

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**of the**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION (AAAE)**

**PREAMBLE:** The American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) is an organization dedicated to the advancement of agricultural education in the United States. The AAAE shall work toward improving the understanding of agricultural education by the American public and professional groups concerned with education. The AAAE shall maintain liaison and working relationships with such groups and provide support for programs designed to improve education in America.

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**ARTICLE I NAME**

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be "American Association for Agricultural Education." The acronym "AAAE" may be used in lieu of the complete name of the organization.

**ARTICLE II PURPOSE**

Section 1. Mission: AAAE is dedicated to studying, applying, and promoting teaching and learning processes in agriculture.

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Section 2. Goals: AAAE will accomplish its mission by:

- serving as an advocate for improvement of teaching and learning in agriculture.
- providing a forum to address issues in agricultural education.
- providing an approach to identifying, prioritizing, and organizing research in teaching and learning.
- providing opportunities for individual and organizational growth, development, and renewal.
- providing opportunities to communicate the results of research and other scholarly activities.
- providing opportunities for collaboration within and outside of agricultural education.
- providing for recruiting, inducting, and mentoring people into the profession.

Section 3. Values: As a professional organization, we value:

- effective teaching.
- developing and empowering others.
- actively engaging learners/experiential learning.
- high quality research and other scholarly activities.
- an active role in contributing to both formal and non-formal educational systems.

- professional renewal and adjusting to change.
- interacting with peers.

**ARTICLE III REGIONS**

Section 1. There shall be three (3) regions: North Central, Southern and Western. States and territories included in each region are:

<u>North Central</u>	<u>Southern</u>	<u>Western</u>
Connecticut	Alabama	Alaska
Delaware	Arkansas	Arizona
Illinois	Florida	California
Indiana	Georgia	Colorado
Iowa	Kentucky	Guam
Kansas	Louisiana	Hawaii
Maine	Mississippi	Idaho
Maryland	North Carolina	Montana
Massachusetts	Oklahoma	Nevada
Michigan	Puerto Rico	New Mexico
Minnesota	South Carolina	Oregon
Missouri	Tennessee	Utah
Nebraska	Texas	Washington
New Hampshire	Virginia	Wyoming
New Jersey	Virgin Islands	
New York		
North Dakota		
Ohio		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Dakota		
Vermont		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		

Section 2. Each region may function separately or collaboratively, but must be in harmony with AAAE and its Constitution and Bylaws.

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**ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section 1. Active Membership

Active membership is open to individuals engaged in agricultural education (defined broadly as communications and journalism, distance education, extension education, international education and development, leadership education, teacher education—all in agriculture, natural resources, and life

sciences) at U.S. colleges and universities. This shall include individuals whose major assignments are in other fields--providing the nature of their duties involves teaching and learning in agriculture. Interpretation of this Section shall be defined by the Board of Directors in cases that fall outside this definition.

Section 2. Associate Membership

Associate membership is open to individuals who wish to associate with the organization, but do not qualify for active membership. For example, members of NAAE, NASAE, AVERA, AERA, ACE, ALE, AIAEE, LPC, AEA, ACTE may become associate members by paying dues as established by the Board of Directors. All applicants for associate membership are subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

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Section 3. Student Membership

Graduate students pursuing agricultural education objectives (see broad definition above) are eligible for student membership. Individuals eligible for student membership must be accepted into a graduate degree program in Agricultural education or a related field. Student membership will entitle the holder to copies of the Newsletter and the Journal of Agricultural Education and participation in National and Regional Meetings.

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Section 4. Honorary Membership

Honorary membership may be conferred upon recommendation of the Board of Directors to individuals who have distinguished themselves by making outstanding contributions to the mission and goals of AAAE.

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Section 5. Life Membership

Life membership may be conferred upon recommendation of the Board of Directors to individuals who have been active members of the organization (minimum of five years in good standing) who have retired or will retire during the academic year in which the annual AAAE meeting is held. The life membership will entitle the holder to no further payment of dues and to complimentary copies of the Newsletter and Journal.

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Section 6. Dues

Dues shall be established at the annual meeting of the AAAE. February 1st is the established date for delinquent dues for each calendar year. Back issues of the Newsletter and Journal will be provided on a cost recovery basis to individuals submitting delinquent dues.

