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**Update to [RFC 3777](#) to Clarify Nominating Committee Eligibility of IETF
Leadership
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Abstract

[RFC 3777](#) specifies that "sitting members" of the IAB and IESG "may not volunteer to serve on the nominating committee". Since that document was written the IAOC was formed, and that body is not covered by [RFC 3777](#). There is also uncertainty about whether ex-officio members and liaisons are included as "sitting members". This document updates [RFC 3777](#) and clarifies those situations.

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Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Replacement of RFC 3777, Section 4 , Rule 15	3
3.	Security Considerations	4
4.	IANA Considerations	4
5.	References	4
5.1.	Normative References	4
5.2.	Informative References	4
	Author's Address	4

1. Introduction

The "Operation of the Nominating and Recall Committees" document [[RFC3777](#)] defines the nominating committee process. One of the key points in the process and in the selection of the nominating committee is that the IETF wants to avoid having its top leadership be self-selecting: the leaders should not be the ones who choose the leaders. The selection of the nominating committee, therefore, excludes those individuals who are in top leadership positions currently.

That said, it would be bad to eliminate people who have the experience necessary to understand of the IETF process: those individuals can bring a broader perspective to the nominating committee and will help ensure that the people it selects for the leadership positions are better prepared to fulfill the roles.

[RFC 3777](#) specifies that "sitting members" of the IAB and IESG "may not volunteer to serve on the nominating committee". Since that document was written the IETF Administrative Oversight Committee (IAOC) was formed, some IAOC members are selected by the nominating committee (see [[RFC4071](#)], [Section 4](#)), and that body is not covered by [RFC 3777](#). There is also uncertainty about whether ex-officio members liaisons, and such are included as "sitting members". This document updates [RFC 3777](#) and clarifies those situations, with the understanding that the intent of [RFC 3777](#) was to exclude those currently in IETF leadership positions from voting on the selection of the new leadership.

In order to allow the largest reasonable list of potential nominating committee members, we do not want to exclude those at lower levels of IETF leadership. In particular, this document does not exclude participation from working group chairs, IRTF research group chairs, members of directorates and special review teams, and members of other advisory bodies.

2. Replacement of [RFC 3777, Section 4](#), Rule 15

The following paragraph replaces [RFC 3777, Section 4](#), rule 15 in its entirety.

15. Any person who serves on any of the Internet Society Board of Trustees, the IAB, the IESG, or the IAOC, including those who serve on these bodies in ex-officio positions, may not volunteer to serve as voting members of the nominating committee. Liaisons to these bodies from other bodies or organizations are not excluded by this rule.

3. Security Considerations

This is a procedural document, and is entirely unrelated to security.

4. IANA Considerations

No IANA actions are requested by this document, and the RFC Editor is asked to remove this section before publication.

5. References

5.1. Normative References

[RFC3777] Galvin, J., "IAB and IESG Selection, Confirmation, and Recall Process: Operation of the Nominating and Recall Committees", [BCP 10](#), [RFC 3777](#), June 2004.

5.2. Informative References

[RFC4071] Austein, R. and B. Wijnen, "Structure of the IETF Administrative Support Activity (IASA)", [BCP 101](#), [RFC 4071](#), April 2005.

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