



## Proposed Amendments to the AOA Bylaws

The following proposed amendments to the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Bylaws will be presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, which will occur on July 19–21, 2024. The Chief Executive Officer of the American Osteopathic Association has arranged for their posting on the AOA's website, publication in the on-line edition of the *Journal of Osteopathic Medicine* and distribution to the specialty and divisional societies that will be eligible to send representatives to the AOA's House of Delegates.

All amendments require a two-thirds vote by the House of Delegates for approval.

### Article I – Divisional AND District SOCIETIES and Affiliated Societies ORGANIZATIONS

#### Section 1-Divisional Societies

Any state, territorial, provincial or foreign osteopathic organization, or an organization of osteopathic physicians serving in the uniformed services of the United States, which may desire to become a divisional society of the American Osteopathic Association and be chartered as a divisional society of this Association, shall apply on a prescribed form, submit evidence that its Constitution, Bylaws, and Code of Ethics generally conform to those of this Association, and maintain an organizational structure which shall generally conform to that of this Association.

Upon such application, the Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Trustees shall investigate and, finding satisfactory proof, shall recommend to the House of Delegates that a charter be issued. The Association shall not issue such a charter to more than one divisional society in a given **GEOGRAPHICAL** area. **THE ASSOCIATION ALSO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REVOKE OR SUSPEND THE CHARTER OF ANY DIVISIONAL SOCIETY. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, UPON TWO-THIRDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE, MAY SUSPEND A CHARTER FOR A PERIOD OF TIME UNTIL THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES. THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES MAY, BY A TWO-THIRDS CONSENT OF THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT, PROVIDED TWO-THIRDS OF THE SEATED DELEGATES ARE IN ATTENDANCE, REVOKE A CHARTER. THE AOA SHALL OUTLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ANY SUCH SUSPENSIONS AND/OR REVOCATIONS. SUCH POLICIES MUST, AT A MINIMUM, PROVIDE THAT A SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION SHALL NOT TAKE PLACE UNLESS THERE IS GOOD CAUSE SHOWN AND THAT THE AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION MUST FIRST BE PROVIDED WITH NOTICE AND DUE PROCESS PRIOR TO ANY SUCH SUSPENSION AND/OR REVOCATION DECISION.**

#### Section 3-Affiliated Organizations

Upon application from any organization for a charter as an affiliated organization, the Board of Trustees and the Chief Executive Officer shall investigate such organization and, upon satisfactory proof of a general agreement in policy and governing rules with those of this Association, shall recommend to the House of Delegates the issuance of such a charter. The Association shall not issue a charter to any organization, which duplicates the function or prerogatives of any present affiliated organization. ~~All organizations which have as their membership osteopathic physicians in good standing with the AOA, whether holding a current charter of affiliation or not, shall have as a medium of communication all publications of the AOA.~~ **THE ASSOCIATION ALSO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REVOKE OR SUSPEND THE CHARTER OF ANY AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, UPON TWO-THIRDS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE, MAY SUSPEND A CHARTER FOR A**



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#### Article V - House of Delegates

##### Section 11- Representation of Osteopathic Postdoctoral Trainees and/or New Physicians in Practice

Osteopathic postdoctoral trainees and/or new physicians in practice may be represented in the House of Delegates by three individuals who, at the time of the annual meeting, shall be enrolled in postdoctoral training programs or currently a new physician in practice as defined by the association. At least one of the three individuals shall be **A NEW PHYSICIAN IN PRACTICE, AND AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE** enrolled ~~in an accredited fellowship training program and at least one of the three individuals shall be enrolled in~~ an accredited residency program.

#### ~~Article VIII – Duties of Officers – Section 9 – Editor In Chief~~

##### ~~Section 9 Editor in Chief~~

~~The Editor in Chief shall:~~

~~a. Have the editorial direction, in accordance with the established policies of the Board of Trustees and House of Delegates, of *The Journal of Osteopathic Medicine*, other periodical publications of the Association under the general supervision of the Chief Executive Officer and shall cooperate with all departments of the central office.~~

~~b. Be provided with such assistance as is necessary to the proper conduct of his office, subject to the directives of the Board of Trustees through the Chief Executive Officer.~~

#### ARTICLE XI PUBLICATIONS

##### SECTION 1 — SCHOLARLY JOURNAL

THE ASSOCIATION SHALL MAINTAIN A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL, *THE JOURNAL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE*, ALONG WITH ANY OTHER SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY DEEM APPROPRIATE. ANY SUCH PUBLICATIONS SHALL BE OVERSEEN BY AN EDITOR, APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, WHO SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE EDITORIAL DECISIONS OF ANY SUCH PUBLICATIONS.

##### SECTION 2 – EDITOR

THE EDITOR SHALL:

- a. HAVE THE EDITORIAL DIRECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED POLICIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND HOUSE OF DELEGATES, OF *THE JOURNAL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE*, OTHER PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND SHALL COOPERATE WITH ALL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CENTRAL OFFICE.



- b. BE PROVIDED WITH SUCH ASSISTANCE AS IS NECESSARY TO THE PROPER CONDUCT OF THEIR OFFICE, SUBJECT TO THE DIRECTIVES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES THROUGH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.**

~~Article XII Gender Disclaimer~~

~~The American Osteopathic Association is open to all persons and does not discriminate against any person because of their gender identity; therefore, the wording herein importing the masculine or feminine gender is inclusive of all gender identities and imports no such discrimination.~~