



Region 6

2024 Bylaws

New Jersey State Nurses Association Region 6 Bylaws

Mission Statement

Region 6 in accordance with the philosophy and bylaws of New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) comprised of professional nurses advances the profession delineating the practice of nursing through standard setting, education and research, formulating public policy, fostering excellence and quality of health delivery.

Philosophy

Region 6, a regional member of the New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA), is organized for individual professional nurse members to participate in activities for the advancement of nurses and nursing and to promote the profession as an essential independent and distinct social service.

The Region asserts nurses' constituted authority to carry out defined functions while controlling and expanding the domain of interest and the scope and practice of nursing. As an advocate for all nurses within the profession, the Region acknowledges self-governance and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion.

This region characterizes and identifies itself with the improvement of the health of the society and continues to carry out a commitment and responsibility to ensure the continued growth of individually accountable nursing services by promoting ethical and optimal standards of nursing practice, education, administration, research, and service through established committees. To forward professionalism and the power necessary to carry out nursing's social contract, the Region reaches out to nurses through its structure, program and resources striving for one forum for the identification of the entire profession. The members of the Region share the following common beliefs from which the Region's actions and purposes emanate:

- Nursing is an essential part of the society it serves.
- Nursing is a professional practice discipline that includes the roles of care provider, educator and researcher.
- Nursing is the diagnosis and treatment of human responses to actual or potential health problems.
- Nursing is dynamic and responds to the health needs of those served.
- The membership is responsible for the enunciation and maintenance of high standards for nursing practice.
- The Region is concerned with the professional growth of its members and requires continuing education of its members so that the needs of people will be met in changing societal conditions.
- The Region's membership strives for nursing care of the public that is qualitative, accountable and autonomous.
- The Region serves as a unified voice on nursing issues in counties comprising the Region and cooperates with other health care organizations for the improvement of health standards.
- The Region advances the economic and general welfare of nurses to make it possible for nurses to practice through participative decision-making.
- The Region invites nurses to engage in socially significant work, to increase knowledge through research, to protect nurses and to develop leaders.

Article I Name

Section 1. NAME

The name of this region shall be Region 6 of the New Jersey State Nurses Association hereinafter referred to as Region 6.

Article II Purpose and Functions

Section 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of Region 6 is consistent with that of NJSNA.

Section 2. FUNCTIONS

The functions of Region 6 are consistent with that of NJSNA.

Article III Membership and Dues

Section 1. COMPOSITION

Region 6 shall consist of professional nurses, each of whom shall hold concurrent membership in NJSNA. Membership shall be unrestricted by considerations of age, color, creed, disability, lifestyle, nationality, race, religion, gender, health status, and sexual orientation.

Section 2. QUALIFICATIONS

A member is one:

- a. Who has been granted a license to practice as a registered nurse in the State of New Jersey, or is licensed in another state, District of Columbia, or territories of the United States, or who has retired and/or no longer chooses to practice, but whose license was in good standing with his/her licensing board at the time the nurse made the decision not to maintain an active license; and, who does not have a license under suspension or revocation in any state. Region 6 may include in its membership the impaired nurse, in recovery, who has surrendered a license to practice, or who is otherwise entitled by law to practice or who held a license;
- b. Whose application for membership has been accepted in accordance with NJSNA policy, and;
- c. Whose dues are not delinquent; and
- d. Whose membership is not under revocation for violation of the Code of Ethics for Nurses, ANA or NJSNA Bylaws.

Section 3. RIGHTS OF MEMBERS: Every member (Dual Premier, Dual Standard and Direct Only Members) has the right to:

- a. Attend all NJSNA and all Region 6 meetings, including convention/professional summit meetings.
- b. Participate in NJSNA-Region 6 elections.
- c. Be a candidate of NJSNA, Region 6 elective and appointive positions.
- d. Receive all communications from Region 6.

Section 4. OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

Every member shall be obligated to:

- a. Uphold the bylaws of ANA, NJSNA, and Region 6
- b. Abide by the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses

Section 5. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Refer to NJSNA Bylaws.

Section 6. DUES

Dues structure as consistent with NJSNA Bylaws.

Section 7. CHANGE OF DUES CATEGORY

Structure consistent with NJSNA Bylaws.

Section 8. TRANSFER

Structure consistent with NJSNA Bylaws.

Section 9. DUES PAYMENT METHOD

Structure consistent with NJSNA Bylaws.

