



Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

Bylaws

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this ASSOCIATION shall be the Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (LRID).

ARTICLE II: PRINCIPLE OFFICE

The principle office for the transaction of the business of the ASSOCIATION is fixed and located in East Baton Rouge Parish, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Board of Directors may at anytime, or from time to time, change the location of the principle office.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1: Principle Purposes

The principle purposes of this ASSOCIATION are to initiate, sponsor, promote, and execute policies and activities that will further the profession of interpretation of American Sign Language and English and the transliteration of English. This ASSOCIATION shall be affiliated with the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID, INC.) And shall uphold the purposes and abide by the rules and procedures established for affiliated Chapters of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

Section 2: Objectives

- A. To maintain and promote a code of professional conduct for interpreters and transliterators.
- B. To provide for professional development for interpreters and transliterators.
- C. To provide the public with information regarding interpreting and transliterating.
- D. To support the activities of the associations of and for deaf persons, and of and for interpreters/translitterators/ translators, insofar as such activities are not in conflict with the purposes of this ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Categories of Membership

Voting Members

- A. Certified Member
- B. Associate Member
- C. Lifetime Member

Non-Voting

- D. Student Member
- E. Supporting Member
- F. Organizational Member

Section 2: Eligibility of Membership

A member in good standing shall be defined as one who is eighteen (18) years of age or older, whose dues are current, who is not under disciplinary action by any RID - related grievance committee.

- A. *Certified* member: any interpreter or transliterator of American Sign Language and/or English who holds a current certification accepted by RID.
- B. *Associate* member: any individual who is actively engaged in the interpretation or transliteration of American Sign Language and/or English who does not hold a current certification accepted by RID.
- C. *Lifetime* member: any member elected during the general business meeting by a majority present and voting, in recognition of outstanding service to the ASSOCIATION. They shall have all rights and privileges of the category of membership in which they meet eligibility. Annual membership dues are waived.
- D. *Student* member: any non-certified member currently enrolled, at least part-time, in a college or university.
- E. *Supporting* member: any non-certified individual with an interest in supporting the purposes and activities of the ASSOCIATION and does not meet eligibility of Sections 2.A., 2.B., or 2.C. or resides outside the State of Louisiana.
- F. *Organizational* member: any organization with an interest in supporting the purposes and activities of the ASSOCIATION.

Section 3: Voting Rights

- A. In order to be a voting member of this ASSOCIATION, a person must be a member in good standing, belong to a voting category, and be a member in good standing of RID, Inc.
- B. Each voting member of this ASSOCIATION shall be entitled to one vote in meetings, referenda and/or elections.
- C. Any decision of the Board of Directors may be vetoed by two-thirds eligible and voting during the general business meeting of the membership or through mail referendum

Section 4: Liabilities of Members

No individual who is now or who later becomes a member of this ASSOCIATION shall be personally liable to its creditors for any indebtedness, liability and any and all creditors shall look only to the assets of this ASSOCIATION for payment.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Composition

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, LRID Representative to the Louisiana Association of the Deaf (LAD), CMP Coordinator, and LAD Representative to LRID (appointed by LAD). In addition, the immediate past president may serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for one term

Section 2: Term of Office

- A. Each officer shall be elected to a two-year term.
- B. No officer of the Board shall serve more than two (2) consecutive elected terms in the same office. No officer of the Board shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms.

Section 3: Qualifications

All candidates for the Board shall be a voting member of the ASSOCIATION in good standing for a minimum of twelve (12) months and a member in good standing of RID, Inc.

Section 4: Vacancies

- A. Vacancies of the Board shall exist upon the death, resignation, or removal of a director.
- B. Any director may resign upon giving written notice to the President and the Secretary.
- C. The removal of a director shall be done for any of the following reasons:
 - 1) moves out of state or region of the ASSOCIATION;
 - 2) is found guilty of any felony;
 - 3) does not maintain membership in the ASSOCIATION and the national RID, Inc.;
 - 4) has a substantiated formal grievance against him or her; or
 - 5) fails to attend two scheduled Board meetings within a twelve-month period.
- D. The Board of Directors shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remaining term of office.

