

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW  
JERSEY**

**CONSTITUTION  
AND  
BY-LAWS**

**AMENDMENDED April 19, 2023**

# **CONSTITUTION**

## ***Article I***

### **NAME, MISSION STATEMENT, AND PURPOSE**

#### **Section 1 - Name**

- 1.1 The name of the organization shall be Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association, INC., hereafter referred to as EOFPANJ.

#### **Section 2 - Mission Statement**

- 2.1 The mission of EOFPANJ is to be the official liaison between Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) campus-based programs, the New Jersey Department of Higher Education, and the EOF Board of Directors.
- 2.2 To advocate on behalf of EOF programs that serve educationally and economically disadvantaged students.
- 2.3 To keep abreast of and monitor legislation and policy decisions that may have a direct or indirect effect on the EOF constituency.
- 2.4 To provide a venue for the professional development of its members and a clearinghouse of resources relevant to the achievement of our mission.

#### **Section 3 - Purpose**

- 3.1 The purpose of EOFPANJ shall be to research, monitor, and interpret all proposed legislative proposals and drafts that impact the delivery of services to our constituency.
- 3.2 To provide direct input to the administrative decision-making process at The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, which directly affects the distribution of Article III and Article IV funds to the EOF campus-based programs.
- 3.3 To share expertise and provide in-service training to EOF directors and staff.
- 3.4 Lead Advocacy efforts on behalf of the statewide EOF Programs

## ***Article II***

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1 - Membership Classifications**

- 1.1 There shall be three classifications of membership in the Association: active membership, associate membership and legacy membership. All memberships require an application and payment of dues as determined by the Executive Board for the current year.

- 1.2 Active membership shall be limited to Educational Opportunity Fund program staff in postsecondary educational institutions in New Jersey. Active members are entitled to vote on all matters brought before the Association and hold any office in the Association.
- 1.3 Associate membership shall be open to non-EOF student support services programs, representatives of governmental agencies, secondary educational institutions, foundations, and private community organizations interested in student educational opportunities. Associate members may not vote or hold office in the Association.
- 1.4 Legacy membership shall be open to any former EOF professional with at least ten collective years of service within EOF programs. Legacy members shall not vote and cannot hold an office in the Association but may hold a Member at Large position

## **Section 2 - Membership**

- 2.1 The membership of EOFPANJ shall be open to all Educational Opportunity Fund professional staff employed by institutions of higher education receiving funds as set forth by the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Act of 1968 (Assembly Bill 767).
- 2.2 The term "professional staff" shall include but not be limited to the EOF director, associate director, assistant director, counselor/academic advisor, faculty, and other professionals as identified by the EOF Professional Association.
- 2.3 Application for membership in the Association shall be made to the financial secretary for processing as instructed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall have the right to review any application for membership. EOFPANJ reserves the right to accept or deny, limit or restrict membership to the Association, and the ability to vend or sponsor at any EOFPANJ event.
- 2.4 Each member in good standing will have a vote.
- 2.5 A member in good standing is defined as an EOF professional staff member who is a dues-paying member.

## ***Article III***

### **ORGANIZATIONAL GOVERNANCE**

#### **Section 1 - The Administrative Body**

- 1.1 The administrative body of EOFPANJ, Inc. shall be known as the Executive Board.

#### **Section 2 - Composition of the Executive Board**

- 2.1 The Executive Board shall be comprised of Officers and its respective representative(s) as specified in the organizational growth of this Constitution.
- 2.2 The Executive Board shall be headed by an elected Executive Board comprised of the president, vice president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, financial secretary, parliamentarian, public relations officer, (2) two advisors from the Alliance of

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Educational Opportunity Fund Students of New Jersey (AESNJ) and sector representatives.

- 2.3 The immediate past president, (2) two representatives from the Educational Opportunity Fund State-Wide Alumni Association (EOFSAA), and (4) members at large are non-elected members of the Executive Board.

