

Constitution and By-Laws of American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin

Preamble:

Whereas the need for cohesive action on the part of physicians and dentists of Indian origin, residing in the United State of America exists, it is hereby resolved that a non-profit organization be formed to maintain the identity of the said group of physicians and dentists to provide a forum for scientific, educational, cultural, and social interaction among its members.

Article I – Name

- A. The name of the association shall be the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin – Maryland Chapter (AAPI-MD), hereafter referred to as ‘the Association’.
- B. It shall maintain its office in the state of Maryland designated by the Executive Committee.

Article II – Objectives

Section 1:

- A. To bring together the doctors of medicine and dentists of Indian origin practicing in the United States under one umbrella organization.
- B. The Association is organized exclusively for educational, scientific, cultural, and charitable purposes.
- C. To assist medical students, dental students, physicians, and dentists to obtain professional training in the United States and India.
- D. To conduct seminars and other educational programs to acquaint members with scientific developments in the field of medicine.
- E. To render medical assistance to indigent people in the United States.
- F. To make contributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.
- G. To provide mutual understanding and cooperation between the association and the parent association and local medical societies.
- H. To maintain a directory of members of the Association.

Section 2:

- A. No part of the net earnings or assets of the Association shall be used to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purpose set forth in the Section I hereof. The Association shall not carry out any activities not permitted to be carried out by:
 - a. A corporation exempt from federal tax under Section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

- b. A corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

Section 3:

- A. Upon dissolution of the Association, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the Association, dispose of all assets of the Association exclusively for the purposes of the Association, in such manner, or to such organizations organized exclusively for charitable, religious, cultural, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, as the Executive Committee shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the court of appropriate jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations or organizations as said court shall determine to be organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article III – Membership

- A. Any physician or dentist of Indian origin in America is eligible to apply for membership to the Association, provided that, the individual:
 - a. Subscribes and agrees to the Association’s Objectives, Constitution, and By-laws.
 - b. Pays the prescribed fees and dues.
- B. Active Members: Physicians and Dentists of Indian origin who are practicing medicine and dentistry in Maryland.
- C. Resident and Fellow Members: Physicians and Dentists of Indian origin who are currently in approved training programs.
- D. Associate Members: Non-physician spouses
 - a. Associate members can be appointed to or volunteer for any committees as created by the President and/or Executive Committee
- E. Student Members: Medical and Dental students of Indian origin.
- F. Only Active members and Resident and Fellow members will have voting privileges.
- G. The application for membership shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Association.
- H. All members are required to register for an account and complete the membership application on the Association’s website <https://www.aapimd.org>
- I. Membership can be revoked if the individual violates the articles of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association. Revocation and restitution for such an action shall be approved by the general body at a general body meeting with two-thirds majority of the voting members present at said meeting provided that the individual member is informed of the reasons for revocation before taking such action. Such notification shall be made 30 days in advance.

Article IV – Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of a President, President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, six Members at Large, and the immediate Past President.
- B. The Executive Committee shall serve for a term of two years.
- C. Only active members of the Association as described in Article III shall be eligible for nominations and elections to these offices.

Article V – Duties of Officers

- A. President – The President shall:
 - a. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall perform all duties incident to the office of the President and such other duties as may be designated by the Executive Committee.

