

OKLAHOMA NURSES ASSOCIATION
Region 5
BY LAWS

Adopted March 9, 2010 by membership vote.

Article I
Purposes and Function

Section 1: Purposes

- a. The purposes of Oklahoma Nurses Association Region 5 shall be to foster high standards of nursing practice, promote educational development of nurses and support professional nurses to the end that all people may have better health care.
- b. These purposes shall be unrestricted by consideration of age, color, creed, disability, gender, lifestyle, nationality, race, or religion.

Section 2: Functions

The functions of the Oklahoma Nurses Association Region 5 may include:

- a. Providing leadership in addressing issues/problems pertinent to Region 5 nurses.
- b. Lobbying Oklahoma legislature and governmental agencies.
- c. Interpreting ONA positions.
- d. Disseminating data pertinent to nursing.
- e. Promoting the general welfare of nurses.
- f. Stimulating and promoting nursing research.

Article II
The Board of Directors

The affairs of Oklahoma Nurses Association Region 5 are under the purview of the Board of Directors.

Section 1: Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is composed of the officers elected by the members of Oklahoma Nurses Association Region 5.

Section 2: Composition

The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers, each of whom is a member of Oklahoma Nurses Association Region 5.

- a. There shall be a minimum of four officers: president, president elect, secretary, treasurer, and other positions as designated by member vote.

Section 3: Responsibilities

The Board shall:

- a. Transact the general business of the Oklahoma Nurses Association Region 5 between regular meetings. All business transactions shall be reported at each regular meeting.
- b. Exercise the fiduciary duties of the organization, including the proper care of materials, equipment and funds of the region, and payment of authorized expenses.
- c. Establish and maintain financial policies and procedures.
- d. Recommended an annual budget to the membership for adoption.
- e. Present financial statements at scheduled regional meetings.
- f. Make appointments and fill vacancies as needed.
- g. Assume other duties as needed.
- h. Present delegates for credentialing to the House.
- i. Schedule regional meetings.

Section 4: Terms of Office

- a. The term of office of president shall be one year, with the president-elect elected each year in May. The president-elect shall serve one year and automatically succeed to the presidency.
- b. The secretary and treasurer shall be elected for terms of two years in May of uneven years.
- c. The term of office shall begin at the adjournment of the annual meeting in May at which the election results are announced.

Section 5: Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy:

- a. In the office of president, the secretary shall serve as president for the remainder of the term.
- b. In the office of secretary or treasurer, the president shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the remainder of the term.

Section 6: Duties of Officers

- a. The president shall:
 1. Serve as Chairperson of the Board.
 2. Fill vacancies on committees with the approval of the Board.
 3. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Committee on Nominations.
 4. Preside at all meetings of the region.
 5. Serve as a delegate to the ONA House of Delegates or appoint a delegate to serve.

- b. The secretary shall:
 - 1. Keep minutes of all meetings of the region and Board.
 - 2. Send ONA the names and address of all regional officers and committee chairpersons after their election or appointment.
 - 3. Send a copy of the bylaws and all amendments adopted by the region to ONA.
 - 4. Assume other duties assigned by Board.

- c. The treasurer shall:
 - 1. Monitor the fiscal affairs of ONA Region 5.
 - 2. Provide reports and interpretation of the region's financial position to the Board and the membership.
 - 3. Assume other duties assigned by the Board.

- d. Region 5 representative shall:
 - 1. Serve as liaison between Region 5 and ONA Board.
 - 2. Report regularly the activities of ONA Board to ONA Region 5.
 - 3. Serve as delegate to ONA House of Delegates.

Article III
Membership and Dues

Section 1: Composition

The Region 5 shall consist of members who meet the qualifications identified in the ONA bylaws. Membership in Region 5 shall be concurrent with ONA membership.

Section 2: Qualifications

- a. A member is one who has been granted a license as a registered nurse in at least one state, territory, possession, or District of Columbia of the United States of America and has paid dues required for membership.

- b. Membership is unrestricted by consideration of age, color, creed, disability, gender, health status, lifestyle, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation, or any other consideration.

Section 3: Membership Privileges and Obligations

- a. Vote for Region 5 Officers.
- b. Serve in any ONA or ANA elected or appointed position if selected.
- c. Abide by the ANA Code of Ethics.
- d. Uphold the bylaws of ONA.
- e. Receive communications published by ONA.
- f. Receive other benefits offered from time to time.

Section 4: Dues

Dues for Region 5 are incorporated into the ONA Dues.

Section 5: Transfer of Membership

A member who has completed full payment of dues in one region may transfer to another region in ONA.

Article IV **Nominations and Elections**

Section 1: Nominations

- a. Candidates for office shall consent to serve if elected and shall meet established qualifications.
- b. A member of the Committee of Nominations may be a candidate for office, provided the member consents to serve if elected.
- c. The ballot shall consist of:
 1. The president-elect and ONA delegate who shall serve for one year.
 2. In uneven years the secretary and treasurer shall be elected and serve two year terms.

Section 2: Elections

The Region 5 Board shall establish policies and procedures for elections that are consistent with the requirements of ONA.

Article V **Representation**

Section 1: Voting Body

The voting body at all meetings of Region 5 shall consist of all members in attendance.

Section 2: Qualifications

All members shall present credentials before voting, if requested.

Section 3: ONA House of Delegates

The region shall have representation in the ONA House of Delegates, as specified in the ONA bylaws. The president or appointee and Region 5 representative shall be members of the region and elected by regional members. Delegates shall be elected or appointed by the board and their names submitted to the headquarters of ONA at least 25 working days prior to the annual ONA convention.

Article VI **Meetings**

Section 1: Regular Meetings

Notices of all meetings shall be broadcast via e-mail or by mail if requested.

Section 2: Special Meetings

A special meeting of Region 5 may be called by the president. Notification of the membership, stating the purpose and time of such a meeting, shall be given via e-mail or by mail if requested, with 5 days notice.

Article VII **Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of Region 5 shall be June 1 to May 31.

Article VIII **Governance of Meetings**

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall govern meetings of the region, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of this region.

Article IX **Amendments**

Region 5 bylaws may be amended by providing proposed amendments to membership a minimum of 10 days prior to meeting and by majority vote of members in attendance at scheduled meeting.