
Bylaws
Affiliate Councils of the National Council on Family Relations

ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Affiliate Councils (hereinafter referred to as the “Affiliate”) of the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR).

ARTICLE II
GOVERNMENT

The By-laws of the National Council on Family Relations shall govern the Affiliate Councils in all of its practices. The Bylaws of the Affiliate Councils shall not conflict with the Bylaws of the NCFR. Every amendment to the Bylaws of NCFR shall become effective and binding on the Affiliate Councils.

ARTICLE III
PURPOSE

Section 1. The Affiliate Councils are part of NCFR, which is a non-profit educational and professional organization.

Section 2. The Affiliate Councils’ purpose and function is to provide a forum and mechanism whereby elected representatives of all Affiliate Councils on Family Relations may exchange ideas and experiences and seek concrete methods to strengthen marriage and family relationships through their affiliation with the National Council on Family Relations.

Section 3. Specific objectives of the Affiliate Councils are to facilitate the activation of Affiliate council development to maintain Affiliate councils and to more directly involve the members of Affiliate Councils in the planning and implementation of educational research, clinical and action-oriented programs directed toward marital and family relationships.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the Affiliate Councils shall include all incumbent presidents or their appointed representatives of student, local, state, regional or provincial affiliated councils of NCFR and the of the Affiliate Councils Board (ACB).

Section 2. The voting members of the Affiliate Councils shall be the presidents of each council or the president's appointed designee and the Affiliate Councils Board. All voting members must be members in good standing with the NCFR.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1. The ACB is the executive board of the Affiliate Council. The officers shall be president, president-elect, program chair, secretary, student/new professional (S/NP), student affiliate representative (SAR), and past president (nominating committee chair). All officers shall be NCFR members and shall be or have been officers of an affiliated council. All Affiliate Councils Board officers must attend the annual conference. The president elect is elected by full membership of NCFR to serve on the Affiliate Councils Board for the first two years and as president of the Affiliate Councils Board for years three and four and the Affiliate Council presidents shall elect all other officers.

Section 2. Affiliate Councils Board shall be elected to two-year terms. The president elect, program chair, student affiliate representative (SAR) shall be elected in the odd year and the secretary and student/new professional (S/NP) in the even year. Terms of office shall begin at the end of the membership business meeting at the annual conference or other Affiliate Councils Board meeting at which a successor has been elected. If for any reason an Annual Conference is not held, they shall take office October 1. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 3. Duties of Officers

- A. President Elect: The president elect shall serve as a member of the NCFR Board of Directors representing concerns of the membership of the Affiliate Councils.

- B. President: The president shall preside at all meetings of the Affiliate Councils and of the Affiliate Councils Board and will appoint representatives to carry out various functions, as it becomes necessary. The president shall provide leadership for the Affiliate Councils and shall provide orientation and direction for council officers at the annual meeting.
- C. Program Chair: The program chair shall be responsible for the program of the Affiliate Councils at the Annual Conference of NCFR, and all other program activities planned by the Affiliate Councils Board. The program chair is also a member of the Annual Conference program committee and must attend all program committee meetings. Primary responsibilities of the Program Chair are to confer with the Affiliate Councils on topics and activities for conference programming and manage the call for abstracts submitted to the Affiliate Councils.

Each year the Program Chair writes a call for abstracts for papers to be submitted through the AOC. Usually these topics will be of a nature that is helpful to the affiliates or to the communities in which the affiliates serve. The program chair does have the responsibility to see that the call for abstracts is written prior to the annual conference so it can be included in the NCFR call for abstracts. The Program chair will also need to select a review committee and see that the submitted abstracts are reviewed for acceptance or rejection in a timely manner in keeping with the NCFR schedule for review completion.

- D. Secretary: The secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings, and prepare them for distribution.
- E. Student/New Professional (S/NP): The student/new professional representative shall serve on the Affiliate Councils Board and represent the concerns of the S/NPs. They shall also serve as a member of the S/NP steering committee. The S/NP representative shall be expected to attend the Leadership Council meeting of the S/NP section during the annual conference. They shall also chair the Outstanding Graduate/Undergraduate Research Paper Award and the NCFR Student/New Professional President for a Day Award.

