



15 July 2022

Dear Voting Members of NCSSFL,

Please consider the following proposed changes to the NCSSFL Bylaws. This amendment was prompted by the interest of NCSSFL members who seek additional ways for the organization to secure representatives at our table from states whose departments of education don't have world language supervisors or don't want to appoint official representatives. The Bylaws Committee has been working on this amendment for the better part of a year, and after many revisions, the committee members have landed squarely on this proposal. Subsequently, the proposal has been vetted and pre-approved by the NCSSFL executive board for submission to NCSSFL voting members for their consideration. Per our existing bylaws, this proposal will remain posted for one month for the membership's consideration. At the end of that period, voting members will be asked to cast a ballot for or against the proposed measure.

As you review the proposed changes to **Article III: Members – Section 1**, keep in mind:

- Everything in ~~red with strikethrough~~ is language that is being eliminated from this section.
- Everything in **red with yellow highlighting** is new language being added to this section.
- Anything *italicized in purple with turquoise highlighting* is explanatory commentary and will not appear in the finalized bylaws.

Article III: Members

Section 1

There shall be ~~five~~ **six** classes of membership: regular SEA membership, **provisional regular membership**, associate membership, retired regular SEA membership, retired associate membership, and special lifetime membership.

1. Those eligible for regular SEA membership are state education agency (SEA) personnel whose area of responsibility includes world language education and the implementation of state policies for languages other than English of any state of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, and the territories of the United States of America. Additionally, directors/administrators within a SEA who were formerly responsible for world language education and who are currently responsible for the oversight of personnel and programs related to world language education are eligible for regular membership.

Regular SEA members shall have full voting privileges.

2. Those eligible for provisional regular membership include the following:

- a. an individual designated as the NCSSFL state representative by the SEA in collaboration with the state world language association when there is no one with responsibility for world language education within the SEA; an official letter from the SEA is required to confirm the designee; *(This was moved up from the associate membership category.)*
- b. in the absence of a regular SEA member or an SEA-designated state representative, an individual designated by NCSSFL in consultation first with the state world language teacher organization and then consecutively with other state-level world language organizations, a foreign language resource center based in the state, a post-secondary institution in the state, or another national organization with a presence in that state, such as NADSFL, NNELL, etc. A designated individual shall possess the necessary knowledge of second language acquisition as well as world language resources, methodologies and contexts to serve effectively in this role.

Provisional regular members shall have full voting privileges only for the period in which they serve as their state's provisionally designated representative. Only one provisional regular member can represent a state at a time. Provisional regular membership shall end if the state DOE hires a state world language supervisor who becomes a member of NCSSFL or designates its own official representative.

3. ~~(2)~~ Those eligible for associate membership include the following:

- a. officials or their representatives with responsibility for K-12 world language initiatives from federal government agencies;
- b. officially designated representatives of national and international non-profit organizations whose mission includes the improvement or promotion of world language education; a letter from the organization is required to confirm a representative, and no more than three representatives may be designated by any one organization;
- c. SEA personnel who are not eligible for regular SEA membership in NCSSFL but whose area of responsibility includes international or global education;
- d. ~~an individual designated as the NCSSFL state representative by the SEA in collaboration with the state world language association when there is no one with responsibility for world language education within the SEA; an official letter from the SEA is required to confirm the designee; *(This was moved up to the provisional regular membership category.)*~~
- d. ~~(e)~~ an individual appointed by a regular SEA member as his/her representative when the regular SEA member is unable to attend one or more NCSSFL annual meetings; the individual may be either an SEA employee or a world language educator within the regular SEA member's state; upon completion of at least one



full year of service in this capacity, the individual may continue his/her associate membership;

- e. ~~(f)~~ individuals who have been NCSSFL regular SEA members in good standing for at least one year prior to a change of employment, who are currently working in the arena of world/second language education at either a public or private educational institution, and who support the mission of NCSSFL; and
- f. ~~(g)~~ individuals who have been NCSSFL regular SEA members in good standing for at least one year prior to the termination of their SEA employment due to a reduction in force within their SEA; and who are not eligible for retired membership or a, b., c., d., or e., ~~or f.~~ above.
- g. individuals who have been NCSSFL provisional regular members in good standing for at least one year prior to the end of their status as the appointed representative for their state.

Associate members shall not have voting privileges.

4. ~~(3)~~ Those eligible for retired regular SEA membership are individuals who have held regular SEA membership in NCSSFL and who have retired from positions in the SEA.

Retired regular SEA members shall have full voting privileges.

5. ~~(4)~~ Those eligible for retired associate membership are individuals who have been NCSSFL associate members in good standing for at least one year prior to their retirement. This category includes former regular SEA members who did not retire from their state education agencies but rather retired from a subsequent position which qualified them for associate membership.

Retired associate members shall not have voting privileges.

Members from both retired categories who are self-employed or work part-time are eligible for continued retired membership.

6. ~~(5)~~ At the discretion of the Executive Board, founding members of the organization and other members from any of the ~~four~~ five membership classes above who have demonstrated an exceptional, longtime commitment to NCSSFL can be recognized for their extraordinary service and dedication to the organization by being conferred with a special lifetime membership in the organization. The Executive Board shall record evidence in its meeting minutes of the exceptional, longtime commitment and the extraordinary service and dedication to the organization when putting forth a candidate for this honor. NCSSFL members who are conferred lifetime membership by the Executive Board become automatically exempt from paying membership dues to the organization.

Regular members granted lifetime membership status shall have full voting privileges.



Associate members granted lifetime membership status shall not have voting privileges.

*For placement at the end of **Article III: Members - Section 1:***

| Membership Category | Voting Status |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Regular SEA Members | Can vote |
| Retired SEA Members | Can vote |
| Provisional SEA Members | Can vote |
| Lifetime Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Lifetime Members • Associate Lifetime Members | Can vote Cannot vote |
| Associate Members | Cannot vote |
| Retired Associate Members | Cannot vote |