

226th General Assembly (2024) Implementation Formats

Included are two implementation formats to review in preparation for the 226th General Assembly (2024). Each format reflects the assembly's action mandating online committees and in-person plenary sessions in Salt Lake City. These implementation plans should be considered drafts to begin conversation. **These are presented to receive feedback, develop guiding values, and provide a foundation for building the format of the 226th General Assembly (2024).**

Goal: By October Meeting, establish a high-level framework for the 226th General Assembly (2024)

Assumptions:

- Committees will be supported via Zoom
- Production value for committee meetings will be focused on accessibility and ease of use
- The date used for deadline calculations as the start of the assembly will be the first day business is discussed (either in plenary or committee)
- Online committees will need to accommodate multiple time zones
- Commissioner’s Resolutions and Open Hearings will be coordinated online
- In-person plenary will require AV and production contracts
- Provisions for language accessibility will be made (Spanish, Korean, Captioning)
- Trainings/volunteer roles will be re-envisioned based on format needs
- Enhanced support for registration and technology help desk will be necessary
- Importance of accessibility, especially asking, “Who hasn’t been in the room? Why not? How do they get there?”
- Expanded, early, and ongoing communication plan for outreach to partners in ministry
- Planning process will be responsive to conversations during General Assembly and feedback from other participants via surveys and debriefing sessions

Requires further consideration:

- What role does an opening plenary fulfill in preparing committees for their first meeting?
- Number of committees
- Remote attendance during in-person plenary
- Staffing (including volunteers) plan for committee support- could be in one location or all remote
- Methods of supporting leadership and other participant groups throughout committee meetings
- Approach to training (co)moderator candidates
- How best to use PC-Q and in-person lines to improve accessibility, cultural transparency, and accountability
- Events occurring outside of the business meetings during plenary
- Plenary session production- what can be reformed and what is still relevant from previous traditional formats?

Format 1

Condensed schedule- Online meetings in week 1, a travel break, and Plenary in week 2

Blue dates indicate online meetings.

White dates indicate travel days.

Yellow dates indicate in-person meetings in Salt Lake City.

	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29
	<i>Possible Online Plenary: Opening Worship, Moderator’s Election, Nominations Report</i> Committee Introductory Gathering Time	Online Committee Sessions	Online Committee Sessions <i>Floor Challenges Due</i>	Online Committee Sessions <i>Online: Committee Leadership Certify Reports</i>	Travel Day	Opening Worship Plenary Meal Break Plenary
June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5	
Plenary: Stated Clerk Nomination Committee Report Meal Break Plenary Meal Break Plenary Meal Break Plenary	Plenary Meal Break Plenary Meal Break Plenary or Evening Event	Plenary: Stated Clerk Election/ Installation Meal Break Plenary Meal Break Plenary	Plenary: Any Contested Nominations Meal Break Plenary: Finance Committee Adjournment	<i>Possible Celebration/ Opportunity for participants to spend the holiday in SLC</i> Travel Day	Travel Day	

180 Day Deadline- December 27, 2023

120 Day Deadline- February 25, 2024

Format 1 cont.

Considerations:

- Dates established prior to recruitment (no holding dates until committee assignments)
- Limits staff/volunteer time to two weeks of active assembly meetings
- Prevents “loss of momentum” recorded in GA participant survey
- Extends committee time to accommodate time zones and online learning curve
- Official start date leads deadlines to align with scheduled meetings of boards who report by the 120-day deadline
- Advisory Delegates (YAADs, TSADs, MADs, EADs) meet concurrently, allowing support to begin from same foundation
- Staffing and volunteers will be limited to serving one committee
- Two concurrent weeks of time off required for participants
- Support of committees will be remote (some staff may be in Salt Lake)

Format 2

Weekend focused- Committees split into two groups, first meeting one weekend, the second meeting the second. All together for plenary in Salt Lake City.

Blue dates indicate online meetings.

White dates indicate travel days.

Yellow dates indicate in-person meetings in Salt Lake City.

						June 8
						Online Plenary
June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15
					Online Committees: <i>Group 1</i>	Online Committees: <i>Group 1</i>
June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22
					Online Committees: <i>Group 2</i>	Online Committees: <i>Group 2</i>
June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29
				Travel Day	Plenary	Plenary
June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3			
Plenary	Plenary	Plenary Adjournment	Travel Day			

180 Day Deadline- December 11, 2023

120 Day Deadline- February 9, 2024

Format 2 cont.

Considerations:

- Decreased necessary time off for those working Monday-Friday
- Multiple days between sessions to accommodate behind the scenes tasks
- Staff/volunteers will be able to serve two committees
- Preparation on site will not overlap with committees, increasing number of staff available to support contract workers
- Limited to two days of committee meeting time
- Start date results in early deadlines that will require exemptions for some board reports
- Participants will be expected to hold all Saturdays in June until assigned committees, difficulty expressed by YAADs
- Support of committees would be remote (staff could be in Louisville or homes)