### **Section 3 - Powers of the Executive Board**

- 3.1 The Executive Board shall have the supreme oversight in all matters pertaining to the Association as interpreted in this Constitution.
- 3.2 The Executive Board shall be vested with the power to legislate and supervise the Constitution. All constitutional revisions must be approved by a (2/3) two-thirds majority of the Executive Board.
- 3.3 The Executive Board is vested with the power to approve the Association's budget and regulate dues.
- 3.4 The Executive Board shall be vested with the power to develop public relations campaigns, solicit financial support, and determine the overall direction of EOFPANJ unless otherwise expressly provided for in this Constitution.
- 3.5 The Executive Board shall perform such duties and discharge such responsibilities as may be provided for in other Articles of this Constitution.
- 3.6 The Executive Board of EOFPANJ may call special meetings at any time by its own motion and initiative. The president of EOFPANJ must, upon receipt of the written application of one-quarter of the members in good standing, call a special meeting. Notice of special meetings shall be sent to all members and shall indicate the purpose for which the meeting is being called.

## ***Article IV***

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

#### **Section 1 - Elected Office (Executive Board)**

- 1.1 The elected offices of the Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association of New Jersey Inc. shall be comprised of the members as provided in Article III, Section 2.2.
- 1.2 All members provided in Article III, Sections 2.2 and 2.3 shall be referred to as the Executive Board of EOFPANJ.
- 1.3 The president, vice president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, financial secretary, parliamentarian, public relations officer, Alliance of Educational Opportunity Fund Students of New Jersey (AESNJ) advisors, and sector representatives have the right to vote at all Executive Board Meetings.
- 1.4 The members at large are non-voting members of the Executive Board and shall be appointed by the president.

- 1.5 The representatives from the Educational Opportunity Fund State-Wide Alumni Association (EOFSAA) are non-voting members of the Executive Board and are selected by their constituency. Appointments will become official upon concurrence of a simple majority vote of the Executive Board.
- 1.6 The immediate past president will serve as a non-voting advisor to the Executive Board.

## **Section 2 - Election Procedures**

- 2.1 Election procedures shall be consistent with the provisions of this Constitution and shall be prescribed by the Standing Committee on Election.
- 2.2 Elections will take place via electronic vote during a designated election period. The election period must be announced two months in advance to all members and must last a minimum of two weeks. All members in good standing may participate in this election.
- 2.3 Members eligible to run for the Executive Board should be nominated to the Election Committee by the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January.
  - a. The Election Committee has (2) two weeks after the submission deadline to review the candidate's eligibility and notify the membership of the official slate of candidates.
  - b. If there is an issue in question, the potential candidate will be directly contacted by the Election Committee to clarify anything that may prohibit the candidate's eligibility. This notification should be done within (2) two weeks after the submission deadline. If the candidate's eligibility is in question, the official slate of candidates will not be released.
  - c. The official election slate will be released when all candidates are deemed eligible and approved by the Election Committee.
- 2.4 Elections must be completed by April 30<sup>th</sup> of the election year.
- 2.5 The candidate receiving the largest number of votes at the closure of the election period shall be declared elected to the respective Executive Board position.

## **Section 3 - Installation of Elected Executive Officers**

- 3.1 All executive elective officers shall begin office on the 1st of July of the election year and be announced to the membership by the 30th day of April.
- 3.2 In the interim between elections and inductions, the incumbent officers will be required to provide the necessary resources to the newly elected officers to ensure a smooth transition.

## **Section 4 - Tenure of Elected Executive Officers**

- 4.1 The president shall serve a term of (2) two years. They may not serve as president for more than (4) four consecutive years.
- 4.2 The vice president shall serve a term of (2) two years. They may not serve as vice president for more than (4) four consecutive years.
- 4.3 The other elected officers shall serve a term of (2) two years. The tenure of the officers in this subsection shall not be limited.

- 4.4 An officer who assumes a vacated president or vice president position may serve up to four consecutive years after the completion of the assumed term.

### **Section 5 - Appointment of Executive Officers**

- 5.1 The executive officers under this Article, and such other Officers as the Executive Board may require, shall be appointed by the Executive Board president. Appointments will become official upon concurrence of simple majority vote of the Executive Board.

### **Section 6 - Tenure of Immediate Past President**

- 6.1 The Immediate Past President shall serve a term of (2) two years.

## ***Article V***

### **MEETINGS**

#### **Section 1 – Procedures**

- 1.1 All Executive Board meetings will be conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rule of Order (latest edition). When Robert’s Rule of Order conflicts with the Association’s Constitution and/or By-Laws, the Constitution and/or By-Laws shall govern.
- 1.2 Executive Board meetings can be held in person, via full-featured internet, or combination internet/telephone, meeting services that integrate audio (and optionally video), text, and voting capabilities. Electronic meetings of the Executive Board shall be subject to all rules adopted by these Constitution and By-Laws.
- 1.3 Any member in good standing has the right to attend meetings, make motions, and to speak in debate.
- 1.4 The procedures of all Sectors shall, as closely as possible, imitate those of the Executive Board. However, no distinctions shall be made for executive members’ powers other than those required in order to fulfill their responsibilities.
- 1.5 The President shall announce motions on the floor.

