

THE PROCESS OF BEING APPOINTED

To Serve on The Cotton Board*

CPO/CIO NOMINATIONS

Nominations to The Cotton Board are accepted from Certified Producer Organizations (CPOs) and Certified Importer Organizations (CIOs). USDA determines the eligibility of organizations based on provisions defined in the Cotton Research and Promotion Order.



CAUCUSES

Certified organizations caucus at mid-year meetings to nominate eligible candidates to serve on The Cotton Board. The caucuses result in first and second choice nominees for each position to be filled. The resulting nominees are then submitted to USDA.



USDA REVIEW PROCESS

All nominees are subject to a USDA background review.



APPOINTMENTS MADE BY SECRETARY OF AG

The United States Secretary of Agriculture reviews the submitted slate of nominees and then appoints Members, Alternates, and Advisors to serve three-year terms on The Cotton Board.



*The United States Department of Agriculture/ Agricultural Marketing Service oversees all aspects of the appointment process, which is determined by these regulations. The number of producers to represent each state is determined each year by the United States Department of Agriculture based on a five-year average of the official final report on cotton production in 480-pound bales issued each year. Cotton importers are represented by an appropriate number of representatives, as determined by the Secretary, of importers of cotton subject to assessment during the period specified in the regulations for determining Board membership.