UAW Elections 2023 Frequently Asked Questions

Prepared by the Graduate Employee Organization, UAW Local 2322

What is the run-off election for?

In this election we are voting for: **the UAW President** and up to 3 **Vice Presidents**. These positions make up the UAW International Executive Board (IEB).

IEB, or The International Executive Board is the elected leadership of the UAW. They run the Constitutional Convention every four years and also work closely with locals in "The Big Three:" General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler (now Stellantis). Members of the IEB typically serve as the lead negotiators for the Big Three contracts.

Why is this election important?

UAW is holding **direct elections** for its leadership **for the first time in UAW history**. You are the first UAW members who can choose their own leadership and change the course our International Union takes. At stake in this election are:

- 1. How much power the rank-and-file members like you have in the overall Union;
- 2. Strike pay: how much workers get paid by UAW while on strike;
- **3.** How much effort UAW puts towards coordinating collective actions across Regions, Locals, and Units;
- **4.** How much money UAW spends on organizing new unions and organizing existing unions to take collective action; and
- **5.** UAW political spending and endorsements.

Where can I find more information about each candidate and the two slates of candidates?

All of the official campaign literature is available on the <u>UAW Website</u>. The two slates in this election are the <u>UAW Members United</u> and the <u>Curry Solidarity Team</u>.

In the fall, GEO hosted a forum with Beverley Brakeman and Brandon Mancilla, both of the candidates for Regional Director of Region 9A. The full recording is available here.

How do I vote?

You should have received a paper ballot in the mail this week. It will have the following logo and contains your ballot and a return envelope. We recommend keeping the envelope your ballot came in because it has a sequence number that allows you to track your vote. February 17th is the recommended deadline to mail in the ballot; they must be received at the designated postal facility in Ohio by February 28.





Official UAW Election Ballot

What do I do if I haven't received a ballot?

If you still haven't gotten your ballot, please go to <u>uawmonitor.com/ballots</u> or call 855-433-8683 to request one as soon as possible.

What is GEO's relationship to the UAW?

As graduate employees at UMass Amherst, we are represented by a union. Our employment contract with the university is negotiated by the union (collective bargaining) to ensure that we have good working conditions and compensation (pay, benefits, protections).

The UAW (The International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America) is an international union, representing workers in the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico, across a broad range of fields. It started in 1935, amid the Great Depression, for auto workers in Detroit, but has grown in size and diversity of workers.

GEO (Graduate Employee Organization) is one "unit" (or, "shop") of workers within **UAW Local 2322**, along with several other units --workers in a number of other unrelated fields and employers.

What does "region 9A" refer to?

Local 2322 is one local, among several, within region 9A of the UAW. **Region 9A** covers the New England area (incl. parts of New York) and includes Puerto Rico.