F. Student Affiliate Representative:

The Student Affiliate Representative (SAR) will represent the interests of student members to the Affiliate Councils Board, assist in planning events related to student affiliate members at the conference and work with the S/NP representative on the Affiliate Councils Board in the review process for student awards. The SAR also serves as a key member of the S/NP Leadership Council helping direct its activities and communications. This person would also communicate with NCFR student affiliates.

G. Nominating Chair (Past President):

The nominating committee chair shall be the immediate past president of the Affiliate Councils. They shall be responsible for working with the nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers to replace those whose terms are expiring in the coming year and to work with the national office to prepare the ballots and disseminate the results.

ARTICLE VI
ELECTION PROCEDURES

Section 1. Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall be composed of three persons: the immediate past president of the Affiliate Councils Board (who shall chair the committee) and persons appointed by the Affiliate Councils Board Executive Committee.

Section 2. Election of Affiliate Council Board

The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of two nominees for each of the Affiliate Council Board officers: program chair, secretary, SNP and SAR (The Affiliate Councils president elect will be elected by the at-large membership of NCFR, in concert with other nominees for the NCFR Board of Directors.)

Nominees for president elect must be or have been past president of a Council affiliate.

Election of the other Affiliate Councils Board will be by emailed/mailed ballot to the membership of the Affiliate Councils.

Nominees for program chair and secretary must be or have been officers of an affiliated council.

Affiliate Councils Board shall be elected to two-year terms. No officers shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

ARTICLE VII Affiliate Councils Board

Section 1. The Affiliate Councils Board shall have the responsibility for implementing policies of the Affiliate Councils. The Affiliate Councils Board shall represent the Affiliate. Affiliates are, subject to such directions and instructions of the Affiliate Councils.

Section 2. The Affiliate Councils Board shall consist of A) All officers as defined in Article V, Section 1; B) ex officio, NCFR staff (NCFR's Executive Director or designated staff).

Section 3. To retain membership on the Affiliate Councils Board, a member shall not miss two consecutive meetings unless formally excused by the president.

Section 4. After appropriate consultation, the Affiliate Councils Board will appoint replacements for members of the Affiliate Councils Board in the event that they cannot complete their term of office.

Section 5. A majority of the membership of the Affiliate Councils Board shall constitute the quorum required to transact business.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Section 1. A program committee shall be appointed by the program chair in consultation with the president of the Affiliate Councils Board.

Section 2. The Affiliate Councils Board executive committee shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Student/New Professional Representative,

and ex officer NCFR staff liaison. The executive committee will act on behalf of the Affiliate Councils Board when deemed necessary.

Section 3. Additional committees may be created by a majority vote of either the Affiliate Councils or the Affiliate Councils Board.

ARTICLE IX MEETINGS

Section 1. An annual Affiliate Councils Board Meeting and Affiliate Councils Business Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the NCFR.

Section 2. The Affiliate Councils Board, through teleconference or other electronic means, shall convene monthly but at least once each quarter.

ARTICLE X GOVERNANCE

The Carver Model of Governance, which has been adopted by NCFR, shall provide the framework for decision-making by the Affiliate Councils. Adoption of new policies or programs shall be by consensus of the Affiliate Councils Board or the Affiliate Councils, as determined by the bylaws. The Affiliate Councils president and president elect will work with the NCFR president and Executive Director to determine which items must come to the national board for approval.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

Provisions of these bylaws not governed by the By-laws of NCFR may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Affiliate Councils members voting by email/mail ballot.

ARTICLE XII BUDGET

Section 1. NCFR membership dues rebates are established as determined by the NCFR Board, at a flat fee of \$5.00 per member, contingent upon the active local, state, regional, and province (excludes student affiliates) council meeting, the requirements set by the national office and the AC's. Violation of requirements can constitute revocation of rebates and/or group exemption status. The Affiliate Councils budget is incorporated into NCFR's operational budget and needs to be approved by the Executive Director. Expenses will be in accordance with NCFR's operational manual.