Section 5: Duties

- A. *Directors*
 - 1) Perform duties as prescribed by the membership and the Board of Directors
 - 2) The Board shall meet at least quarterly to conduct business, via any communication equipment as long as all directors may participate fully and equally
 - 3) The outgoing Board shall meet with the incoming Board of Directors at the general business meeting for the purpose of transferring materials, records, and information
 - 4) Present a budget to be voted on at the general business meeting and available to the membership no later than two (2) weeks in advance
 - 5) May approve non-budgeted expenditures up to \$500 and refer all others to the membership
 - 6) A majority of the Board of Directors are required to attend in order to constitute a quorum
- B. *President*
 - 1) Represents the ASSOCIATION in all appropriate activities and at national and regional conferences as the Association budget will allow
 - 2) Presides at meetings of the members and/or directors
 - 3) Appoints committees and chairpersons, and Parliamentarian for the general business meeting
 - 4) Has the authority to co-sign checks designated through action of the Board of Directors
 - 5) Provides quarterly reports to the membership concerning business and Board of Directors activities
 - 6) Serves as ex-officio member of all committees
- C. *Vice-President*
 - 1) In the absence or disability of the president, the vice-president shall assume all duties of the president
 - 2) Serves as Conference Chair and coordinates conferences and training programs for the general membership
 - 3) Has the authority to co-sign checks designated through action of the Board of Directors
- D. *Secretary*
 - 1) Keeps complete and accurate records of the proceedings of the Board of Directors and of the general business meeting
 - 2) Coordinates and distributes information of the ASSOCIATION via newsletter and/or website
 - 3) Has the authority to co-sign checks designated through action of the Board of Directors

E. Treasurer

- 1) Supervises the receipt and safekeeping of all ASSOCIATION funds
- 2) Shall maintain the membership list for the ASSOCIATION
- 3) Has the authority to co-sign checks designated through action of the Board of Directors
- 4) With Board direction, coordinates and distributes FITP requests for funds for conferences and trainings. In addition, report statistics to the appropriate authorities
- 5) shall forward to the RID Regional Representative appropriate documentation as called for in the RID, Inc. Affiliate Chapter Handbook

F. Certification Maintenance Program (CMP) Coordinator

Coordinates, with the Vice-President, Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for conferences and trainings sponsored by this ASSOCIATION and submit all appropriate documentation to the RID, Inc.

G. LRID Representative to Louisiana Association of the Deaf (LAD) shall attend all meetings of the LAD and act as liaison between the two said organizations and shall be a member in good standing of LAD.

H. Louisiana Association of the Deaf (LAD) Representative to LRID shall be appointed by the LAD and shall attend all meetings of the LRID, acting as liaison between the two said organizations and shall be a member in good standing of LRID and RID, Inc.

I. Immediate Past President serves as an advisor to the new Board of Directors..

Section 6: Executive Committee

Executive Committee shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer and are responsible for preparing the agenda prior to meetings of the Board of Directors. In the event that the entire Board is unable to convene, the Executive Committee shall be given full power and authority to take action on emergency issues.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES

Upon approval of the Board of Directors, the president shall appoint any committees, including standing, special and/or ad hoc committees, composed of at least three voting members in good standing to serve a specified term. Any vacancies in the membership of any committee that are filled will follow the same procedure. Furthermore, for each committee the president shall designate a member of the Board of Directors to serve as a non-voting member. A majority of the entire committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII: LOCAL CHAPTERS

There are three (3) levels of Chapter affiliates: national (RID), state (LRID) and local (LRID-[Chapter]). Groups wishing to affiliate with LRID as a Local Chapter must submit a written request for Chapter affiliation to the LRID Board of Directors. A "license" for affiliation may be granted by the membership or the Board of Directors during an interim period. Acceptance shall be dependent upon compliance with Local Chapter requirements.

ARTICLE VIII: ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Section 1: General

- A. Voting may occur during the general business meeting or by mail referendum.
- B. Elections for the Board of Directors shall be held at the general business meeting during the odd numbered years.

