rights or interests that I may have in the pictures or images, including any rights to inspect and/or approve the finished photographs and images or the use of which it may be applied so long as its use shall be lawful.

I expressly release the Texas Association of Future Educators, their agents, employees, licensees, assigns, and volunteers from and against all claims which I have or may have for invasion of privacy, defamation, or any other case of action arising out of the production, distribution, publication, and exhibition of the photographs and images.

_____	_____	_____
Student's Name (print)	Student's Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Parent's Name (print)	Parent's Signature	Date

Campaign Finance Report

Use this form to submit a preliminary Campaign Finance Report stating your intentions with your application. It must be included with your application.

A final Campaign Finance Report with attached receipts and a statement verifying expenditures, must be turned in on day one of the Teach Tomorrow Summit at the Campaign Meeting, where candidate schools and their selected officer representative will be cleared to run for office.

Campaign expenditures must be limited to $750, including the current market value of donated items. You must list the approximate prices of all donated items, any donated items that do not list a price, will be removed from your campaign.

*Total Amount of Cash Donations + **Total Worth of Donated Items + ***Expenditures = Shall not exceed $750.00

Cash donations (Revenue)	
Source	**Amount of donation**
Example: Local grocery store	*$50.00*
*Total cash donations	$
Donated Items	
Item	**Amount (What the item is worth)**
Example: Stickers from the party store	*$25.00*
Example: Stuffed bear from home	*$4.00 per ebay.com*
*Total donated items	$
Expenditures (Items purchased, must include receipts)	
Item and Quantity	**Amount**
Example: 1000 campaign buttons	*$75.00*
Expenditures	$
Total Cash, donated items, and expenditures shall not exceed $750.	$
School supplies or technology used but not include in total	
Items	
Example: Tablets, Laptops, tape, paper clips, glue	

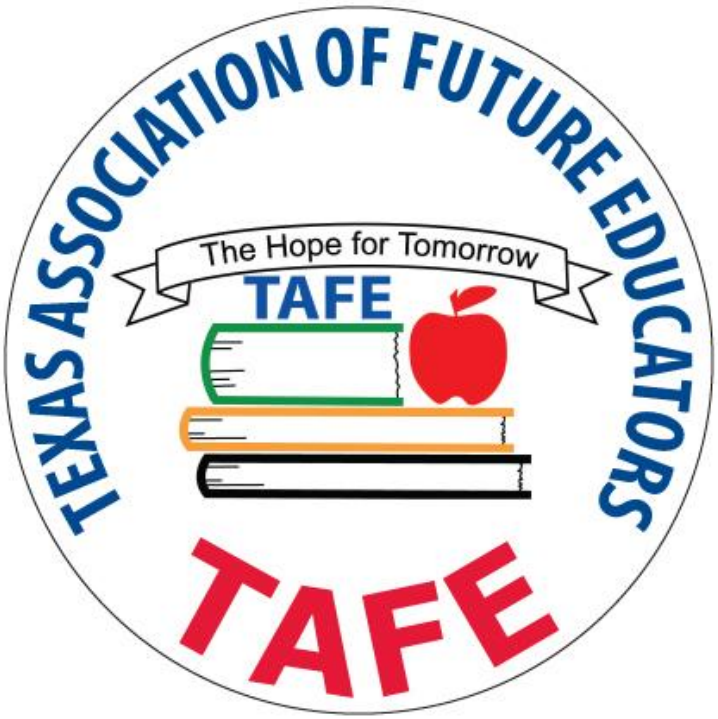
I certify that the information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that concealing donations or expenditures could result in disqualification and removal from the TAFE state student officer ballot.

_____ _____

Student Applicant Signature Date

_____ _____

Teacher Leader Signature Date



CAMPAIGN INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Campaign Guidelines

Campaigning is an important part of the TAFE elections process. Therefore, candidates are required to participate in several campaign activities. Additionally, to ensure fairness and equality, there are several campaign rules and regulations that all candidates must adhere to. Required activities, rules, and regulations are outlined below. Reminder Teachers Leaders are a source of support for their candidates and should not participate in campaigning for their candidate or school, doing so will be found as a campaign violation.

Campaign Meeting

The officer candidate school representative and Teacher Leader shall attend a campaign meeting prior to campaigning. At this time, the final Campaign Finance Report will be given to the Credentials Committee. The Credentials Committee will review all the candidate school's campaign materials, handouts, and campaign speech. If campaign application is incomplete or campaign materials are inappropriate, the school could be disqualified and not allowed to run for office at the Political Rally.