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## ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the AAAE shall be President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and three regional Vice-Presidents. The officers shall constitute the Board of Directors.

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Section 2. Each region shall elect a Vice-President, an alternate Vice-President, and a Secretary/Treasurer in a manner to be determined by the regional organization. Each regional officer shall be elected for a two-year term.

Section 3. The offices of President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian shall be elected at large from the membership of AA AE. The President-Elect shall succeed to the Presidency. The officers shall be elected by majority vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting. Nomination, election procedures, and duties of officers shall be as described in the Bylaws.

Section 4. The President-Elect, President, and Past-President shall each serve a one-year term. The Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian shall each serve two-year terms.

## ARTICLE VI VOTING

Section 1. All classes of membership are eligible to attend and participate in discussions of AAAE business, but only active members are eligible to vote and hold office.

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## ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees may be appointed as deemed necessary by the President and/or Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of the AAAE shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Directors shall decide.

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Section 2. Notice of the annual meeting shall be made to the membership in writing or electronically via email and/or listserv at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting.

Deleted: Unless otherwise noted by the Board of Directors, announcement of the annual meeting of the Association for Career and Technical Education shall be considered notice of the annual meeting of the American Association for Agricultural Education.

## ARTICLE IX AFFILIATION

Section 1. The AAAE may affiliate with other organizations upon majority vote of the membership or of those present at a regular meeting.

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**ARTICLE X PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Section 1. All meetings convened by the AAAE or its Committees shall be governed according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

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**ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds of members present and voting at any annual meeting provided that:

- A. Proposed amendments are submitted to the Board of Directors and to the Chair of the Professional Development Committee at least 60 days in advance of the annual meeting.
- B. Proposed amendments must be submitted in written or electronic form to the members for action.

Section 2. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors, by regional recommendation, by the Professional Development Committee, or by individual members.

**ARTICLE XII DISSOLUTION**

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of the AAAE, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the AAAE, dispose of all of the assets of the AAAE exclusively for the purposes of the AAAE in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Superior Court of the County in which the principal office of the AAAE is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

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**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. Election of Regional Officers

Each region recognized by the American Association for Agricultural Education shall elect a Vice- President, an alternate Vice-President, and a

Secretary/Treasurer, in a manner to be determined by the members within the region. Each officer shall be elected for a two-year term.

Section 2. Election of the President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian

A. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of one member from each region. The Nominating Committee will be chaired by the Past President. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for elective offices of the AAAE. The nominating committee shall submit its report to the Board of Directors meeting during the annual convention of the American Association for Agricultural Education.

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B. Nominations for any elective offices of the AAAE may be made from the floor.

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C. Voting for election of offices of the AAAE shall be by secret written ballot.

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D. No officer or member of the Board of Directors except the Secretary, Treasurer or Historian shall be eligible to succeed themselves in their respective offices, except that tenure in office by virtue of succession as described in ARTICLE II, VACANCIES, shall not prevent election to that office for a full term.

**ARTICLE II VACANCIES**

Section 1. In case a regional Vice-President should leave the region or profession, or for other reasons be unable to fulfill the duties of the office, such office shall be declared vacant immediately and be filled by the alternate Vice-President from that region. Vacancies for regional Secretary or Treasurer shall be filled by appointment by the regional Vice-President.

Section 2. In case the President should leave the profession or for other reasons become unable to fulfill the duties of the office, such office shall be declared vacant immediately and be filled by the President-Elect.

Section 3. In case the President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer or Historian should leave the profession or for other reasons be unable to fulfill the duties of the office, such office shall be declared vacant immediately and the vacancy filled by the person receiving the second highest number of votes at the most previous annual election. If that individual is unable or unwilling to serve, the vacancy shall be filled by action of the AA AE Board of Directors.

Section 4. In case the Immediate Past President should leave the profession or for other reasons become unable to fulfill the duties of the office, the office shall be filled by the most recent Past President available.

