

CONSTITUTION OF Northwest Louisiana Pediatric Society

Article I Name and Purposes

Section 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be The Northwest Louisiana Pediatric Society. It shall be a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana.

Section 2 – Purposes

The purposes of this organization are:

- a. To bring Pediatricians of the Northwest Louisiana Area into association with each other for their mutual advantage.
- b. To stimulate interest in and further the study of Pediatrics.
- c. To uphold and to augment standards of Pediatric practice.
- d. To improve the health status of children in this community through education and service projects.

Article II Membership

Section 1 – Eligibility of Membership

Active and Associate Membership shall be restricted to qualified physicians, allied health professionals, and pharmacists practicing in the Northwest Louisiana area.

Section 2 – Membership Categories

There shall be three (3) classes of membership:

- a. **Active members** shall have a current unrestricted license to practice medicine in Louisiana and whose full time endeavors and/or with a subspecialty in Pediatrics are limited to the care of pediatric patients and/or teaching of Pediatrics.
- b. **Resident/Fellow membership** may be extended to any physician in Pediatric residencies or fellowships in an accredited hospital and/or training program in the Northwest Louisiana area shall, during his/her period of residency, become eligible for membership in this Society.
- c. **Retired membership** may be extended to those who are 65 years of age or older and have been a member of the Society for five or more years.

Section 3 – Rights and Privileges

- a. Active members have the right to vote and may hold office of the Society. Resident/Fellow members shall be governed by the same rules and enjoy the same privileges at membership meetings as Active Members, except that they shall not vote.
- b. Retired members shall be governed by the same rules and enjoy the same privileges at membership meetings as Active Members, except that they shall not hold office.

- c. Written applications must be received for active, affiliate, resident, and fellow membership and approved by the Executive Committee.
- d. A change in membership status to retired membership status must be submitted in writing and approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 4 – Forfeiture of Membership

- a. Membership shall lapse after the failure to pay dues for two years.
- b. Any conduct ethically or socially violating the standards of accepted medical practice shall be brought before the Executive Committee prior to any action by the membership on such charges. Any accused member shall be notified of the charges by the Secretary in writing, and given ample opportunity for defense.
- c. Two-thirds vote of the entire membership in writing shall be required before expulsion from the Society.

Section 5 – Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by electronic ballot with a two-thirds (2/3) approval by the respondents, provided that written notice of the proposed change or changes has been mailed and/or emailed to each voting member at least thirty (30) days before the final vote count.