

*Convention 2019*



*Los Angeles*

**MARCH 22-24**

**CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, AFT, AFL-CIO**

The *77th Convention* of  
the California Federation of Teachers  
is hereby called to convene in the Millenium Biltmore  
on Friday, March 22, 2019, at the hour of 10 a.m.  
and will remain in session three days or until such time  
as it has given full consideration to such matters as legally  
may be brought before it. — *Joshua Pechthalt, President*

*Get Ready  
for  
Convention*

California Federation  
of Teachers   
AFT, AFL-CIO  
*A Union of Professionals*

# Preparing for Convention

## The annual CFT Convention is the highest policy making body of the Federation.

The union's vitality and democracy depend upon participation in the Convention by delegates from locals in good standing.

The constitutional provisions for CFT Conventions have been adopted to ensure CFT members are represented in the policy-making of their union. Delegates will elect the CFT President, Secretary Treasurer and 24 Vice Presidents, and vote on important resolutions and constitutional amendments.

Your local's packet of materials include this official Convention Call, your local voting strength, and delegate forms. **Please study this information carefully, and plan now to ensure your local's representation.**

## 1 How to elect delegates

### How local unions nominate and elect delegates

Delegates must be nominated and elected according to the CFT By-Laws and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act, commonly referred to as the "Landrum-Griffin Act." This federal law, and the AFT and CFT Constitutions, require that:

1. Each member shall have a reasonable opportunity to be nominated as a delegate.
2. Notice of election of delegates shall be mailed to each member at least 15 days in advance of the election.
3. Election shall be by secret ballot.
4. Results shall be published and records (including ballots) kept for one year.

The president or other elected union officer may serve as a delegate without a special election provided that:

- He or she was elected to office by secret ballot according to provisions of the Landrum-Griffin Act, and
- The local constitution or by-laws state that one of the duties of office is to be a delegate to the CFT Convention.

Although many locals divide expense allocations equally by common practice, the Labor Department has ruled that expenses need not be distributed equally among the delegates, provided that the rule for allocating the expenses is passed before the nomination of candidates. The guiding principle to follow is that the rule must be reasonable and able to be uniformly enforced.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL DELEGATIONS TO BE SEATED

- Your CFT per capita payments through **December 2018** must be received by **March 8**.
- Your list of elected delegates and alternates must be received at the CFT Bay Area office by **March 8**.

## HOW MANY DELEGATES TO ELECT

- A local or council of locals shall be entitled to one delegate for the first 25 members, plus one delegate for each additional 25 members or fraction thereof. (CFT Bylaws, Article I, Section 7a)
- The number of delegates allowed shall be based on the local's average membership from **January 2018 through December 2018**.
- For locals chartered during the year preceding the Convention, the average shall be computed using the months of affiliation, with a minimum of two months.
- Locals are not required to nominate and elect the full number of delegates allotted, provided that the local passes a rule prior to the nominations setting the number of delegates to be elected.

### Members-at-large elect by mail ballot

Members-at-large may nominate and elect delegates to the Convention by mail ballot in conformity with federal law. The number of delegates and alternates will be based on the aggregate number of the members-at-large.

The CFT Secretary Treasurer shall conduct an election for the delegates and alternates no later than two months prior to the Convention by a secret mail ballot listing all nominees and their employers. The nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be considered delegates and the next highest, the alternates.

### Small locals can form a council to elect delegates

Locals from contiguous geographic areas with fewer than 100 members each, but in the aggregate fewer than 300 members, may form councils of locals to elect a common delegate to the Convention. (CFT Bylaws, Article I, Section 2)

1. Locals which form such a council under this section must adopt a common resolution and send a copy of it to the CFT Bay Area office by **January 25**.
2. The resolution may be worded as follows: "(Name and number of local) at a regular meeting on (date) has voted to join the (name of council) for the purpose of sending a delegate to the CFT Convention on March 22, 2019. (Name and number of local) nominate the following member(s) for the office of delegate from the (name of council)."
3. The resolution must contain the names of the delegates, their addresses, the signatures of the local president and secretary, and the local seal.
4. The CFT Secretary Treasurer must be provided with a list of locals comprising the council.
5. Credentials from each local in the council naming the elected delegate(s) must be received at the CFT Bay Area office by **March 8**.

## 2 How to submit constitutional amendments

- Locals or councils may submit to the Convention amendments to the CFT Constitution and Bylaws as provided in the Constitution (Article VII) and the Bylaws (Article IV). A two-thirds vote of delegates present and voting is required to amend the Constitution; a majority vote is required to amend the Bylaws.
- A proposed amendment must be signed by two elected officers of the local certifying that it was approved by the membership or the local's executive board for submission to the Convention.
- Proposed amendments must be submitted to the CFT Bay Area office eight weeks prior to the Convention, no later than **January 25**.

## 3 How to submit resolutions

- Resolutions may be introduced by locals, by the State Council, by the Executive Council, by CFT standing committees, by division councils, or by Convention committees.
- A proposed resolution must bear the signatures of two elected officers of the local or council, or the signatures of two committee members, certifying that the resolution was approved for submission to the Convention. Resolutions from local unions must be approved for submission by the membership or by the local's executive board.
- Resolutions introduced later than six weeks prior to the opening of the Convention must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the delegates and follow the procedures for late submissions.
- Resolutions must be received by the CFT Bay Area office six weeks prior to the Convention, no later than **February 8**.

