

How Pacifica governance works (quickie version)

1. There are five Pacifica listener supported radio stations:

KPFA-FM in Berkeley (founded in 1949); KPFK-FM in Los Angeles (1959); WBAI-FM in New York City (1960); KPFT-FM in Houston (1970); WPFW-FM in Washington, DC (1977).

2. They are all owned by the Pacifica Foundation, a non-profit licensed by the state of California in 1946. Each has a 24-member Local Station Board.
3. Two out of every three years, Pacifica holds elections in which the paid subscribers of each Pacifica station vote for 18 “delegates” to these boards. The remaining six delegate seats are elected by station staff. Terms last three years.
4. [Single Transferrable Voting](#) is used to count these ballots.
5. Four of the delegates for each board are appointed to serve on the 22/23 member Board of Directors of the Pacifica Foundation, which owns and governs Pacifica as a whole. It is also called the Pacifica National Board (PNB).
6. Duties of the PNB include: “appointing, supervising and discharging the Foundation’s Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer and all Foundation officers, prescribing powers and duties for them . . . and setting salaries and wages.”
7. Duties of the Local Station Boards include reviewing station budgets and screening and selecting a “pool of candidates for the position of General Manager of its respective radio station.” That list is then submitted to Pacifica’s Executive Director.

Trust me: it’s a lot more complicated than this, but these are the basics. See the [Pacifica Bylaws](#) for further details.