
KENTUCKY REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be known as the Kentucky Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (KyRID).

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to initiate, sponsor, promote and execute policies and activities that support interpreters who use signed and spoken languages.

The organization is an affiliate chapter of the national Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc (RID). This organization shall uphold the mission, vision, and diversity statement of RID. KyRID shall abide by the rules, policies, and procedures established for affiliated chapters of RID.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. CATEGORIES

The organization shall be composed of the following categories of membership:

- A. Voting Members:
 - 1. Certified Member
 - a. Interpreter or transliterator holding valid certification recognized by RID.
 - 2. Associate Member
 - a. Interpreter or transliterator actively practicing in the field of interpretation of American Sign Language and English and/or transliteration of English but not yet holding a certification recognized by RID.
- B. Non-Voting Members:
 - 3. Certified Member: Inactive
 - a. Certified Member who experiences a life altering event which precludes them from working as an interpreter or transliterator.
 - 4. Certified Member: Retired
 - a. Certified Member who upon reaching the retirement age of 55 elects to retire from the field of interpreting or transliterating.
 - 5. Student Member
 - a. An individual actively enrolled in an interpreter training program (ITP) with proof of at least part-time status.
 - 6. Supporting Member
 - a. A non-certified individual with an interest in supporting the objectives and activities of the organization.
 - 7. Organizational/Institutional Member
 - a. An organization or institution with an interest in supporting the objectives and activities of the organization.

SECTION 2. STANDING

A member in good standing shall be defined as one whose membership dues are current with the organization and the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf and who is not under any disciplinary action by a grievance committee serving any one of the following organizations, jurisdictions, or affiliates thereof: the RID, National Association of the Deaf (NAD), or the Kentucky Board of Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KBI).

SECTION 3. DUES

Membership dues for all categories shall be the amount recommended by the Board of Directors not to increase by more than \$10 a year.

Dues must be paid to KyRID to become a member. After the first year of membership, dues are due July 1st of each year. Ensuring payment of dues have been received shall be the sole responsibility of the individual member. If dues are not received by August 1, the member's rights will lapse until dues are paid, including the right to vote.

SECTION 4. VOTING RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENTS

Each member in good standing with the organization and who is also a voting member in good standing with RID shall be entitled to one vote in all state meetings, referenda, and elections, provided their membership has been current for the 90 days prior to the election.

Voting entitlement shall be verified by the Secretary of the organization or their designee(s) prior to voting.

Members are solely responsible for ensuring the Secretary of the organization has current contact information, including email address and phone number.

Non-voting members may participate in discussions in meetings. They may not vote, make motions, or second motions.

The organization shall not recognize voting by proxy.

SECTION 5. TERMINATION AND REINSTATEMENT

Membership in KyRID can be terminated in accordance with RID's guidelines for termination. Suspension or termination of membership, benefits, and voting rights shall be at the discretion of the Board.

Reinstatement in KyRID will be determined by the Board.

Appeals can be made in writing by submitting a request to the membership. Overturning a determination of membership suspension or termination requires a 2/3 majority.

SECTION 6. MEMBER LIABILITY

No individual who was, is now or, will later become a member of this organization shall be personally liable to any of the organization's creditors for any indebtedness, or liability, unless it can be proven a member's action(s) was deliberate and criminal or without required approval from the Board of Directors. Otherwise, all creditors shall look to assets of this organization for payment.

ARTICLE IV: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. POWERS

The affairs of the organization shall be governed by the Board between general or special meetings with members of the organization. In the event the entire Board is unable to convene, the Executive Board shall be given full power and authority to act on emergency issues. The Executive Board shall be composed of the organization President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

All organization powers shall be exercised by and under the authority of the Board of Directors. Unless so authorized by the Board of Directors, no officer, agent, or employee shall have any power or authority to bind the organization by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or to render it monetarily liable for any purpose or in any amount. All charges, responsibilities and membership directives shall persist until fulfilled regardless of any changes to the makeup of the Board of Directors.

No board member who was, is now or, will later become a board member of this organization shall be personally liable to any of the organization's creditors for any indebtedness, or liability, unless it can be proven a board member's action(s) was deliberate and criminal or without required approval from the Board of Directors. Otherwise, all creditors shall look to assets of this organization for payment.

SECTION 2. COMPOSITION

The Board of Directors shall be composed of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three (3) Members-At-Large (when possible, at least one (1) Deaf member-at-large). In addition to the Members-At-Large, the Past President and representatives from the following may serve as non-voting ex-officio members:

- A. One (1) representative chosen by the Kentucky Association of the Deaf;
- B. One (1) representative chosen by the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
- C. Two (2) full-time student representatives endorsed by their respective Interpreter Training Programs' institution within the Commonwealth of Kentucky and chosen by the Board.

