

**Constitution and Bylaws of the
Laredo Advanced Practice Nurses Association**

CONSTITUTION

Article I: Name

This organization shall be known as the Laredo Advanced Practice Nurses Association.

Article II: Purpose

The purposes of the Association shall be:

1. To promote the professional standards and practices of advance practice nurses.
2. To promote the interest of the advance practice nursing in the Laredo-Webb County area.

Article III: Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by:

- 1) Two-thirds majority votes received by mail from members of the coalition, provided a copy of the proposed change has been sent to each member at least four weeks prior to the date set for return of ballots, or
- 2) Ninety-percent (90%) of the votes of the members present at the Coalition meeting, provided there were at least four week's prior notice of the proposed change.

BYLAWS

Article IV: Definition of Membership Criteria

Section I: Active Membership

All advanced practice nurses may hold active membership in the Coalition.

Section II: Privileges of Membership

- 1) Active members shall have privileges of voting, holding office, serving on committees, and serving as chairperson of committees.
- 2) Attendance at education meetings sponsored by the Coalition.

Section III: Associate membership

Membership is open to any persons, (ie. advance practice nursing students, physician assistants), interested in fostering the objectives of the organization. There will be no right to hold office or vote.

Board of Nurse Examiners: §219.2. Definition: The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(3) Advanced practice nurse – A registered nurse approved by the board to practice as an advanced practice nurse based on completing an advanced educational program acceptable to the board. *The term includes a nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, nurse anesthetist, and a clinical nurse specialist.* The advanced practice nurse is prepared to practice in an expanded role to provide health care to individuals, families, and/or groups in a variety of settings including, but not limited to homes, hospitals, institutions, offices, industry, schools, community agencies, public and private clinics, and private practice. The advanced practice nurse acts independently and/or in collaboration with other health care professionals in the delivery of health care services.

Article V: Officers and duties of Officers

Section I: Officers

The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary.

Section II: Duties

The duties of the all officers shall be those implied by their respective titles and specified in the Bylaws.

Section III: Retirement

Officers shall, within one month of retirement, orient and deliver association properties to their successors.

Section IV: President

The President shall:

- a. Manage the business of the Association.
- b. Preside at all meeting of the Association.
- c. Serve as an ex-officio member of all standing committees.
- d. Appoint three persons following each election to count ballots prior to the next meeting.
- e. Appoint chairmen and members of standing and ad hoc committee.

Section V: Vice President

The Vice President shall:

- a. Carry on the duties on the President in the latter's absence.
- b. Assume the duties of the president when necessary to fill an unexpired term.
- c. Serve as chairperson for the program development responsibilities.

Section VI: Secretary

The secretary shall:

- a. Keep minutes of all proceedings of the Association.
- b. Maintain the files of the Association.
- c. Serve as a member of ad hoc committees.
- d. Provide oversight of major mail outs, notifications of meetings and elections.
- e. Maintain membership database and Association files.

Article VI: Committees

Section I: Standing Committees

Standing committees shall assume the duties specified by these bylaws and assigned by the President. Members of standing committees and chairpersons of the standing committees shall be appointed by the President from the membership of the Coalition. Standing committees shall report to the President on request and make a report to the membership as needed.

Section II: Appointments

The President shall be authorized to appoint special committees as necessary.

Article VII: Quorum

Two officers and twenty-five percent (25%) of the members shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Coalition.

Article VIII: Meeting

Section I:

Meetings will be held no less than quarterly per year.

Section II:

Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President or upon request of a majority of the membership of the Association, provide that written notice of date, time and purpose of the meeting has been sent to all members at least seven (7) days before the date set for the meeting.

Article IX: Amendments

The Bylaws may be amended or repealed by:

- 1) Two-thirds majority votes received by mail from members of the coalition, provided a copy of the propose change has been sent to each member at least four weeks prior to the date set for retune to ballots, or
- 2) Ninety-percent of the votes of the members present at the Coalition meeting, provided there was at least four week s prior notice of the proposed change.