#### **Section 2 – Attendance**

- 2.1 Attendance shall be taken by the recording secretary at the Executive Board and general membership meetings.
- 2.2 All sectors will also take attendance at their meetings.
- 2.3 There must be a quorum of no less than (1/2) one-half + (1) one of the voting members for all entities within the Association structure for an official meeting to take place where voting is conducted.

#### **Section 3 - General Membership Meetings**

- 3.1 General Membership meetings should be held twice a year.

## ***Article VI***

### **DUES**

#### **Section 1 - Membership Dues**

- 1.1 The amount of annual membership dues payable to the financial secretary of the Association by active and associate members shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board and announced to the general body by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 1.2 All dues shall be paid to the financial secretary.
- 1.3 Membership applications for annual dues shall be sent by the Membership Committee Chair (financial secretary) for the membership year, August 1 – July 30.

## **The By-Laws**

### ***Article I***

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

##### **Section 1 - Duties of the Executive Board President**

- 1.1 The Executive Board president shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.
- 1.2 The president shall preside over all General Membership and Executive Board meetings, EOFPANJ conferences or any other Executive Board meetings that may be called.
- 1.3 The president shall have the authority to appoint committees once his/her recommendations have been approved by the Executive Board.
- 1.4 The president shall have, with the concurrence of a simple majority vote of the Executive Board members, the authority to appoint members to fill vacant Executive Board positions.
- 1.5 The president will be the official representative to communicate with other professional groups, organizations, and educational institutions.
- 1.6 The president shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the Election Committee.
- 1.7 The president shall, but not be required to attend all committee meetings.

- 1.8 After a vote for any amendment or application of the EOFPANJ Constitution, the president shall interpret the Constitution and By-Laws of EOFPANJ and either accept or veto the decision of the Executive Board members. The president's decision shall be final, except upon an objection being raised and sustained by a (3/4) three-quarters vote of the General Membership.
- 1.9 The president shall have the power to cause an Executive Order, only in such instances that it is apparent that the Association's welfare is in jeopardy. The Executive Order must be a declaration in the best interest of the Association and can only be implemented if circumstances are such that leaving said action to normal legislative procedures would have the effect of condoning improper actions or cause extreme hardship or detriment to the Association.
- 1.10 EOFPANJ will cover the president's conference registration and hotel fees as well as mileage as it relates to all EOFPANJ conferences, sponsored events, and Tri-State Conferences which are not covered by their respective institution.
- 1.11 Shall prepare with the assistance of the Executive Board an annual report, which will present information on the Association's activities, fiscal condition, and progress/fulfillment of the goals and objectives. This report will be made available to the General Membership.
- 1.12 In the first year of their term, shall prepare with the assistance of the Executive Board a two-year report outlining the Association's goals and objectives. This report must be presented to the General Membership at the Fall Conference or no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of December

## **Section 2 - Duties of the Executive Vice President**

- 2.1 The Executive Board vice president shall assume the powers of the president in their absence. If the president cannot complete his/her term, the vice president shall assume the presidency, at which time they will appoint a new vice president who must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board members.
- 2.2 The vice president shall oversee all committees created by the president.
- 2.3 The vice president shall perform other such duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Executive Board president and shall act on the president's behalf when so requested.

## **Section 3 - Duties of the Recording Secretary**

- 3.1 The recording secretary is the official record keeper of all Executive Board minutes and proceedings.
- 3.2 The recording secretary will receive all minutes and proceedings of all sub committees established by the president, record the minutes and shall make all records available to the General Membership.
- 3.3 Shall take attendance at all meetings of the Executive Board and General Membership.
- 3.4 Keep on file all records, reports, correspondence, and information necessary to the function and purpose of the organization.
- 3.5 Shall prepare such reports as the Association may direct.



- 3.6 Shall, within (30) thirty days after the conclusion of each Executive Board meeting, have copies of the minutes sent to the Executive Board.
- 3.7 Shall tally up final votes on the floor.