There is no monetary compensation for service as a member of the Board of Directors. However, procedures for reimbursement of actual expenses incurred on behalf of the organization shall be established by the Treasurer and approved by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. DUTIES

GENERAL DUTIES

- A. Perform duties as prescribed by the voting membership, executive committee or as required by law.
- B. Supervise the executive committee.

- C. Approve the budget of the organization
- D. Provide a comprehensive organization report to the membership no later than ninety days after the end of each fiscal year, as required by law.
- E. All officers shall attend all Board of Directors' meetings and events of this organization.

PRESIDENT

The duties of the President are as follows:

- A. Preside at all meetings of the organization and Board of Directors,
- B. Appoint committee members with the approval of the Board of Directors, and serve as an ex-officio (non-voting) member of committees.
- C. Appoint representatives to serve as liaisons between the Board and committees and the Board and external organizations.
- D. Oversee digital assets and delegate responsibilities as appropriate.
- E. Represent the organization as a member of the RID Region III Presidents Council and act as the liaison to RID.
- F. Represent, or appoint a representative, as a Commission member of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as mandated in KRS 163.506 and shall perform all duties thereof.
- G. Work with the Nominations Committee to ensure each Board of Directors' position is filled.
- H. Provide semi-annual reports to the membership concerning business and Board of Directors' activities and financial status of the organization.
- I. Review all financial records, such as bank statements, monthly.

VICE-PRESIDENT

The duties of the Vice-President are as follows:

- A. In the absence or inability of the President, the Vice-President shall act as the President of the organization. They shall have all the powers of the President.
- B. Serve as coordinator/chairperson for the Conference and Professional Development Committee.
- C. Assist with preparation of the organization's annual budget.
- D. Have the authority to co-sign monetary transactions with the Treasurer, Secretary or any other person designated through action of the Board of Directors.
- E. Carry out other duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary are as follows:

- A. Keep minutes of all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors.
- B. Maintain an accurate and reliable list of the organization's membership, including voting status.
- C. Send out notices of all meetings according to guidelines set forth in Article IV, Section 7 and Article V.
- D. Serve as custodian of the organization's records.
- E. Have the authority to co-sign monetary transactions with the Treasurer, Vice- President or any other person designated through action of the Board of Directors.
- F. Work with the Nominations Committee to ensure each Board of Directors' position is filled.
- G. Carry out other duties as assigned by the President and/or the Board of Directors.

TREASURER

The duties of the Treasurer are as follows:

- A. Be responsible for collecting, recording, and disbursing the monies of the organization as ordered by the Board of Directors.
- B. Oversee organization's finances.
- C. Assist with preparation of the organization's annual budget and present to the Board of Directors.
- D. Prepare and report financial reporting to the United States Treasury and the Commonwealth of Kentucky Revenue Cabinet as required by law.
- E. Collect membership dues and deposit them into the organization's account no later than 14 days after receipt.
- F. Balance and review financial statements and bank statements with another board member appointed by the President and make the same statements available to the President for review.
- G. Ensure all monetary transactions over \$500 are approved two executive board members. One signatory can be the Treasurer. All monetary transactions should be substantiated by a statement, itemizing expenses and amounts, as with all other expenditures.
- H. Prepare and report financial standing for each Board of Directors meeting.
- I. Prepare an annual financial report. The report must be reviewed by two (2) individuals who are not members of the Board of Directors. These reviewers will be selected by the President and approved by the Board.
- J. Present the annual financial report to the Board of Directors and to the membership, following Board approval.
- K. Consult with committees on budgets for activities or events which may impact the overall finances of the organization.
- L. Expenses for postage and office supplies do not need prior approval of the Board, not to exceed one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month.
- M. Be bonded at the expense of the Board and by an entity approved by the Board.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

The Members-At-Large shall work with the Executive Board, assist the coordination of activities and communications in the organization. They may work on special projects or oversee committees as requested by the President.

REPRESENTATIVES

The duties of the representatives are as follows:

- A. Provide updates from their respective areas.
- B. Provide annual reports to the Board regarding special issues and/or concerns expressed from their respective areas.
- C. Serve as a resource person and liaison between their respective areas and the Board of Directors.

PAST PRESIDENT

The duties of the Past President, in their ex-officio non-voting position, are as follows:

- A. Assist the President during the transition into office.

- B. Serve as an advisor to the President, including parliamentary procedure.
- C. May assume special assignments as determined by the President
- D. May attend Board meetings.

SECTION 4. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Composed of the organization's President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In the event the entire Board is unable to convene, the Executive Committee shall be given full power and authority to act on emergency issues.

