



Guidelines on Expected Qualifications of AOS Elective Members

Elective Member is an honor bestowed by the American Ornithological Society that celebrates our colleagues based on their contributions to ornithology and engagement with the society. The AOS offers the following guidelines to help nominators identify qualified nominees.

AOS Elective Member nominees are expected to have the following qualifications:

- Professional experience: Multiple years in a professional ornithological career, typically three or more years past receiving a terminal degree.
- Society membership: At least five years as a member of the AOS, including two of the three most recent years.
- Engagement with the Society: Attendance at multiple annual AOS meetings or active engagement on one or more AOS committees.
- Contributions to Ornithology as a discipline: At least five impactful contributions to the ornithological literature or to the fields of applied and/or conservation ornithology. These may be publications in peer-reviewed journals, books, significant conservation reports and policies, or other products (outreach, education, campaigns, etc.).
- Contributions to Ornithology as a community: Additional impactful contributions to the ornithological literature, conservation actions, work on AOS journals and meetings, years of service to the AOS, service to the broader ornithological community, broadening participation of diverse populations in ornithology, or combinations of the above.

Exceptional individuals that do not display all listed qualifications may have other accomplishments that recommend them for Elective Member. Nominators should highlight exceptional qualifications on nomination materials.

Nominations to the class of Elective Member may be submitted in two ways 1) by three Fellows or Elective Members, or 2) by the Nomination of Fellows and Elective Members Committee. Under the second mechanism, any AOS member may submit names (including their own name) for consideration to the Nomination of Fellows and Elective Members Committee. Nominators are encouraged to recognize diverse candidates from across our discipline. All nominations should be submitted through the AOS Member Portal.