



# AMERICAN ACADEMY OF SANITARIANS, Inc.

*Prestigious Recognition for Environmental Health Professionals*

## CONSTITUTION

### **PREAMBLE:**

The American Academy of Sanitarians, Incorporated, is herewith established as a non-profit corporation to carry out the programs and to meet the objectives stated in this Constitution, and in the Bylaws of the Academy.

The American Academy of Sanitarians (the Academy) accepts members of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, with all of the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made to members of the Academy. The American Academy of Sanitarians does not discriminate based on race, color, age, sexual orientation, ability, national/ethnic origin or religious beliefs in the administration of its policies, Board of Directors membership, general membership, scholarship, or other programs. The Academy strives to create an inclusive environment for all.

### **ARTICLE I - NAME OF CORPORATION**

The name of the Corporation shall be the American Academy of Sanitarians, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as the "Academy".

### **ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES**

The purposes and objectives stated in this article shall not be held to limit or restrict the powers of the Academy or its Board of Directors in any manner, consistent with applicable statutes governing non-profit corporations.

Section 1. To elevate the standards, improve the practice, advance the professional proficiency and promote the highest levels of ethical conduct among professional Sanitarians and Registered Environmental Health Specialists in every field of environmental health.

Section 2. To certify, through admission into membership and issuance of certificates as Diplomates, those sanitarians whose knowledge, ethical standards of practice and proven competence and proficiency meet the qualifications for admission into the Academy.

Section 3. To establish, maintain and, when necessary, amend the qualifications for membership and certification as Diplomates. To this end, the Academy may develop and administer examinations and investigations to determine the fitness of applicants for membership and may charge fees for such examinations and investigations.

Section 4. To promote high academic standards for the undergraduate and graduate training of sanitarians through: (a) liaison with the Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs; (b) liaison with other educational institutions to promote curricula that meet or exceed national accreditation standards; (c) recognition, by Academy awards, of academic achievement and leadership qualities among students majoring in environmental health; and, (d) other programs and actions appropriate to meet these objectives.

Section 5. To encourage national, regional and local associations of sanitarians to establish committees within their organizations devoted specifically to the elevation of professional practices and technical knowledge among their members through training programs, certification, registration, performance evaluation and related activities.

Section 6. To serve as a clearinghouse for information about available environmental health scholarships and to make such information available to prospective applicants.

Section 7. To publish, maintain, and make public a Register of Academy Diplomates.

Section 8. To conduct other activities that may be necessary and appropriate to meet the purposes and objectives of this Academy.

### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall have the power, at its discretion, to grant membership and certification as a Diplomate, in the name and on behalf of the Academy, to any person who meets the qualifications set forth in the Academy Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. The property, finances and affairs of the Academy shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of neither less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) members of the Academy; in addition to the Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. Each Director shall be: (a) a Diplomate in good standing (b) currently registered as a sanitarian by law; or, (c) Registered in good standing as a Sanitarian or Environmental Health Professional with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA).

### **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS**

Section 1. The principal officers of the Academy shall be: Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer. The Chair-Elect shall be elected every other year for a two-year term by and from the Directors by a majority of those Directors present at the annual Director's meeting. The Chair-Elect shall assume the chairmanship at the end of the existing Chair's two-year term. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected for a three-year term by a majority vote of those Directors present (physically or virtually) at the annual Directors' meeting.

### **ARTICLE VI - FINANCES AND FEES**

Section 1. The financial affairs of the Academy shall be controlled by the Board of Directors and Officers as set forth in the Bylaws.

Section 2. The Academy shall not issue corporate stock or have authority to make financial commitments in excess of the current assets of the Academy.

Section 3. The income and property of the Academy shall be applied solely toward the conduct of its business affairs and the accomplishment of its objectives as set forth in this Constitution and the Bylaws.

Section 4. The Board of Directors may establish and collect fees for the examination and investigation of applicants for membership, for initial membership, and for the renewal of

membership of each Diplomate.

## **ARTICLE VII- MANAGEMENT**

*Section 1.* The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended, altered or repealed by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Diplomates in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

*Section 2.* The Board of Directors may purchase, rent, hire or otherwise acquire and operate offices and equipment necessary for the effective conduct of Academy affairs and may employ assistance and pay reasonable compensation for services rendered to the Academy.

*Section 3.* The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Academy any gift, grant, endowment, device or bequest offered in good faith and unencumbered and may acquire, operate and dispose of Academy property, both real and personal, subject to applicable statutes which govern non-profit corporations.

*Section 4.* The Directors and Officers shall have the respective authority and responsibilities for management of the Academy's affairs ascribed to them in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VIII - TERM AND DISSOLUTION**

*Section 1.* The term of the Academy shall be perpetual, subject only to dissolution by majority vote of all of its Diplomates.

*Section 2.* In the event of dissolution, any property and other assets which remain after satisfaction of indebtedness shall be given to one or more non-profit associations or institutions whose objectives are similar to those of the Academy.

*Section 3.* The Diplomates of the Academy shall select the beneficiaries of such dissolution by majority vote on each potential beneficiary on or before the date of dissolution. The Chair shall provide for the orderly transfer of the remaining assets of the Academy as directed by the voting Diplomates.

Note:

Revised 6/2/1998

Revised 6/30/2022