- C. To constitute a valid election, ballots must be cast by fifty (50) percent of the eligible voting membership present at the general business meeting.
- D. Elections and balloting shall not be required for positions in which there is only one candidate for that position. Any uncontested candidate shall be considered elected without the required mailing of ballots.
- E. In the event of a tie, a run-off election shall be held during the election/voting meeting.

Section 2: Nominations for Board of Directors

- A. A call for nominations for each office shall begin a minimum of four (4) months prior to the general business meeting.
- B. The Nominations Committee will be comprised of at least two (2) members in good standing and will not include any member of the current Board.
- C. Election results shall be confirmed and announced during the general business meetings and available to the membership within forty-five (45) days of election.

Section 3: Mail Referenda

- A. Mail referenda may be drafted and submitted by the Board of Directors or by written petition of not less than ten (10) percent of the voting members of the ASSOCIATION. (Written petition to be submitted to the Board of Directors).
- B. Written notice of a referendum, stating and describing all motions procedures and deadlines for voting, shall be provided to all voting members at least sixty (60) days prior to the referendum deadline.
- C. Results of mail referenda shall be disseminated to the membership within forty-five (45) days after the referenda deadline.

ARTICLE IX: CONFERENCE AND TRAININGS

Section 1 Annual Conference

An annual conference will be held in the fall of each year.

Section 2 General Business Meeting

- A. A general business meeting will be held during the annual conference.
- B. Elections of officers will be held during odd numbered years at the general business meeting.
- C. A quorum shall consist of ten (10) percent of eligible voting members.
- D. Notice will be given to the membership at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

Section 3 Trainings

- A. A one-day workshop will be held in the spring of each year.
- B. A one-day workshop will be held during the summer of each year.
- C. Schedules and sites for the annual conference and trainings are on a rotating basis as follows:

Membership Year	Fall	Spring	Summer
2005 – 2006	I	III	I
2006 – 2007	II	I	II
2007 – 2008	III	II	III

Area Designations

- I. New Orleans, Baton Rouge, North Shore
- II. Lafayette, Alexandria, Lake Charles
- III. Shreveport, Monroe

Section 4 Membership / Fiscal Year

- A. The membership year for this ASSOCIATION shall be September 1 through August 31.
- B. The fiscal year for this ASSOCIATION shall be January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE X: FEES, DUES, AND ASSESSMENTS

In order to be in good standing, a member must pay annual dues at or prior to the annual conference. The Board of Directors shall not increase or decrease membership dues by more than ten percent without a majority of the membership at the general business meeting. The dues shall be equal for all members of each category, but different dues may be set for each category. Notification of any changes in dues structure, fees, or assessments must be available to the membership at least ninety days prior to the anticipated implementations.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

- A. The Bylaws may be amended or repealed by approval of two-thirds majority of the voting members of the ASSOCIATION, eligible, voting and in attendance at the general business meeting or through mail referendum with thirty (30) days prior notice
- B. A copy of all amendments to these Bylaws shall be forwarded to the RID Regional Representative

ARTICLE XII. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The ASSOCIATION shall not discriminate in matters of membership on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, ethnicity, hearing status, national origin, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation

ARTICLE XIII: DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

- A. Dissolution may occur upon two-thirds (2/3) majority vote during a membership meeting.
- B. In the event of the dissolution of this ASSOCIATION, any and all assets of said ASSOCIATION, movable or immovable, of any worth or value, will be converted into cash, whether by sale or other necessary means, and said cash monies will be deposited and held in an escrow account. Any and all interest from monies deposited in the aforementioned account will be held in same account. Should a period of five (5) years pass and the LRID not be re-established, funds will be reverted to a non-profit 501(c)3 organization selected at the time of dissolution.
- C. Upon the dissolution of this ASSOCIATION, the President shall forward all records to the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (National Office)

ARTICLE XIV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the ASSOCIATION in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the ASSOCIATION may adopt.

Adopted: October 1, 1969

Revised: Sept. 24, 1983; Sept. 29, 1984; Mar. 2, 1985; Sept. 27, 1986; Feb. 25, 1989; Sept. 28, 1991; Sept. 26, 1992, Apr 13, 1996; Dec 10, 2005