

Single Transferrable Vote (STV)

Beginning with the 2014 Board of Directors election, the Single Transferrable Vote (STV) method has been used to determine the results. STV is a voting system designed to achieve proportional representation through ranked voting. The ballots will be counted using the Droop/Cincinnati procedures which are preferred methods for making every vote count. Registered voters will receive a ballot listing the [18 nominees](#) for the 9 open positions on the Board. Nominees must be ranked in the order of preference by placing a '1' beside the most preferred candidate, a '2' beside the second most preferred candidate, and so on, as long as the voter wishes to state a preference. Each voter's ballot will only be used for one candidate, following the rank order of candidates and the process described below.

The ballots containing the ranked preferences will be counted using the Droop/Cincinnati procedures, described as follows:

Each candidate requires a minimum number of votes – the quota – to be elected, which is determined as

$$\text{Quota} = \text{valid votes cast} / (\text{seats to fill} + 1) + 1$$

which is rounded down to the closest integer. All candidates achieving the quota with ballots where they are ranked first are elected.

The election then proceeds according to the following steps:

1. A candidate who has reached or exceeded the quota is declared elected.
2. If a candidate has more votes than the quota, these surplus votes are transferred to other candidates, according to the Cincinnati procedure, whereby a number equal to the surplus is randomly selected from the ballots for the elected candidate. The surplus votes are distributed to candidates based on the second ranked candidate indicated on the ballot.
3. If no new candidate meets the quota, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and those votes are transferred as surplus to the next ranked candidate.
4. This process repeats until either a winner is found for every seat or there are as many seats as remaining candidates.
5. The process will be modified to ensure at least two of the candidates from industry are elected, consistent with the Board of Directors' goal of increasing its industrial representation.

Because votes cast for losing candidates and excess votes cast for winning candidates are transferred to voters' next choice candidates, STV ensures a fair representation in order of preference.