The Classified Staff Congress is the largest representative shared governance body for classified staff at UW-Madison.

Congress is the final decision-making body in the classified staff shared governance process. This applies to any questions forwarded to it by the Classified Staff Executive Committee (CSEC) or any standing, ad-hoc, Chapter 6, or other shared governance committee or group.

A Congress representative may submit an item to be considered for the agenda during a Congress Meeting under “Future Agenda Items,” or to the congressional liaison or the Secretary of the Classified Staff, or the CSEC Chair or CSEC.

Individual members of the Congress will meet at least twice annually with employees from their districts to both provide updates on shared governance developments as well as to inform employees of opportunities to participate in upcoming events, forums, listening sessions, focus groups, and elections. In addition, employees should be encouraged to use such meetings with their representatives as an opportunity to provide feedback from the workplace. Members of Congress should engage the talents and expertise of those in their districts who can provide critical analysis of events and proposals based on their own specialized training and knowledge.

In order to address concerns of the classified staff, the Congress has the right to establish standing or ad-hoc committees.

Members of Congress will assemble at least once a month. The Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, or the Vice Chancellor’s designee, will preside at these meetings. Congress will review actionable items forwarded to it by CSEC, which may have originated at the Executive Committee level or have also been reviewed by another committee of classified staff shared governance. The full Congress will make itself available to be briefed on reports by campus administration as well as representatives from other campus shared governance groups. When called upon to do so, the Congress will review applicants seeking to represent classified staff in other shared governance capacities, at events, and on committees including standing, ad hoc or those designated under Chapter 6.

Members of the Congress serve one-year terms and may run for re-election as long as they remain permanent members of the classified staff.