Article IV Regional Association

Section 1. DEFINITIONS

Region 6 is a geographical branch of NJSNA.

Section 2. BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of Region 6 are Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties; as recorded by the NJSNA Board of Directors.

Section 3. FUNCTIONS

The Board of Directors shall manage the business of Region 6. In addition, the Board of Directors shall have the following specific duties and responsibilities:

- a. Establish policies governing the management of the Region.
- b. Establish financial policies and procedures, adopt the budget, submit all books annually to a certified public accountant for audit and present an annual financial statement to the membership.
- c. Approve the appointment of Ad Hoc committees as the need for them arises.
- d. Approve the budget prior to its presentation to the membership at the annual meeting.
- e. Fill any vacancy except in the office of the President or President-Elect.
- f. Develop, promulgate and implement goals of Region 6.
- g. Approve the date and location of the annual meeting.
- h. Refer proposed Region 6 Bylaws amendments to NJSNA Bylaws Committee for an advisory opinion in accordance with the bylaws of NJSNA.
- i. Submit proposed amendments of the Region 6 Bylaws at the annual meeting of Region 6 for action by the voting body in accordance with these bylaws.

Section 4. COMPOSITION

The Board shall consist of the officers of the Region and Elected Chairpersons of Committees.

The officers are: President; President-Elect; Vice President for Membership; Vice President for Communication; Vice President for Education and Scholarship; Vice President to the Congress on Policy and Practice; Secretary; Treasurer; Nominations Committee Chairperson; and Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, and Ocean County Chairpersons.

Section 5. ABSENCES

The absence of any member of the Board of Directors from two consecutive meetings shall be referred to the Executive Committee for review and action. The Executive Committee on request will hold special hearings.

Section 6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Structure consistent with NJSNA Bylaws.

Section 7. TERMS OF OFFICE

- a. Each Officer shall serve for a term of two years with half of the Officers elected in the odd numbered years and the other half in the even numbered years.
- b. No Officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office, unless there is no other viable candidate for the office. An Officer who has served more than half a term shall be considered to have served a term.

Section 8. MEETINGS

- a. There shall be at least one annual meeting per calendar year at such times and places determined by the Board.
- b. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President on at least three days' notice and shall be called by the President on like notice, upon written request of two or more members of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. QUORUM

A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

Section 10. VOTING

Each member who is present and in good standing defined as having dues payment current as of the 1st day of the month prior to the annual or special meeting shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 11. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors composed of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. This committee shall have all the powers of the Board of Directors to transact business of an emergency nature between board meetings. All transactions of this committee shall be reported at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. A majority of this membership shall constitute a quorum.

Article V Board of Directors

Section 1. OFFICERS

The offices of Region 6 shall be:

- a. President

- b. President-Elect
- c. Vice President for Membership
- d. Vice President for Communications
- e. Vice President for Education and Scholarship
- f. Vice President to Congress on Policy and Practice
- g. Secretary
- h. Treasurer
- i. Atlantic County Chairperson
- j. Cape May County Chairperson
- k. Monmouth County Chairperson
- l. Ocean County Chairperson
- m. Nominations and Elections Committee Chairperson

Section 2. TERMS OF OFFICE

- a. The President shall serve a term of two years and may not serve consecutive terms except in the event the President-Elect fills a vacancy in the office of president.
- b. The President-Elect shall be elected for a term of two years in the even numbered years and automatically becomes President at the conclusion of the prior President's term.
- c. The Vice President for Membership and Vice President of Education and Scholarship, and the Treasurer shall be elected for a term of two years in the odd numbered years and shall serve no more than two consecutive terms.
- d. The Vice Presidents for Communications and Congress on Policy and Practice, and the Secretary shall be elected in the even numbered years and shall serve no more than two consecutive terms.
- e. The County Chairpersons shall be elected for a term of two years. Atlantic and Monmouth County Chairpersons shall be elected in the odd numbered years and Cape May and Ocean Counties in the even numbered years. In absence of an elected Chairperson, the Board of Directors shall appoint the Chairperson.
- f. The Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors and serves a term of one year. The appointee will have been on the committee for at least one year.

Section 3. VACANCIES

- a. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of the President, the President-Elect shall serve as President.
- b. The Board of Directors shall appoint all other vacancies and officer positions except for the office of President-Elect.

Section 4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officer shall serve as an officer or director of any other region if such participation results in conflict of interest with Region 6 as determined by the Region 6 Board of Directors.

