

# **UESF Smart Voter**

## *Frequently asked Questions (FAQ)*

### **What is UESF Smart Voter?**

UESF Smart Voter is our new online voting and survey system for UESF. It is designed to help facilitate member participation in surveys and voting on issues critical for our work. This will replace our more expensive Vote-by-Paper-Scantron and US Mail voting methods.

### **Why UESF Smart Voter? What was in place before?**

Prior to UESF Smart Voter system, UESF used exclusively a Vote-By- Mail system that was very expensive. UESF Smart Voter Online Voting System is more convenient & efficient for members:

- Members no longer have to wait and rely on US postal service to get or deliver their ballot in a timely way.
- Members no longer have to keep track of multiple ballot pages and envelopes .
- NO MORE SCANTRONS!
- NO more finding a post-office or mailbox to mail your ballot or survey.
- Members of the election committee no longer have to spend hours and hours of volunteer labor to track, open, verify and count ballots.
- Reduces the possibility of human error in counting and handling of the ballots
- Member requests for lost ballots are able to be better addressed in a timely way so that everyone who is qualified and wants to vote, can.
- It is more secure!
- Members can vote in multiple ways online: by cellphone, tablet, laptop, desktop and any device where you can log into your personal email.

### **Can I vote on my phone?**

YES! You will now be able to vote in multiple ways. You will be able to vote on your cell phone, tablet, laptop or any computer where you can access your personal email. This will make it more convenient for you to have your voice heard in UESF decisions.

### **Where can I go vote?**

You can vote anywhere you can go online and access your personal email (home, school, work, public library, your smart phone, tablet, laptop, etc.)

### **Who can access my online Smart Voter Ballot?**

Only you can access and complete your Smart Voter survey/ballot through the link you received in your personal email. If anyone else has access your personal email account they could access your personal Smart Voter link. Keep access to your personal email account secure.

**Can I vote more than once?**

NO! The Smart Voter link you receive in your personal email is unique to you and can only be used once and will deactivate once you have submitted your ballot and received your voter receipt.

**What is a voter receipt?**

A voter receipt is an email sent to you to verify that you have voted and your vote has been counted. It will list for you, how you voted and give a unique identification number for each response for auditing purposes, so you can have your own personal record of how you voted.

**When is my vote counted?**

With UESF Smart Voter, your vote is counted immediately after you review your Vote Summary page and click "PROCEED" to finalize your ballot submission.

**Is it secure?**

YES! UESF is using an independent service called BigPulse (an approved CTA service provider) to provide managed online voting elections. We are utilizing their Strictly Anonymous online voting service that protects and keeps the identity of voters anonymous, without their name being associated with how they voted, ensuring ballot voting privacy and integrity. The service also provides the voter with a unique voter receipt that creates a paper trail and allows for an audit by Big Pulse if necessary.

**When can I see the results?**

With UESF Smart Voter, election results will be available shortly after voting ends. Once the UESF election committee verifies the election results they will be posted shortly after on the UESF website and made available to all members. A summary of bargaining survey results will be shared at the meetings of the UESF Executive Board and Assembly.

**What if I don't have a personal email or can not get online?**

If you need assistance getting a personal email or have trouble accessing your ballot please contact the UESF election committee right away. We will help you set up a personal email account or help you find the UESF Smart Voter email where you can access your personal link.

**What if I do not want to participate in the UESF Smart Voter system online and want to receive a paper ballot to vote or respond to UESF surveys?**

While using UESF Smart Voter is more secure, efficient and less expensive than a paper ballot, UESF is committed to increasing membership participation and will send paper ballots to members who request it and for whom we do not have a personal email for. We encourage all our members to try to use the UESF Smart Voter System online, but we will do everything we can to be sure your voice is included in all UESF elections and surveys. To ensure you can participate in the new UESF Smart Voter system please be sure we have your most up-to-date personal email address and mailing address if you prefer a paper ballot.

Click here ---> [UESF Smart Voter- Personal Email/Address Form](#), to share your contact info and voting preference.

**If you still have questions or need assistance contact the UESF Election Committee:**

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Or call the UESF office at 415-956-8373.