- b. Preside over all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee.
 - c. Make such appointments as are required or authorized by the Constitution and by the Executive Committee.
 - d. Sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the Association authorized by the Executive Committee, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the Executive Committee has authorized to be executed, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Executive Committee to some other agent of the Association.
 - e. Appoint such special and ad-hoc committees as may be necessary to further the Association's objectives, and he may discontinue any such committee when its purpose has been served in consultation with the Executive Committee.
- B. Secretary – The Secretary shall:
- a. Keep an account of the minutes of all meetings.
 - b. Maintain an updated list of all members of the Association.
 - c. Issue an agenda of all regular and special meetings.
 - d. Keep a copy of all official correspondence of and to the organization including newsletters, program brochures for the activities of the organization, and reports, which shall be submitted by the committees' chair-persons.
 - e. Keep an attendance record of all meetings of the organization.
 - f. Perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as may be assigned by the Executive Committee as required by law.
 - g. Be a member of the Executive Committee in the same capacity.
 - h. Be responsible for transferring all the records of the organization within 30 days after the last meeting during his/her term to the incoming secretary.
- C. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall:
- a. See that all books, reports, statements, certificates, and other documents and records required by law to be kept and filed are properly kept and filed.
 - b. Be responsible for issuing notice and collection of annual dues and deposit the same in such banks or trust companies as the Executive Committee may designate.
 - c. Have the custody of all receipts and disbursements which shall be open at all reasonable times to inspection by the Executive Committee.
 - d. Submit a financial report to the Executive Committee at its annual meeting and at regularly held executive meetings. If the Executive Committee requires, he/she shall give a bond with such surety and in such amount as the Executive Committee may designate.
 - e. Do and perform such other duties and exercise such other powers and duties incident to the office of the Treasurer and may be assigned by the Executive Committee as required by law.
- D. Members at Large
- a. Members at Large shall serve as members of the Executive Committee and will perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as may be assigned by the Executive Committee as required by law.
- E. Immediate Past President
- a. The Immediate Past President shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee and will perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as may be assigned by the Executive Committee as required by law.
- F. President Elect
- a. Once elected, the President Elect will join the Executive Committee for the remainder of their term and will assume the presidency on January 1st of the calendar year after term.
 - b. The President elect shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee and will perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as may be assigned by the Executive Committee as required by law.
- G. All elected officers of the Association will serve for terms of 2 years duration, which will begin in January of the calendar year after elections take place.

Article VI – Elections

- A. All officer positions shall be filled via election by the active members of the Association.
- B. Nominations
 - a. Any active member can be nominated for an officer position of the Executive Committee.
 - b. Members can nominate themselves or other members.
 - c. The nomination period will begin from the second general body meeting after term begins and will continue until the first general body meeting of the second year of term.
- C. Campaigning
 - a. The campaigning period will begin from the second general body meeting after term begins and will continue until the first general body meeting of that calendar year.
 - b. Campaigning is optional and will be facilitated by the Executive Committee by allowing nominees to contact all members of the organization
- D. Elections will take place by ballot at the first general body meeting of the second year of term.

Article VII – Meetings

- A. General Body Meetings
 - a. There will be two general body meetings each year.
 - b. If two-thirds of the members of the Association request a special general body meeting with 45 days advance notice and a signed petition, the President shall convene such a meeting.

Article VIII – Amendments

- A. Any proposed amendments shall be submitted to the executive body in writing.
- B. Amendments of this Constitution may be affected:
 - a. by two-thirds of the active membership at a regular meeting provided that such amendments have been mailed to all members at least 30 days prior to such a meeting or by a ballot to be received back in two weeks. OR
 - b. by a majority vote of the Executive Committee
- C. The constitution can be amended by the general membership only.

Article VIII – Committees

- A. All committees shall be appointed by the President or Executive Committee.
- B. The following will be the standing committees:
 - a. Membership committee
 - b. Constitution and By-Laws committee
 - c. Nominations committee
- C. The President shall appoint with the approval of the executive body a nomination committee consisting of 3 individuals with a designated chair-person to select officers of the Association.
 - a. Immediate Past President
 - b. Outgoing President, who will also be the chair-person
 - c. Member at Large
- D. The Nomination Committee shall announce the names of the candidates for all positions.

Article IX – Dues

- A. Dues for individual membership will be \$100.00 per year.
- B. Dues for couple membership will be \$150 per year.
- C. Dues for residents and fellows membership will be \$50 per year.
- D. Dues for life membership will be \$500 paid one time.
- E. Student members will be non-dues-paying members.
- F. Dues for meeting attendance will be \$75 per meeting per membership.
- G. Dues will be re-evaluated by the Executive Committee at the start of term every 2 years.

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