Section 5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The officers of Region 6 shall perform all duties prescribed by these bylaws and such other duties as required by Region 6 Board of Directors.

- b. All officers upon expiration of their respective terms of office shall immediately surrender all property in their possession pertaining to their office to the President or succeeding officer.
- c. The President shall:
 - i. Serve as chairperson of Region 6 Board of Directors and Executive Committee.
 - ii. Appoint standing and special committees with the approval of the Board of Directors.
 - iii. Serve as ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominations Committee.
 - iv. Serve as representative of Region 6 on the NJSNA Board of Directors
 - v. Preside at all meetings of Region 6 and conduct them by a formal order of business.
 - vi. Prepare an annual and such other reports as required by the NJSNA Board of Directors.
 - vii. Deliver an annual address.
- d. The President-Elect shall:
 - i. Assume all duties of the Region 6 President in the Region 6 President's absence.
 - ii. Assume such duties as assigned by the President or Board of Directors of Region 6.
 - iii. Chair the Region-6 Bylaws Committee and participate as a member of NJSNA Bylaws Committee.
- e. The Vice-President for Membership shall:
 - i. Keep an accurate list of the names and addresses of all members.
 - ii. Serve as chairperson of Region 6 Membership Committee.
 - iii. Encourage new members immediate participation in Region 6 activities.
 - iv. Send a copy of Region 6 Bylaws to new members.
 - v. Shall be a member of the NJSNA membership committee.
- f. The Vice-President for Communications shall:
 - i. Provide a channel of communication for members of Region 6.
 - ii. Submit Region 6 news to New Jersey Nurse for each issue.
- g. The Vice-President for Education and Scholarship shall:
 - i. Provide guidance for all Region 6 education, research, and fundraising activities.
 - ii. Coordinate the approval of continuing education credits.
- h. The Vice-President to the Congress on Policy and Practice shall:
 - i. Serve as the Representative for Region 6 INPAC.
 - ii. Develop and maintain a legislative network for Region 6.
 - iii. Represent Region 6 on NJSNA's Congress on Policy and Practice.
- i. The Secretary shall:
 - i. Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Region, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee.
 - ii. Preserve all papers, letters and transactions of the Region.
 - iii. Submit a report to the membership at the annual meeting.
 - iv. Send notices of the time and place of all meetings.
 - v. Send to the Secretary of NJSNA the names and addresses of all officers and chairpersons immediately after their election or appointment.
 - vi. Conduct the general correspondence of Region 6.
 - vii. Keep an up-to-date copy of Region 6 Bylaws and provide a copy to NJSNA.
- j. The Treasurer shall:

- i. Receive and have charge of all funds of Region 6 and deposit such funds in a bank designated by the Board of Directors and disburse as may be ordered by the President.
- ii. Report to the Board of Directors the financial standings of Region 6 whenever requested to do so and make a full report to Region 6 at the annual meeting.
- iii. Keep an itemized account of all receipts, disbursements and give a written report at meetings of the Board of Directors.
- iv. Give bond subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and have all approved by the Board of Directors.
- v. Prepare and present a budget to the Board of Directors for approval.
- k. The County Chairperson shall:
 - i. Act as liaison between the members of their respective counties and the Board of Directors.
 - ii. Be responsible for planning a county meeting/activity at least once a year, including:
 - 1. Site selection.
 - 2. Refreshments.
 - 3. Program procurement.
 - 4. Coordinate with the Vice-President of Education and Scholarship on required documentation for programming.
 - 5. Announcements and/or invitations.
 - 6. Providing all necessary receipts to the Region 6 Treasurer.
- l. The Nominations and Elections Committee Chairperson shall:
 - i. Serve as representative from the committee to the Board of Directors.
 - ii. Serve as Chairperson for Nominations and Elections Committee.
 - iii. Submit a completed ballot to the Board of Directors and NJSNA for processing.

Article VI Meetings of the Region

Section 1. ANNUAL MEETING

- a. There shall be an annual meeting of the Region. The Board of Directors shall designate the time and place of the meeting.
 - i. Agenda
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Reading and Approval of Minutes
 - 3. Reports of Officers
 - 4. Reports of Standing Committees
 - 5. Reports of Special Committees
 - 6. Unfinished Business
 - 7. New Business
 - 8. Adjournment
 - ii. Notice of the annual meeting is transmitted to the membership at least 30 days before the beginning of the annual meeting.
 - iii. Quorum: Three members of the Board and two percent of the membership rolls as of the first of the month preceding the annual meeting.