#### **Section 4 - Duties of the Corresponding Secretary**

- 4.1 The corresponding secretary shall disseminate in a timely manner all information pertinent to the members of the Association.
- 4.2 Shall perform the duties of the recording secretary in their absence.
- 4.3 Shall once a year update the EOF Directory.
- 4.4 Shall give timely notice of Executive Board Meetings and/or Special Meetings to the Executive Board and/or General Membership.
- 4.5 Shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to them by the Executive Board president or vice president.
- 4.6 Shall assume responsibility for the Benevolence Committee, which distributes caring communications on behalf of the Association.

#### **Section 5 - Duties of the Financial Secretary**

- 5.1 The financial secretary will be responsible for receiving all revenue monies.
- 5.2 Shall submit all collected revenues to the treasurer.
- 5.3 Shall be a member of the Budget Committee and assist with the preparation of the budget for the ensuing year.
- 5.4 Shall be responsible for collecting all fees associated with membership and activities of the Association.
- 5.5 Shall prepare all required invoices for all revenues collected.
- 5.6 Shall prepare and submit a written report reflecting all revenues and expenses.

#### **Section 6 - Duties of the Treasurer**

- 6.1 The treasurer shall be responsible for the proper accounting and safeguarding of all monies, funds, and securities of the Association.
- 6.2 Shall submit a detailed accounting auditing report on a monthly basis to the Executive Board and submit a written annual financial report available to the General Membership.
- 6.3 Shall chair the Finance and Budget Committee.
- 6.4 Shall account for and collect all prescribed payments made to the Association.
- 6.5 Shall be responsible for the filing of all State and Federal tax returns as required of the Association.
- 6.6 Shall be required to deposit in an approved bank, all funds of the Association received within (5) five business days of such receipt.
- 6.7 Shall be responsible for keeping permanent records of all funds and expenditures and make an annual financial report during the Executive Board retreat.

- 6.8 Shall submit payments only to the organizations of persons under which the Association has a legal and binding contract.
- 6.9 All disbursement in any manner must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board members and co-signed by the Executive Board president and/or vice president.
- 6.10 Shall temporarily assume duties of the President in the event of the absence and/or vacancy of the president and vice president.

#### **Section 7 - Duties of the Public Relations Officer**

- 7.1 The public relations officer shall be responsible for the preparation, publication, and dissemination of information as directed and approved by the Executive Board.
- 7.2 The public relations officer shall be responsible for ensuring the Association's website is up to date.
- 7.3 The public relations officer shall manage and update EOFPANJ social media memberships

#### **Section 8 - Duties of the Parliamentarian**

- 8.1 Shall be responsible for ensuring all meetings are conducted by these Constitution and By-Laws or Robert's Rule of Order (latest edition).
- 8.2 Shall call the meeting to order and adjourn the meeting.
- 8.3 Provides guidance and advisement to the Executive Board regarding appropriate guidelines and procedures.
- 8.4 Review sections of the Constitution and By-Laws with the Executive Board at each Executive Board meeting.

#### **Section 9 - Duties of the Alliance of Educational Opportunity Fund Students of New Jersey (AESNJ) Advisors**

- 9.1 The AESNJ Advisors serve as the liaison between the EOFPANJ Executive Board and the AESNJ executive board.
- 9.2 Advisors should meet monthly with the AESNJ Executive Board, providing members with resources needed to fulfill the organization's mission to serve the EOF students statewide.
- 9.3 Advisors assist with coordinating retreats, conferences, and other leadership training events that promote academic, personal, and professional development.
- 9.4 Advisors provide monthly updates on AESNJ initiatives to EOFPANJ.
- 9.5 Advisors advocate for the financial well-being of AESNJ and submit prospective AESNJ budgets to EOFPANJ.
- 9.6 Maintain frequent communication with the president of EOFPANJ or their designee.

#### **Section 10 - Duties of the Educational Opportunity Fund State-Wide Alumni Association (EOFSAA) Representatives**

- 10.1 The EOFSAA representatives shall serve as the liaisons between EOFSAA and EOFPANJ.

- 10.2** The EOFSAAs representatives shall submit monthly reports which serve as formal communication of the endeavors within EOFSAAs.
- 10.3** The EOFSAAs representatives, or designees, shall serve on the Governmental Relations Committee, Community Partnership Committee, Marketing/Communications Committee, and the Fund Development Committee.

### **Section 11 - Duties of the Members At Large**

- 11.1** Members at large shall perform all duties and tasks as assigned by the president and/or vice president.
- 11.2** May chair a committee assigned by the president.