SECTION 5. QUALIFICATIONS

All candidates for the Board of Directors shall have been a member in good standing for at least one year prior to candidacy, except the President and the Members-At-Large. A candidate for the President shall have been a member in good standing for at least two years and be a certified member. The Members-At-Large be a certified or associate member in good standing. All candidates seeking to become representatives shall have been members of their respective areas, organizations and/or committees for at least one full year immediately prior to candidacy. All appointed representatives should be a member in good standing of KyRID.

SECTION 6. TERMS OF OFFICE

Election to any office shall be determined by a majority vote of the present quorum. In the case of a tie, a run-off election must be conducted between the two (2) nominees with the highest number of votes.

- A. Officers
 - a. Elected for a 2 year term beginning July 1 immediately following their election and ending June 30, 2 years later.
 - b. Elections will be held at spring conference of even-numbered years for the following positions:
 - i. President
 - ii. Secretary
 - iii. 1 Member-at-Large position
 - c. Elections will be held at spring conference of odd-numbered years for the following positions:
 - i. Vice-President
 - ii. Treasurer
 - iii. 2 Members-at-Large
 - d. No officer shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.
- B. Representatives
 - a. Appointment shall be a two-year term
 - b. No representative shall hold the same position for more than three consecutive terms.

SECTION 7. RESIGNATIONS

Resignations of officers shall be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors at least ten (10) days prior to the resignation date. Resignations become official upon receipt by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 8. REMOVAL

The Board of Directors may remove an officer from office if it has been determined the individual has not acted in good faith in the fulfillment of the duties inherent to the office.

The Board of Directors may remove an officer from office if they have been determined to be of unsound mind by court order or who has been convicted of a felony.

Removal of any Director, officer, or committee member may be enforced by the Executive Committee or a majority of the voting membership if it has been determined that the individual has not acted in good faith in the fulfillment of the duties inherent to the office. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors is required for a resolution for removal. If the removal is brought by the membership, a two-thirds (2/3) majority is required to remove an officer, in accordance with business matters. All Board of Directors, members, and committee members serving the organization shall remain members in good standing with the organization and RID for the duration of their term of office. If the Director or committee member is not in good standing with both organizations, the position shall be vacated by the officer immediately and a replacement shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9. VACANCIES

Vacancies of the Board of Directors are created upon the death, resignation, or removal due to legal action or for cause against any director.

The Board of Directors shall fill vacancies between elections, excluding a vacancy of the President. In the event the President position becomes vacant, the Vice President shall automatically assume the President position for the duration of the term.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Notification of meetings shall be delivered to the email address listed on members' application; and, if no email address is on file, a notice shall be mailed to the mailing address on members' application.

SECTION 1. GENERAL MEETINGS

An annual meeting of the general memberships shall be held in the spring of each year. Additional meetings may be held as determined by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall set the date and notify its membership at least thirty (30) days in advance.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS.

The organization's members may request a special meeting to address a single issue. All requests for a special meeting must be received by the Secretary at least 14 calendar days prior to the desired meeting date and must include the date, time, and location of the meeting requested, the single issue being addressed, and any proposed motions or resolutions. Requests for special meetings shall be acknowledged and membership notified no later than two (2) calendar days from receipt of the request.

Furthermore, if the request is submitted by mail, it requires at least ten (10) members' signatures. If the request is submitted electronically, it requires an email from at least ten (10) members with the same subject line; the email must be sent from the email address on the member's application.

SECTION 3. QUORUM

A quorum for all regular and special meetings shall be one-fourth of the organization's membership who are eligible to vote.

SECTION 4. MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS

- A. Annual Meetings: An annual meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held immediately before and/or after the annual meeting of the membership. The meeting must occur at the same location as the membership meeting.
- B. Other Regular Meetings: Other regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least semi-annually as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - 1. If the meeting is scheduled in person, an announcement shall be provided to the directors thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting;
 - 2. If it is a meeting scheduled online, an announcement shall be provided to the directors seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting.

SECTION 5. QUORUM OF THE BOARD

A quorum for meeting of the Board of Directors shall be a majority of voting members of the Board.

ARTICLE VI. MAIL AND EMAIL REFERENDUMS

Motions may be voted on by the membership by mail or email referendum. All notifications shall be delivered to the email address listed on the member's application. If no email address is on file, a notice shall be mailed to the mailing address on the member's application.