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of this region may be called by the President. No business other than that specified in the call shall be considered at any special meeting. Notice of the special meeting shall be conveyed to the membership at least 72 hours before the meeting.

Article VII Standing Committees

Section 1. DEFINITIONS

Standing Committees shall be:

- Bylaws
- Membership
- Nominations and Elections

Section 2. BYLAWS COMMITTEE

- a. Consists of at least one member from each county or as appointed by the Board, and is chaired by the President-Elect.
- b. Suggest and receive all proposed amendments to the Region 6 Bylaws.
- c. Submit proposed bylaws to the Board and to the NJSNA Bylaws Committee for approval.
- d. Review Region 6 Bylaws every two years.

Section 3. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

- a. Consists of at least four members each elected for two-year terms with a Chairperson appointed by the Board of Directors. Half of the committee membership shall be elected in even years with the remaining half elected in the odd years. A member is eligible for election to a second consecutive term.
- b. Solicit and receive names of members for candidates for office.
- c. Ascertain the member's eligibility, qualifications, and willingness to serve.
- d. Prepare a slate with one or more candidate names for each office.
- e. Voting shall not be limited to those nominees on the ballot. Voters may write in the official ballot the names of other eligible candidates.
- f. A majority vote shall constitute an election and in the case of a tie, the choice shall be determined by lot.
- g. The Nominating Committee shall electronically publish the slate with the biography of each nominee to NJSNA Executive Assistant to the NJSNA CEO.
- h. Voting will be available by NJSNA electronics.

Section 5. VACANCIES

The absence of any committee member from two consecutive meetings shall be referred to the Board of Directors.

Article VIII Dissolution

Section 1. DEFINITION

The termination of Region 6 as an affiliate of NJSNA.

Section 2. PROCESS

- a. A meeting of the Region 6 Board of Directors shall meet, a quorum established, and a majority vote taken in favor of a motion to dissolve.
- b. There shall be notification of the Region 6 membership concerning the concept of and rationale for, dissolution as an affiliate of NJSNA at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.
- c. A quorum at the annual meeting will be established and a vote taken. The motion to dissolve will be carried by a two-thirds vote of the members.

Section 3. MONIES

- a. A full accounting of all income and expenses for Region 6 will be provided to the Board of Directors and membership by the Treasurer at the annual meeting.
- b. The balance of remaining monies, after final payment of outstanding expenses e.g. annual dinner, shall be distributed in the form of educational scholarships. Such scholarships will include those for nursing students pursuing a degree at the associate, bachelor, masters and doctoral levels. The number and amount of the individual scholarships granted will be based upon available income and successful completion of application criteria. Recipients will be determined by an ad hoc scholarship committee appointed by the Board of Directors and chaired by the Vice President for Education and Scholarship.

Article IX Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition Robert's Rules of Order - *Newly Revised*, shall govern meetings of this Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

Article X Amendments

Section 1. AMENDMENTS WITH NOTICE

All proposed amendments should be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study and recommendation. Subsequently Region 6 Bylaws proposed changes will be submitted to NJSNA bylaws committee for review, comment, and or approval. The Bylaws Committee shall see that all proposed amendments or revisions with the committees' recommendations should be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

Final Approval of Bylaws: The bylaws will be presented at the annual meeting for final approval. These bylaws may be amended/revised at the Region 6 annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

Final Approval of Bylaws: The bylaws will be presented at the annual meeting for final approval.

Section 2. AMENDMENTS WITHOUT NOTICE

These Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting by 75 percent of the members present and entitled to vote.

Article XI Organizational Year

The organizational year and terms of office shall be January 1st to December 31st.

Adopted June 22, 1999

Revised June 14, 2006

Revised June 2009

Revised June 10, June 2010

Revised 2014

Revised September 30, 2019

Revised December 2, 2019, Reviewed and approved by the NJSNA Bylaws committee; Region approval pending.

Revised Updated by Region 6 Bylaws Committee April 27, 2022

Approved by NJSNA Bylaws Committee May 9, 2022

Approved by Region 6 June 28, 2022

Revised November 2023, Reviewed and approved by NJSNA Bylaws Committee May 23, 2024

Approved and Adopted at NJSNA Region 6 Annual Meeting June 12, 2024