### ARTICLE III DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the AAAE and the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint committees as authorized by the Board of Directors and act as the official representative of the organization unless a representative is otherwise appointed. In addition, the President shall perform the duties customarily associated with the office of President. Deleted: Association

Section 2. The President-Elect shall, in the absence of the President, act in the official capacity of the President and perform all duties of that office.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep full and accurate records of all business and proceedings in regular and special meetings. The Secretary shall be responsible for correspondence of the AAAE upon direction of the President and/or Board of Directors. Deleted: Association

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the safekeeping of funds and shall be responsible for reporting receipts, expenditures, balances, and investments at the request of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be responsible for accepting and dispensing funds and for investment of balances as appropriate in accordance with policies established by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall present a Treasurer's Report and proposed budget for review and consideration by the members at the annual meeting each year. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues and maintaining membership records. Deleted: '

Section 5. The Historian shall be responsible for the archives of the AAAE. Deleted: Association

Section 6. The Past-President shall serve in an advisory capacity to the President, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, and Chair of the AA AE Fellows Selection Committee. Deleted: Immediate

Section 7. The Regional Vice-Presidents shall preside at all AA AE meetings of their respective regions, appoint committees as authorized, serve as the official regional representative on the Board of Directors, and perform such functions as authorized by the President.

Section 8. The Regional Alternate Vice-President shall, in the absence of the Regional Vice-President, act in the official capacity of the Vice-President and perform all duties of that office.

Section 9. The Regional Secretary/Treasurer shall keep full and accurate records of all regional business and proceedings of regular and special meetings and assist the AAAE Treasurer in the collection of dues from members in their respective region.

Section 10. The Board of Directors shall constitute the administrative body of the AAAE and carry out all of the activities necessary to the successful achievement of the objectives goals of the AAAE. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for:

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A. Presenting an annual budget to the membership at the annual meeting.

B. Recommending appropriate administrative and legislative proposals to the AAAE.

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C. Establishing administrative and operational policies for the Board of Directors.

D. Serving the general welfare of the AAAE.

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#### ARTICLE IV COMMITTEES

Section 1. Ad hoc committees may be appointed by the President unless otherwise directed by motion to refer. These committees will be discharged once they have completed their charged functions.

Section 2. Standing committees shall be maintained to accomplish the goals and activities in the annual Program of Work. Membership on a standing committee may be by: (1) election, or (2) appointment. Committee members are limited to dues-paying members.

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Section 3. Elections for membership to a standing committee will be held during regional meetings with four members elected from each region and serving two-year terms. Each standing committee shall elect a chair and vice-chair at its annual meeting. The standing committees are as follows:

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- Program Improvement
- Research
- Communications
- Professional Development

Section 4. If an elected committee member should leave the region or profession, fail to pay dues, or for other reasons be unable to fulfill the responsibilities as a committee member, the position shall be declared vacant and the regional Vice-President shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next regional meeting.



Section 5.

The ~~AAAAE~~ may select from the membership at large representatives to other councils or organizations. These representatives shall be elected for their term at the annual meeting of the ~~AAAAE~~.

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- A. National Council for Agricultural Education (President, Past-President, and President-Elect)
- B. Consultants to the National FFA Board of Directors (3 representatives with 3-year terms, elected by regions on a rotational basis)
- C. FFA Alumni Council (3-year term, elected by total membership)
- D. National Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization Board of Directors (3-year term, elected by total membership)
- E. Representative to Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) (3-year term, elected by total membership)
- F. National Young Farmer Education Association - appointee must be from a state with a state young farmer education organization (2-year term, appointed by the President)
- G. National FFA Board of Directors - three nominees submitted per region on a rotational basis. Appointments made by the Assistant Secretary of Education (3-year term)
- H. Representative to the *Journal of Life Sciences and Natural Resources Education* Editorial Board (3-year term, elected by total membership)
- I. Representative to Coalition for Education about the Environment, Food, Agriculture, and Renewable Resources - CEEFAR (3-year term, elected by total membership)
- J. National FFA Career Development Events Advisory Committee (2 representatives, 4-year term, elected by total membership)
- K. Representative to Consortium of Social Science Associations - COSSA (3-year term, elected by total membership)

Section 6.

Members desiring to serve on a committee should contact their regional Vice-Presidents.

## ARTICLE V QUORUM

Section 1.

Members in attendance at the annual meeting shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. The Bylaws of the AAAE may be amended at any annual meeting upon proposal by the Board of Directors, regional organizations, or by individual members.

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Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of those present and voting at any annual meeting.