

**LASERS BOARD OF
TRUSTEES ELECTION**

2023

**RETIRED
CANDIDATE**

**NOMINATING
PETITION**

LASERS

Louisiana State Employees'
Retirement System



SCHEDULE AND RULES FOR 2023 RETIRED MEMBER ELECTION

1 Qualifications

- A retired member candidate for a position as a trustee must be retired by the closing date for nominations, July 11, 2023. The term “retired member” shall not include any person still employed by the state, including retired status under the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). A LASERS retiree who is re-employed by the State pursuant to La. R.S. 11:416 (1) and (3) is still considered a “retired member.”
- Each retired candidate must submit a nominating petition bearing the names and signatures of at least 25 retired members of LASERS. Each signature must be accompanied by the last four digits of the signatory’s Social Security number.
- Each petition should be accompanied by the candidate’s photo, qualifications, and platform.

Nominations are being accepted for two positions on the LASERS Board of Trustees elected by retirees. Trustees serve four-year terms and are elected in odd-numbered years. LASERS Trustees are eligible to serve only three consecutive four-year terms, to include any term served as an active or retired member.

2 Schedule of Elections

March 1, 2023
(1st day in March)

Nominations Open.

July 11, 2023
(2nd Tuesday in July)

All nominating petitions, qualifications, platforms, and photos due to LASERS by 4:30 p.m. (Central Time).

Signed nominating petitions will be accepted if received by facsimile or email by the date nominations are closed, as long as the original nominating petition with signatures is received by 4:30 p.m. (Central Time) July 14, 2023. If originals are not received by that deadline, the person in whose name they are submitted shall not be qualified as a candidate.

July 17, 2023
(Monday after 2nd Tuesday in July)

Drawing to determine candidate positions on ballot.

September 22, 2023
(4th Friday in September)

Final day that information on candidates/ballots mailed to members.

October 27, 2023
(4th Friday in October)

Votes must be received by 4:30 p.m. (Central Time).

November 1, 2023
(Wednesday after 4th Friday in October)

Votes tallied and verified by this date.

November 16 or 17, 2023
(Regular Board Meeting)

Board certifies and authorizes publication of ballot count.

January 2024

Newly elected Trustees receive orientation and are sworn in.

** This schedule may be modified by the Executive Director of LASERS in the event of a disaster or emergency declared by executive order or proclamation of the Governor.*

3

Candidate Petition, Photo, Qualifications, and Platform

All candidates should include the following with their nominating petitions:

- **Candidate Petition:**

The petition should contain the names, signatures, and the **final four digits of the Social Security number** of at least 25 retired members of LASERS. **Social Security numbers are verified on all petition signees.** It is advisable to obtain extra signatures, in the eventuality that some cannot be verified. Printed names must be legible; otherwise they may not be counted. Signed nominating petitions will be accepted if received by facsimile or e-mail by the date nominations are closed, as long as the original signed nominating petition is received by 4:30 p.m. (Central Time) July 14, 2023. If originals are not received by that deadline, the person in whose name they are submitted shall not be qualified as a candidate. Information on where petitions should be sent is provided on page four of this booklet.

- **Photo:**

Please include a professional photograph of yourself with your nominating petition. Digital photographs in JPEG format on CD are preferred. Printed photographs no smaller than 3" x 5" are acceptable. This photograph will appear on the ballot. LASERS reserves the right to reject any photo with inappropriate content.

- **Qualifications and Platform:**

Candidates should describe their qualifications for the position and the platform they seek to achieve if elected. Please limit your qualifications and platform to no more than 200 words. You may divide the total between your platform and qualifications in any manner you wish. For example: 100 words for qualifications and 100 words for platform. The qualifications and platform will appear on the ballot verbatim. If your qualifications and platform exceed 200 words, LASERS reserves the right to edit for length.