### **Section 12 - Duties of the Immediate Past President**

- 12.1** The immediate past president shall assist and advise the newly elected Executive Board as part of the transition after the election of new officers.

### **Section 13 - Impeachment of Members of the Executive Board**

- 13.1** Any Executive Board member may be impeached from their position upon a formal complaint brought forth by any Executive Board member(s).
- 13.2** In order to begin impeachment procedures, an Executive Board member, in good standing, must set forth in writing the reasons for impeachment to the Executive Board.
- 13.3** A copy of the indictment must be forwarded to the affected Executive Board member within five business days after receipt by the president. Within ten days of their receipt of the indictment, the affected executive member has the right to formally refute their accuser in writing. Twenty (20) days after proper notification, impeachment procedures must begin with or without a formal rebuttal.
- 13.4** A president-appointed subcommittee shall review a formal appeal brought forth by the impeached member.
- 13.5** A (2/3) two-thirds dismissal vote from the Executive Board is required for an Executive Board member to be impeached.
- 13.6** Actions which qualify as grounds to begin impeachment procedures are:
- a. Illegal activity which is proved in a court of law.
  - b. Acts that bring down the integrity of the Executive Board and/or of the Association name.
  - c. Failure to fulfill the responsibilities of the respective position and any other such circumstances which bring to question the commitment of the Executive Board member.
  - d. Habitual missing of meetings without justified cause.
- 13.7** All impeachments are final upon review and remain in effect for a period of ten years from the date of impeachment; An Executive Board member who has been impeached may not hold any position in the Association during this ten-year period

## *Article II*

### **SECTOR AND REGION ORGANIZATION**

#### **Section 1 - Designation of Sector**

- 1.1 Sectors will be comprised of four institutional categories: (1) State Colleges and Universities, (2) Community Colleges, (3) Independent Colleges and Universities, and (4) Public Research Universities.

#### **Section 2 – Designation of Regions**

- 2.1 Sectors will be divided into two regions: North and Central/South.
- 2.2 The North region will consist of EOF Programs geographically located in the following New Jersey counties: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren.
- 2.3 The Central/South Region will consist of the EOF Program geographically located in the following New Jersey counties: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, and Salem.

#### **Section 3 - Sector Organization**

- 3.1 Each sector shall be comprised of (2) two sector representatives.

#### **Section 4 - Sector Elected Representatives and Responsibilities**

- 4.1 Sector representatives shall be elected by all active members of their sector.
- 4.2 Sector representatives shall function under the jurisdiction of the Executive Board.
- 4.3 Sector representatives' terms are (2) two years, and elections are to be held in conjunction with the Executive Board elections.

#### **Section 5 - Sector Meetings**

- 5.1 Sector should conduct a meeting twice a semester, and meetings should alternate between regions.
- 5.2 Each sector shall meet on the call of the sector representatives who shall give written notice of the time and place thereof to each EOF program within the sector at least (14) fourteen days in advance.

#### **Section 6 - Sector Representation**

- 6.1 At least one representative of each EOF program within the sector should attend sector meetings.
- 6.2 All active sector members shall be allowed to vote on all matters pertaining to the sector.
- 6.3 During sector elections, all members in good standing will be allowed to vote in their respective sector elections.

## **Section 7 – Region Meetings**

- 7.1** Regional Meetings consisting of all sectors in the region should be held at least once a year.

## **Section 8 – Duties of the Educational Opportunity Fund Sector Representative**

- 8.1** The sector representatives shall serve as the liaison between the sectors and the Executive Board
- 8.2** The sector representatives shall submit monthly reports to the Executive Board detailing any activities or issues pertinent to the memberships.
- 8.3** The sector representatives shall actively engage with sector members and organize meetings to discuss relevant issues and provide professional development opportunities.

# ***Article III***

## **COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1 - Standing Committees**

- 1.1** The committees shall meet on a regular basis and prepare and present at monthly Executive Board meetings, a full committee report.
- 1.2** On committees where chairpersonship is not appointed, chairperson(s) must be elected at the first meeting.
- 1.3** Committee membership is concurrent with the term of elected officers. All policies and programs emanating from committee decisions must be approved by the Executive Board prior to dissemination.