Requirements for Approved Candidates

If you are selected as a candidate for TAFE state student office, you are required to participate in several campaign activities, some of which take place at the annual TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit.

If a candidate misses any of the required campaign events or submission deadlines, (s)he will be removed from the ballot.

Campaign Videos, candidates' bios and photos will be posted in the TAFE mobile app and will serve as the candidate's online campaign materials. The video will be uploaded to the TAFE mobile app prior to the Teach Tomorrow Summit for preview and will be played at the political rally.

Campaign Booth

- Each candidate school will be given booth space at the TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit which will include one 6' table, 2 chairs, and 2' between candidate booths.
- Candidate school's booth location will be determined by a drawing and candidate schools will be notified of their booth location.
- Candidate schools should use the tabletop to display all campaign materials
- Candidates ***may not*** hold raffles at their campaign booths
- Campaign materials must not violate your school's policies about language, profanity, sexual innuendos, etc. Posters found in violation will be grounds for disqualification of the candidate school.
- **No additional campaigning will be allowed after the booths close. (This includes the continuation of distribution of campaign materials and handouts.)**
- Teacher Leaders may not participate in the campaigning. They may help with setup, monitoring of campaign booth, and tear down.
- If campaign booths are located near competition rooms, all candidates and their campaign teams must be mindful of those students who are competing.
    - Chants and cheers need to be limited to areas at least 20 feet away from competition rooms and must remain in the general conference space.
    - Campaign booths or helpers which are found to be too loud will be given one warning to lower their volume. If a campaign must be asked a second time, they lose privileges to continue their campaign.

Campaign Materials

All banners, posters and campaign materials must be approved by the Credentials Committee before distribution, on the first day of the Teach Tomorrow Summit.

Acceptable materials are:

- Flyers can be no larger than 8 1/2" x 14".
- 6 Banners (not to exceed 3' x 6') may be displayed in your booth area, carried or worn as a sandwich board.

- Noisemakers, music instruments, amplifiers, and other approved demonstration materials may not be distributed to TAFE members. No amplified sound should detract from other candidate booths.
- Novelty items and candy may be distributed as long as they do not interfere in any way with the activities being conducted and they must be school appropriate. Secure approval for novelties before you order them.

Materials not acceptable are:

- Floating helium balloons
- Confetti-type materials
- Gummed labels

Distribution

- Handouts and other distributions may be made at the convention site according to the schedule. No distribution of materials may take place in the general session room at any time.
- No signs, posters, handouts, noisemakers, or promotional materials of any kind will be allowed in the Political Rally. All campaign materials are to be used ONLY during the allotted campaign timeframe.
- Campaign materials may not be posted on walls, in the elevators, in the halls, on finished wood surfaces, on glass, on doors or door handles, on curtains or other fabrics, or hung from light fixtures, air conditioners, air supply ducts, return air grills and diffusers, obstruct exits or exit signs, be plugged into any light fixture or socket, posted outside the conference site, or slipped under doors of hotel rooms.
- Nothing is to be thrown into the audience during the rally. All "handouts" or "give-aways" are to be passed hand to hand only during the designated campaign time. Do not use straight pins to pin paper on people.

Clean-up

All campaign materials shall be cleaned up by the close of campaigning. Any campaign materials found not cleaned up could disqualify the school from running for office.

Campaign Violations

Any report of suspected campaign rule violations any time during or prior to the campaigning should be made immediately to the Credentials Committee Chairperson and TAFE Program Director. Depending on the severity of the alleged violation, the offending school may be asked to correct the infraction or be penalized by the Credentials Committee. This action may be appealed to the TAFE Board of Directors. A school's name may be removed from the ballot if the violation is intentional or flagrant. Each candidate school should avoid using any questionable materials or procedures that circumvent the intent of campaign rules.

Optional Campaign Activity: TAFE social media

Candidates are welcome to campaign on any official TAFE and Educators Rising social media site. Social media campaigning may not begin until the Credentials Committee has approved the candidacy. Posts must not violate your school's policies about language, profanity, etc., and ***must not*** contain any negative attacks on opponents.