## FIND CFT CONVENTION ONLINE

At [cft.org/convention](http://cft.org/convention), you find complete information about CFT Convention. There you can download a Microsoft Word template for writing resolutions, fillable pdf forms to submit your delegate and alternate lists, and downloadable delegate credentials. You will also find the CFT form to reserve hotel rooms. Delegates may choose their committee service by submitting a fast and easy web form.

Return constitutional amendments, resolutions, delegate and alternate lists to:

### Convention

CFT Bay Area Office  
2001 Center Street, Suite 600, Berkeley, CA 94704  
Phone: (510) 523-5238 Fax: (510) 523-5262  
Email: [convention@cft.org](mailto:convention@cft.org)

## DELEGATES TO ELECT OFFICERS

Nominations will be taken from the floor of the Convention for CFT President, Secretary Treasurer and 24 Vice Presidents. Voting by local delegations will take place Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m.

### 4 Pay CFT per capita

Your local's CFT per capita payments through **December 2018** must be received by **March 8**.

### 5 Return local delegate lists

Lists of elected delegates and alternates must bear the signatures of the president and the secretary of the local, and the seal of the local. Your local's list must be received at the CFT Bay Area office by **March 8**.

### 6 Submit delegate choices for committee service

All amendments and resolutions are first reviewed by one of the Convention committees. These committees are given the task of recommending whether an amendment should be adopted, whether a resolution needs modification, what action the Convention should take concerning the resolution, and the order of importance for resolutions to be considered.

- All delegates are encouraged to participate in these important sessions to ensure the democracy of the Convention process. Only assigned members of the committee may vote upon resolutions before the committee.
- The CFT President shall appoint delegates to committees, giving weight and consideration to balance and to service on standing committees. Members of CFT standing committees who are delegates shall be appointed to the corresponding Convention committees to coordinate the work of those bodies.
- The CFT President shall appoint Convention committee chairs and members of the Constitution Committee with the approval of the Executive Council.
- **Online committee choice!** Delegates can designate the committees on which they wish to serve by completing a simple web form on the CFT website. Online submissions must be completed by **March 8**.

### 7 Print delegate credentials

Convention credentials must bear the signatures of the president and the secretary of the local, and the seal of the local. Credential cards can be downloaded from the CFT website. Each delegate must bring a credential card to Convention registration on **March 21, 22 or 23**.

## GREAT WORKSHOPS!

CFT Convention workshops provide delegates with opportunities to learn about developing trends and challenges, and to acquire more information to be successful on the job and in their unions. The workshops will cover:

#### All-union topics

Internal organizing  
Member political action  
Coalition building  
Educational issues  
Fair taxation policy  
Social justice issues  
Negotiating contracts  
Leading a local union  
Legal updates  
Retirement preparation

#### Topics for every constituency

Early childhood educators  
TK-12 teachers and classifieds  
Charter school educators  
Community college faculty and classifieds  
Part-time faculty  
UC lecturers and librarians  
Adult educators  
Private sector educators  
Retirees

# 100 Years Celebration!

**On Saturday evening, the CFT will host a Gala Dinner to commemorate our 100th Anniversary. The dinner will be open to all delegates, who can look forward to a gala event featuring music and special guests.**



# CONVENTION AT-A-GLANCE

JANUARY 25	FEBRUARY 8	FEBRUARY 25	MARCH 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constitutional amendments due</li> <li>Resolutions to form Councils of Locals due</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolutions due</li> <li>Notify CFT of special needs under the Americans with Disabilities Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hotel room reservation requests due to CFT</li> <li>Notify CFT of child care needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Per capita payments through December 2018 due to CFT</li> <li>Local delegate lists and committee choices due</li> </ul>

## ABOUT THE HOTEL AND ROOM RESERVATIONS

### Millenium Biltmore Los Angeles

506 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Phone: (213) 624-1101

biltmore@milleniumhotels.com

### Room Reservations

**New this year!** The CFT will be making hotel room reservations for all delegates and guests attending CFT Convention. Local unions will be able to reserve rooms for their entire delegations. You can find the Room Reservations form at [cft.org/convention](http://cft.org/convention). The deadline to return your rooming requests to the CFT Sacramento Office is **February 25**.

**ADA accommodations** The CFT will make every effort to assist in ensuring that accommodations at the Millenium Biltmore are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and will attempt to accommodate any special needs so that delegates may participate fully in Convention activities. If a delegate anticipates a special need ensuing from a disability, the delegate should call the CFT Bay Area office at (510) 523-5238 before the deadline of **February 8**.

**Child care** can be made available for the children of delegates according to the criteria adopted by the Executive Council. To learn more, or to notify CFT of child care needs, return the Child Care Request form on the website, or call the CFT Bay Area office at (510) 523-5238 by **February 25**.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### Thursday, March 21

5:00 p.m. Registration  
7:00 pm Rules Committee

### Friday, March 22

8:00 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. New Delegate Orientation  
10:00 a.m. **General Session I**  
1:30 p.m. Workshops  
2:45 p.m. Workshops  
4:00 p.m. Convention Committees  
6:00 p.m. Union Social  
7:00 p.m. Division Councils

### Saturday, March 23

7:30 a.m. Constituent Group Discussions  
8:00 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. **General Session II**  
1:30 p.m. Workshops  
3:00 p.m. **General Session III**  
6:00 p.m. Voting  
Social Hour  
7:00 p.m. 100th Anniversary Gala Dinner

### Sunday, March 24

7:00 a.m. Voting (if runoff is necessary)  
7:30 a.m. Awards Breakfasts  
9:00 a.m. **General Session IV**

For more information, go to [cft.org/convention](http://cft.org/convention)