- A. Mail referenda may be drafted and submitted by the Board of Directors, by a committee at the request of the Board of Directors, or by written petition of at least five percent (5%) of the voting members of the organization.
- B. Written notice of the referendum stating and describing all motions, procedures, and deadlines for voting, shall be provided to all voting members at least thirty (30) days prior to the referendum deadline. An electronic version shall be made available on the organization's webpage.
- C. Electronic voting may be conducted by a system approved by the Board of Directors. An approved system must ensure voter anonymity.
- D. Results of all mail or email referendums shall be determined by 2/3 of the valid ballots returned.

ARTICLE VII: STANDING COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, shall have the right to establish any standing committee deemed necessary to carry out the objective of the organization as set forth in these bylaws and/or maintained by the voting membership. Standing committees shall be composed of members in good standing approved by the President and will have a board member assigned for the purpose of oversight. A majority of the entire committee shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 1. AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee members shall market, solicit, and collect applicants for awards and scholarships:

- A. Carrie Mosley Award - Recipient is an outstanding KyRID member in good standing who has made a major contribution to the organization and the profession of interpreting.
- B. Norma Lewis Scholarship - Recipient receives financial support for professional development, activities, or materials for the purpose of improving oneself in interpreting or the interpreting profession.
- C. Timothy 'Timo' Owens CDI Scholarship – Recipient receives financial support for continuing education in the field of ASL and interpreting. Qualifying applicants must be Deaf/Hard of Hearing.

SECTION 2. BYLAW COMMITTEE

Committee members shall solicit and collect concerns, issues, and suggested amendments for consideration and propose updates to the organization's bylaws as governed by the wishes of the membership and approved by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Committee members shall assist, market, and educate the organization's members on procedures for acquiring continued educational units and update its members on any changes to the certification maintenance program developed by RID. A chairperson may be elected to serve as the sponsoring authority for continued education units as defined by RID.

SECTION 4. FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Committee members shall solicit, collect, and implement suggestions for generating financial support for the organization's activities.

SECTION 5. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee members shall solicit and collect issues of interest to share with the organization. The Public Relations Coordinator will serve as chairperson and act as liaison between the committee and the Board of Directors.

- A. The Media Committee shall meet at least annually.
- B. The duties of the Media Committee are as such:
 - 1. Maintain a professional and user-friendly webpage, registering username(s), passwords and any other relevant information with the Secretary of this organization;
 - 2. Maintain a social media presence (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc), registering username(s), passwords and any other relevant information with the Secretary of this organization.
 - 3. Ensure President's Reports and Meeting Minutes are accessible for review by the members of the organization.

SECTION 6. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee members shall market, solicit, and generate a list of names of members who are willing and interested in serving on the various committees and other elected capacities within the organization. A chairperson shall be elected to serve as a representative and liaison between the committee and the Board of Directors.

The Nominations Committee shall meet at minimum, three months prior to any general meeting conducting elections.

The duties of the Nominations Committee are as such:

- A. Strategize and execute a plan of actions for pre-election activities, including the following:
1. Draft a proposed slate of nominees,
 2. Verify eligibility of nominees,
 3. Obtain a brief biographical sketch from each nominee,
 4. Provide the draft slate and biographical sketches to the Secretary for submission to the general membership, along with the official notice of general membership meeting, at least thirty (30) days in advance of any general meetings conducting elections,
 5. Conduct elections in accordance with these bylaws.

The chair of the Nominations Committee shall announce election results.

SECTION 7. CONFERENCE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee members shall solicit and implement planning of statewide conferences and bid to host regional and national conferences. Additionally, committee members shall develop and plan workshops and other professional development activities. The organization's Vice-President shall serve as chairperson for the Conference and Professional Development Committee.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the bylaws and constitution of this organization shall be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of voting members present during a regular or special meeting or as stated in Article VI. Only such amendments consistent with the provisions of the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and which are in the furtherance of the purposes specified in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, shall be amended and enacted by the organization.

Notification of the proposed amendments shall be sent by the Secretary, at the direction of the Board of Directors, to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. Notification shall be delivered to the email address listed on the member's application; and, if no email address is on file, a notice shall be mailed to the mailing address on the member's application.

ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) organization may adopt.

ARTICLE X: PROHIBITED ACTIVITY

Regardless of any other provision of these bylaws, no member, director, officer, employee, or agent of the organization shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of the organization not permitted to be taken or carried on by an organization described in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or any successor provision or provisions hereto.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of this organization, all outstanding debts and liabilities of the organization shall be paid, or provisions shall be made to pay, from the organizations finances. Any and all remaining assets, real

and personal of nature, shall be disbursed to Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., an organization qualified as a 501 (c) (3) organization according to the Internal Revenue Code. If Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. does not qualify for such exemptions or, does not want to accept these funds, then all assets, real and personal, shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation, or corporation that is organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes similar to this organization's purpose which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.