

AEPR Primary Election: Administrative Details

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Each organisation that wants to be elected as an AEPR association must supply the State's independent Electoral Commission with its name, address, mission statement, names of its officials, list of its ordinary members, and the rules by which it will select applicant candidates to be listed on the general election ballot. In addition, the organisation must supply either a returnable deposit of \$100,000, or the names, signatures, and addresses of a number of supporting registered voters equal to at least 5% of the number calculated by dividing the number of the state's registered voters by the number of members of the state's legislature to be elected. This deposit is returned to each applicant organisation that receives at least 2.5% of the votes (half the 5% of voters required to elect an organisation) by the primary. Requiring a deposit or list of signatures is suggested to dissuade organisations from applying who might be insufficiently popular to have any realistic chance of becoming a nominating association. For the primary, the EC gives each applicant organisation a unique number and lists them in alphabetical order together with the information described above. All this information must be widely published at least one month before the date of the primary.

For each candidate nominated by an association, the association must either provide a returnable deposit of \$10,000 to the EC, or a signed list of a number of supporting registered voters equal to at least 5% of the State's registered voters. This deposit is returned for each candidate who receives at least half this same number of votes during the general election. Upon finalizing its list of candidates, each association must assign a unique code number to each candidate to clearly identify them for general election purposes. This code is composed of the association's unique number, adding a unique letter or other symbol for each candidate (see the example ballot paper in *Statewide Primary Election: Nominating Highest Quality Candidates by Associational Evaluative Proportional Representation*).

Under the supervision of the IEC, and at least two months before the general election, each association must publish the code numbers and names of its candidates that will be part of the ballot given to each of its registered voters during the general election. At the same time, it must publish all other relevant details about each candidate. The IEC must ensure that all this information is systematically organised and published widely.