

Bylaws of the

Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium.

ARTICLE II

Vision Statement

We envision a time when all rural communities will have convenient access to high quality primary health care.

ARTICLE III

Mission Statement

Our mission is to achieve greater retention of West Virginia trained health sciences graduates in rural areas by creating partnerships of community, higher education, health care providers, and legislature.

ARTICLE IV

Service Area

The Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium Board of Directors shall include representatives from Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, Pendleton and Tucker counties.

ARTICLE V

Goals/Purpose

To use the consortium for field experience by students from a wide spectrum of health curricula or professions.

To continue developing strong networks of preceptors, professional, and community cooperation and shared resources.

To recruit and retain health profession students and graduates into practice opportunities within the consortium.

To encourage youth to enter health professions by having students act as positive role models.

To participate in more school and community-based programs in health education.

To expand the capacity of field preceptors and community mentors to teach and influence students in a field setting, thereby strengthening the impact of the program.

To operate consistently within approved resources while seeking other appropriate funding to maintain our program.

ARTICLE VI

Membership

Section 1. Consortium Members

Consortium members are those that are involved with the nine (9) county consortium and are subject to application and approval by the full Board of Directors for membership.

Subsection I. Term

All members are subject to application renewal beginning June 30, 2000, and in 5-year increments thereafter. Membership renewals will not require approval by the full Board of Directors.

Subsection II. Removal

The Board shall have the right to remove consortium members for good cause shown after notice and a hearing before the Board as a whole.

Subsection III. Resignation of Members

Any member may resign at any time by giving notice thereof in writing to the Chairperson. Such resignation is received by the Chairperson.

ARTICLE VII

Board of Directors

The organization shall be governed by no more than twenty-seven (27) directors, consisting of health care providers and community representatives. The Board of Directors shall consist of 51% community representation.

Section I. Term

Directors will serve staggered terms of one, two or three years.

Section II. Nominations

Directors will be elected from the consortium membership. A Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors will be responsible for presenting nominations for officers and directors at the general membership meeting and voting will take place at the next scheduled Board meeting.

Section III. Officers

The Officers of the Board of Directors shall be a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be placed on the Executive Committee. Officers shall serve a two-year term. An officer may be elected for up to three terms.

Section IV. Vacancies

In the event of any vacancy occurring on the Board, the remaining members shall continue to act; and such vacancy shall be filled upon the action of the Board. Vacancies shall be filled within 30 days of receipt of resignations.

Section V. Removal

The Board shall have the right to remove Board Members for good cause shown after notice and a hearing before the Board as a whole. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present is required for removal.

Section VI. Proxies

Proxy voting is authorized and permitted by the Board of Directors.

Section VII. Attendance

When a Board Member misses fifty percent (50%) of the meetings in a calendar year, the Board Member will be requested at the next stated Board meeting to justify their past attendance record in person or in writing. Following review of this information the Board will determine by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote the continued participation of said member.

Section VIII. Resignation of Members

Any member may resign at any time by giving notice thereof in writing to the Chairperson. Such resignation is received by the Chairperson.

ARTICLE VIII

Meetings

Section I. Consortium Members

A general membership meeting of all consortium members will be held at the first meeting in a calendar year on an annual basis.

Section II. Board of Directors

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held on a bi-monthly or as-needed basis. This Board shall meet at least six times in a calendar year.

Section III. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall meet on an as-needed basis. These meetings may be held on call of the RHEP Coordinator, the chairperson of the Board, or by any three (3) members of the committee.

Section IV. Notice of Meeting

Written notice stating the date, place, and hour of each meeting shall be received by each Board Member ten (10) days before the scheduled meeting.

Section V. Voting

Having determined that a quorum is present, the action of a simple majority of the members present shall be the action of the Board of Directors or committees.

Section VI. Parliamentary Procedure

Roberts Rules of Order, new revised, are adopted.

ARTICLE IX

Quorum

Section I. Board of Director Meetings

A quorum for the purpose of holding a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be the people present provided that no less than 8 members are present.

Section II. Committee Meetings

A quorum for the purpose of holding a committee meeting shall consist of the people present provided that fifty percent (50%) of the members are present.

Section III. General Membership Meeting

A quorum for the purpose of holding a general membership meeting shall be the people present provided that no less than 8 members are present.

ARTICLE X

Committees

Section I. Standing Committees

There shall be two (2) standing committees of the Board: Executive and Finance. The Chairperson is empowered to formulate other committees as he/she sees fit to carry out the functions of the Board.

Section II. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of five (5) members. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Advisory Panel Representative will serve on this committee, regardless of institution, geographic representation, or county. The remaining two (2) members will be appointed by the Board of Directors. There shall be no overlap of institution or geographic representation. There may not be two representatives from the same county.

Subsection I. Term

Committee members will serve a two-year term.

Subsection II. Responsibility

The Executive Committee shall coordinate the activities and general policies of the consortium between Board meetings and is empowered to take action subject to subsequent Board approval.

Section III. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee reviews and recommends to the full Board the annual budget. The committee works with the RHEP Coordinators to formulate fiscal policies and advises on all other fiscal matters as appropriate.

Section IV. Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee will be appointed by the Board Chairperson for the purpose of presenting a slate of candidates for elective offices and to fill vacancies that may occur.

Section V. Chairperson

A Chairperson for each committee will be appointed by the Board Chairperson. The Chairperson will be responsible for submitting committee reports to the Board of Directors. These reports will consist of current activities of the committee.

Section VI. Ex-officio Members

The RHEP Coordinators will serve as ex-officio members on all committees.

ARTICLE XI

Books and Records

The Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium Board of Directors shall keep minutes of all proceedings of the Board.

ARTICLE XII

Conflict of Interest

Field Professors, preceptors, board members, committee members of training site representatives may be asked to declare themselves in conflict of interest if the need arises. They will be ineligible to vote.

ARTICLE XIII

Purchasing Power

The Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium Board of Directors has the authority to purchase capital equipment and property on behalf of the consortium.

ARTICLE XIV

Amendments

The bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board. Written notice of the proposed bylaw change shall be received by each member at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting. Changes in the bylaws must be approved by a (2/3) two-thirds vote of the board members present or by a personal proxy for the director for a vote.

Adopted: 7/8/98