



Fair Work
Commission

DECISION

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009
s.189—Arrangement for conduct of an election

Australian Education Union
(E2026/138)

MR STEENSON

SYDNEY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2026

Arrangement for conduct of election.

[1] On 24 August 2026, the South Australian Branch of the Australian Education Union lodged with the Fair Work Commission prescribed information for an election to fill a casual vacancy in the following office for the remainder of the term:

Branch Executive Officer (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander) (1)

[2] I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed offices is required to be held under the rules of the organisation and, under subsection 189(3) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, I am making arrangements for the conduct of the election by the Australian Electoral Commission.



DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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PR813766



24 August 2026

Mr Murray Furlong
General Manager
Fair Work Commission
GPO Box 1994
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Email: regorgs@fwc.gov.au

Dear Mr Furlong,

**Re: Prescribed Information – Australian Education Union (SA Branch) – Branch
Executive (ATSI) – Casual vacancy**

I, Matthew Cherry, being the Branch Secretary of the Australian Education Union (SA Branch), make the following statement:

1. I am authorised to sign this statement containing prescribed information for the South Australia Branch of the Australian Education Union.
2. The following information is lodged under subsection 189(1) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* (the RO Act).
3. Please note: A query has been raised as to how to appropriately apply branch rule 48(15). In accordance with 48(15)(b), the 'term of office of the position' is from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027. This position was most recently vacated by resignation on 3 August 2026. As this occurred after 1 July 2026, then *less than* three quarters of the unexpired term remain. Then, in accordance with 48(15)(c) and (c)(i), this position 'may be filled by appointment...by Branch Council'. However, I believe that the rules are somewhat ambiguous and do not necessarily lead to the above conclusion. Therefore, it is proposed out of an abundance of caution that this position be filled by election through AEC, regardless of the length of unexpired term that remains.
4. Subject to the above, the election that is required is set out in the table in Annexure A and is in accordance with branch rule 48.
5. No rule alterations are pending that will impact the election.

Yours sincerely,

MATTHEW CHERRY
Branch Secretary

Branch	Name of Office	Number required (Minimum Number of Female officers)	Voting System	Reason for Election	Electorate	Previous Office Holder
SA	Branch Executive Officer (Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander)	1 (Rule 48(9)) (Rule 48(15))	Direct Voting System	Casual vacancy	Financial members of the Branch, provided that the member being nominated and the nominators must be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander members of the Branch (Rule 48(9)). Casual vacancy to be filled as per Rule 48(15).	Curtis Wolrige

Annexure A

	Direct Voting System
Nominations OPEN	Not less than 14 days before the close of nominations (<i>Rule 48(12)</i>)
Nominations CLOSE	Not less than 14 days after nominations open.
Roll of Voters cut-off date	Seven days before the day on which nominations open (<i>Rule 52(1A)</i>)