### **Section 2 - Spring Conference**

- 2.1** The spring conference committee will coordinate all of the activities related to the respective conference.
- 2.2** The spring conference committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members (2), two of whom shall be Executive Board members, the vice president, and the second appointed by the president. The conference chairperson(s) shall also be appointed by the president. The remaining members will be representatives from the General Membership.
- 2.3** The spring conference committee shall convene at least (6) six months prior to the scheduled conferences and shall develop, prepare, and present a budget and conference data to the Executive Board for approval prior to the inception of any conference activity.

### **Section 3 - Fall Conference Committee**

- 3.1** Fall conference committee will coordinate all of the activities as related to the respective conference.
- 3.2** Fall conference committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members, including the vice president, a representative from the host institution (if applicable), and AESNJ

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representatives. The president shall also appoint the conference chairperson. The remaining members will be representatives from the General Membership.

- 3.3 Shall convene (7) seven months prior to the scheduled conferences and shall develop, prepare, and present a budget and conference data to the Executive Board for approval prior to the inception of any conference activity.

#### **Section 4 - Counselor Training Institute Committee (CTI)**

- 4.1 The Counselor Training Institute committee will coordinate all of the activities related to the respective training.
- 4.2 The CTI committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members, two of whom shall be Executive Board members appointed by the president. The president shall also appoint the chairperson. The remaining members will be representatives from the General Membership.
- 4.3 Shall convene (7) months prior to the scheduled training and shall develop, prepare, and present a budget and conference data to the Executive Board for approval prior to the inception of any conference activity.

#### **Section 5 - Budget Committee**

- 5.1 The budget committee should consist of a minimum of (3) three members, including the financial secretary and the treasurer, who will serve as the chair. Other members shall be appointed from the General Membership by the president.
- 5.2 The budget committee should meet by September 15th to prepare a preliminary fiscal year budget.

#### **Section 6 - Governmental Relations Committee**

- 6.1 The Governmental Relations Committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members, including representation from EOFSAA and AESNJ, and shall be chaired by the EOFPANJ president.
- 6.2 The Governmental Relations Committee shall monitor, review, and interpret educational legislation that might impact EOF.
- 6.3 The Governmental Relations Committee will spearhead yearly advocacy efforts, including meetings with legislators, student civic engagement events, and communication and promotional campaigns.
- 6.4 The Governmental Relations Committee shall review and interpret all documents generated by the EOF State Board and/or Central Office that have an impact on the academic components of the EOF program.
- 6.5 The Governmental Relations Committee shall review, interpret, and disseminate state and federal financial aid policy information.
- 6.6 The Governmental Relations Committee shall send (2) two representatives to the Technical Review Board.

## **Section 7 - Community Partnership Committee**

- 7.1** The Community Partnership Committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members, (2) two of which shall be Executive Board members appointed by the president. The remaining members will be representatives from the General Membership.
- 7.2** The Community Partnership Committee will coordinate, interact, and communicate with similarly disposed organizations in areas of mutual interest and relevance and will draft and submit articles to other professional organizations.

## **Section 8 - Fund Development Committee**

- 8.1** The Fund Development Committee should consist of a minimum of (6) six members, including representation from EOFSAA and AESNJ.
- 8.2** The Fund Development Committee will support all schools with EOF Programs by awarding scholarships to students who meet EOF requirements.
- 8.3** The Fund Development Committee will take on a leadership role in planning and coordinating revenue-generating strategies.
- 8.4** The Fund Development Committee will determine every year how much money will be raised for the coming year, through annual fundraising, gifts solicited by mail, gifts solicited by telephone, major gifts, board of directors gifts, unsolicited, corporate gifts, special events, and in-kind gifts.

## **Section 9- Marketing/Communications Committee**

- 9.1** The Marketing/Communications Committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members and shall be chaired by the public relations officer.
- 9.2** The Marketing/Communications Committee will assist in designing EOFPANJ promotional/informational materials, including but not limited to the brochure and conference programs.
- 9.3** The Marketing/Communications Committee will collaborate with Community Partnerships in creating press releases that highlight the success, effectiveness, and value of EOFPANJ events and other initiatives.
- 9.4** The Marketing/Communications Committee will aid the Government Relations Committee in Advocacy awareness by helping distribute and disseminate information regarding advocacy issues and action items to stakeholders and related constituents in various platforms such as the website, email blasts, and social networks.