4

Responsibilities of the Trustee

- A Trustee should have knowledge of, background in, or the ability to understand and utilize investment principles and terminology for a retirement system whose current assets exceed \$14 billion.
- A Trustee should become familiar with all applicable retirement laws in order to adequately rule on appeals submitted by members of the retirement system.
- Trustees are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board; assigned committee meetings; and workshops.
- Trustees must act in the sole and exclusive interest of LASERS members and retirees. Breach of fiduciary duty can result in personal liability.
- Trustees must file annual personal financial disclosure reports with the Board of Ethics detailing, among other requirements, income received from the state, political subdivisions, and gaming interests.
- Persons who have been found in violation of the Code of Governmental Ethics for misuse of public funds are not eligible to serve as a Trustee.
- Persons who have been convicted of a felony offense are not eligible to serve as a Trustee for a period of five years after the conviction or after the end of imprisonment, whichever is later.

5 Election Details

- The Executive Director of LASERS will respond to each individual who submits a candidate petition, providing notification of eligible status, and the date of the drawing to determine ballot position.
- There shall be a drawing on July 17, 2023, at the Retirement Systems Building, 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70809 to determine the position each candidate shall have on the ballot or election brochure. All candidates may attend or send a representative to the drawing.
- After ballot position has been determined, the Executive Director notifies candidates.
- Ballots and candidate information are distributed to each member who retired prior to July 1, 2023.
- Each retiree may vote for up to two candidates.
- Votes shall be confidential.
- Candidates receiving the highest vote tally shall be declared elected.
- Candidates for election to the LASERS Board of Trustees shall not solicit employees of LASERS to participate in their campaigns, and LASERS employees cannot participate, or give assistance to any member who is running for election or re-election to the Board. Candidates shall not solicit or have contact with any vendor or employee of a vendor who is providing LASERS with products or services related to elections of the LASERS Board of Trustees. LASERS employees are free to sign nominating petitions.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

This completed petition, together with your photo, qualifications, and platform must be received in the office of the LASERS Executive Director no later than 4:30 p.m. (Central Time), Tuesday, July 11, 2023.

Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS)

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 44213
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213

Street Address:

First Floor, Louisiana Retirement Systems Building
8401 United Plaza Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Additional Information:

Board Election Information:

225.922.0516

FAX (to send petitions):

225.922.2031

Email:

LASERSelection@lasersonline.org



Eligibility Requirement for Candidacy

To be a candidate for a seat on the LASERS Board of Trustees, at least 25 retired LASERS members must endorse your candidacy. Each signature must be accompanied by the final four digits of the active member's Social Security number. It is advisable to obtain more than 25 names, in the eventuality that some signatures cannot be verified. Social Security numbers are verified on all petition signatures. (Important information is located on page four of this booklet for street/mailling addresses, or telephone numbers.)

DEADLINE: 4:30 PM (Central Time) July 11, 2023

Name:	Social Security Number (final four digits):
Mailing Address:	E-mail Address:
City, State, Zip:	
Daytime Area Code/Telephone:	Your State Agency:

SIGNATURE:

INSTRUCTIONS: Print your name, sign, provide the final four digits of your Social Security number (SSN), and date the Petition. *I hereby endorse the above-named person for the position of Trustee of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System.*

Name (printed)	Signature	SSN (final four digits)	Date
01.			
02.			
03.			
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09.			
10.			

__ of __ (Petition)

(You may make additional copies of this page.)

Candidate's Name:Social Security Number (final four digits):

Name (printed)	Signature	SSN (final four digits)	Date
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Cut on dotted line to return to LASERS

__ of __ (Petition)

(You may make additional copies of this page.)

Candidate's Name:		Social Security Number (final four digits):	
Name (printed)	Signature	SSN (final four digits)	Date
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Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System

Contact Information

Location: 8401 United Plaza Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Mail: P.O. Box 44213 • Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4213

Phone: (toll-free) 800.256.3000 • (local) 225.922.0600

Web: www.lasersonline.org

The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) distributed this document digitally.
No publication costs were incurred.