Campaign Finance

- Candidates must fund their campaign materials through their TAFE chapter treasury, private donation(s), and/or money generated by fundraising efforts.
- **Campaign expenditure must be limited to $750.** This includes all items associated with the campaign booth including materials, giveaways, handouts, etc.
  - **Candidates can exclude basic items used to secure display materials from their expenditure list, including staples, tape, tacks, paper clips, glue, rubber bands, string, etc.**
  - **Candidates need to include all technology, even if it is on loan, being used during their campaign window, i.e. laptops, tablets, speakers, photo booths, etc.**
- Candidates may accept donated items. However, the fair market value of donated items must be counted against the $750 total. (i.e., a donated item might include copy paper supplied by the school used in preparing handouts. The candidate would need to ask school personnel for the value of the paper and then record it on the Campaign Finance Report as a donated item. For items that may not have an easily obtainable value (such as an item from home, like a stuffed animal) the candidate would need to find a

similar item online (use sites like ebay.com, amazon.com, etc.) to determine the fair market value and record it on the Campaign Finance Report.

- Receipts for all campaign materials, including proof of fair market value of the donated items, must be attached to the Campaign Finance Report.
- The final Campaign Finance Report and all receipts must be submitted to the TAFE state office before the mandatory meeting with the Credentials Committee at the Teach Tomorrow Summit.
- **TAFE encourages you to consider creative and low-cost ways to bring a meaningful message to attendees as a TAFE state student officer candidate.**

If you have questions about the Campaign Requirements and Guidelines for Candidates, please contact the TAFE state office.

Political Rally

Speech

- Speeches should reflect the school's campaign platform and TAFE Theme or TRAFLES.
- At the political rally, each officer candidate school shall be allotted three minutes to give their campaign speech. Each officer candidate will be given a silent 30 second warning to complete their speech. At the end of 3 minutes, the student Vice-President shall announce, "Your time has expired."
- Any continuation of presentation beyond five seconds after notification shall result in disqualification.

Interview

Applicants will participate in a live personal interview on stage at the political rally. Candidates will answer two questions asked by the Vice-President. The following is a list of categories questions may come from.

- One TAFE Fact question
- One thought question is chosen from one of the following categories.
  - Personal Traits
  - TAFE Vision
  - Chapter situation (problem solving)

Elections

The election shall be by secret ballot and shall be held immediately following the Political Rally. Each chapter shall have one vote.

Obligations of Elected Schools/Officers

If elected all officers shall fulfill obligations as outlined in the bylaws.

Newly Elected Officer Meeting

All new elected state officers and their Teacher Leaders will be required to stay after the conclusion of the Teach Tomorrow Summit for a short officer meeting. This meeting will last 45 minutes to an hour.

Texas Association of Future Educators
State Officer Commitments

Date(s)	Event	Location	Expectations	Officer(s)	Who pays?
January 15, 2027	Application to run for office	Submitted online	Application should be submitted online by 5 p.m. Jan. 10th.	All candidate schools	No cost
March 4-6, 2027	43rd Teach Tomorrow Summit	San Antonio Convention Center, San Antonio, TX	Campaign for office Present speech	All candidate schools	Officer chapter
April 21-24, 2027	Officer Training Workshop	Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center, Spicewood, TX	Officer training & Conference planning	All state officers	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel, hotel, and food
June 6. 2027	TAFE Board of Directors Meeting	Dallas, TX	Attend board meeting and participate in the decision-making process	All state officers	TAFE pays for officer and Teacher Leader – travel, hotel, and food
June 8-10, 2027 (TUE – THU)	TASSP Summer Workshop	Hilton Anatole Dallas, TX	Bring greetings from TAFE to TASSP during general session & talk to principals at the exhibits	State President Only	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel, hotel, and food
June 16-20, 2027	National Educators Rising Conference	Columbus, Ohio	Lead the Texas delegation	All state officers	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel & hotel up to $1,000 per school and registration
July 12-14, 2027	TAFE Teacher Leaders Workshop	Hilton Anatole Dallas, TX	Present breakout session	All state officers	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel, hotel, and food
July 14-16, 2027	FCSTAT Conference	Hilton Anatole Dallas, TX	Tend to exhibit booth and bring greetings from TAFE at opening GS	All state officers	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel, hotel, and food
November 18-20, 2027	Script Writing Meeting	San Antonio, TX	Continue to plan state conference and finalize scripts	All state officers	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel, hotel, and food
As requested, & able Attend Area Conferences	Area Conferences	Various locations throughout Texas	Attend & bring TAFE greetings to area conferences. Encourage members to attend state conference	Dependent on location and invitation	TAFE pays for officers and Teacher Leaders – travel, hotel, and food
On-going	Conference Calls		Participate in specially called BOD meetings via phone	All state officers	State TAFE Office
February 13-16, 2028	TAFE Teach Tomorrow Summit	San Antonio Convention Center, San Antonio, TX	Carry out assigned duties at state conference	All state officers	Officer Chapter