## **Section 10 - Membership Committee**

- 10.1** The Membership Committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members and shall be chaired by the financial secretary.
- 10.2** The Membership Committee will explore membership types and benefits of membership.
- 10.3** The Membership Committee will update and maintain the Association's directory.
- 10.4** The Membership Committee shall promote and look to enhance Association membership.

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### **Section 11 - Election Committee**

- 11.1** The election committee should consist of a minimum of (5) five members, the chairperson(s) will be nominated by the president and must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board. The remaining members to be selected from the General Membership.
- 11.2** The nominating election committee will convene in November of the year prior to the election year. The committee will present the slate at the February Executive Board meeting of the election year.
- 11.3** The election committee shall be responsible for verifying that a candidate is a member in good standing, establishing balloting procedures, tallying ballots, and presenting results to the General Membership during the Spring Conference.

### **Section 12 - Transition Committee**

- 12.1** The transition committee shall consist of a minimum of (3) three members, (2) two of which shall be the treasurer and the vice president. The president-elect will appoint the remaining members who shall be members of the Executive Board.
- 12.2** The transition committee shall be convened within (30) thirty days of the Spring General Body meeting during an election year.
- 12.3** The transition committee shall orient newly elected officers to the duties of their respective office, to the goals and objectives of EOFPANJ, and to the interpretation of the Constitution and By-Laws. In addition, it will ensure the timely transfer of all records, financial accounts, and pertinent data.
- 12.4** The transition committee must hold a transition meeting with the outgoing executive board and the incoming executive board prior to June 30th. This transition meeting should ensure the timely transfer of all records, financial accounts, digital platforms, and pertinent data and begin the discussion on the upcoming Fall Conference.

### **Section 14 - Special Committees**

- 14.1** Special committees may be created by the Executive Board with a simple majority vote of the Executive Board at an Executive Board meeting.

## ***Article IV***

### **AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section 1 – Process**

- 1.1** Any active member of this Association may present amendment(s) to the Constitution to his/her respective sector representative or a member of the Executive Board.



- 1.2 All amendment(s) must be turned over to the respective sector of the member making the amendment request, which must approve the amendment(s) by a majority vote.
- 1.3 All sector-approved amendment(s) must be turned over to the Executive Board, which must approve the amendment(s) by a majority vote.
- 1.4 All approved amendment(s) to the Constitution will be presented at the next scheduled General Membership meeting.

## **Section 2 – Approval**

- 2.1 Motions for all approved Constitution amendments are presented to the General Membership body. Due to the act that the motion has been received by the Executive Board members, a vote of confidence is given. The vote of confidence is a simple majority vote that allows for the motion to be discussed and brought up for final approval. The voting down of the motion at the vote of confidence turns down the motion, and no further action can be taken on this motion unless the process is conducted again at the next General Membership meeting.
- 2.2 Once a motion has passed the vote of confidence, a discussion by the EOFPANJ members will be conducted on the positives and negatives of the motion, which is facilitated by the parliamentarian.
- 2.3 After the discussion, which will be moderated by the parliamentarian according to Robert’s Rule of Order (latest edition), a final vote will be taken. For the motion to officially become an amendment, a (2/3) two-thirds vote of the Executive Board is required for its approval.
- 2.4 The president has the power to veto the amendment. A (3/4) three-quarters vote by the Executive Board is required to overturn the veto.

## ***Article V***

### **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

#### **Section 1 – Statement**

- 1.1 Robert’s Rule of Order (latest edition) shall be the parliamentary authority and shall govern all matters not covered specifically or by necessary implication by the Constitution and By-Laws of the EOFPANJ.

## ***Article VI***

### **GENERAL PROVISION**

**Section 1 – Statement**

- 1.1 These By-Laws may be suspended in any situation deemed by the body by the unanimous vote of members present and in good standing at an Executive Board or General Membership meeting at which quorum is present. They may be suspended at a special meeting under the same conditions but only with the approval of the Executive Board.
- 1.2 If any article or section of the Constitution shall be found to be in violation of any local, state, or federal law by the court of competent jurisdiction, it will be suspended until the decision to remove is made.

***Article VII***

**DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**

**Section 1 – Dissolution**

- 1.1 The Association may be dissolved only with authorization by the Executive Board given at a special meeting called for that purpose and with subsequent approval by a two- thirds (2/3) vote of the General Membership. In the event of the organization being dissolved, the amount which remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be paid and applied by the organization in accordance with its powers to any organization which has similar objectives and which has rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and income to its members.