

Official Application for Constituency Status 2009

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ANNUALLY. PLEASE NOTE CHANGES. BRING TO CONVENTION
National Student Nurses Association, 45 Main St., Suite 606, Brooklyn, New York 11201 FAX 718-210-0710

PLEASE NOTE: Membership Applications must be received by February 18, 2009 to count toward delegate representation. Your Official Application for Constituency Status must be submitted during Delegate Credentialing or it can be mailed or faxed to NSNA postmarked no later than May 1, 2009).

What is an NSNA Constituent?

An NSNA constituent is any state association or school chapter in a state approved program preparing students for licensure as registered nurses that meets the annual constituency requirements detailed below. Only NSNA constituents may be represented in the NSNA House of Delegates, and only NSNA constituents qualify for prizes and awards issued by NSNA. If you have any questions, please call NSNA (718) 210-0705.

How to Become an NSNA Constituent

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

This Application must be submitted annually and can be submitted at the Annual Convention site during the delegate credentialing process for the Annual House of Delegates meeting. For those school and state associations unable to send representatives to the Annual House of Delegates meeting, the Application may be sent or faxed to NSNA on a date received no later than 10 working days after the close of the House of Delegates meeting of the same year. The 2009 House of Delegates closes on April 18, 2009. The Application must be mailed or faxed to NSNA received no later than May 1, 2009.

Schools become NSNA constituents when they submit the Official Application for NSNA Constituency Status (the "Application") and membership data verifies a minimum of 10 NSNA members at the school on a date 8 weeks prior to the first meeting of the annual House of Delegates, April 15, 2009. Schools with enrollment under 10 must notify the NSNA office directly with a letter of verification by the dean or director of the program. These schools must have 100 percent of their enrollment as NSNA members to become NSNA constituents. States become NSNA constituents when they submit the Application and membership data verify that at least two schools in the state have NSNA constituency (except in Alaska and Guam where only one school currently exists). NSNA must also have a copy of the current state bylaws on file and the state association's approved and signed board of directors and annual membership meeting minutes for the entire previous calendar year (2008). The Application contains the areas of conformity listed in the bylaws. By submitting this, states and schools agree to abide by these areas of conformity by incorporating them into their own bylaws.

Elected school officers are responsible for signing and submitting the Application. Elected state officers sign and complete the Application for their state. State officers cannot sign Applications for schools in their state unless they are also an elected school officer. Applications signed by faculty will be returned for appropriate signature.

Delegate Representation

Each school chapter that is a recognized constituent will be entitled to one voting delegate and alternate to the national convention. In addition, each school constituent will be entitled to an additional delegate and alternate for each 50 members. For example:

School Membership	Delegate count
10-49	1 + corresponding # of alternates
50-99	2 + " " "
100-149	3 + " " "
150-199	4 + " " "
200-249	5 + " " "
250-299 etc.	6 + " " "

States: State associations that are recognized constituents will be entitled to one voting delegate and alternate.

Please print or type the following information as accurately as possible. Consult faculty for clarity of information (proper name of school, nursing organization), if necessary. Please do not use initials for schools as this may delay processing.

State/school association (please spell out completely)

School address (campus if needed)

City **State** **Zip**

hereby applies for recognition as an official constituent of the National Student Nurses Association. We agree to abide by the following areas of conformity in our association and incorporate them into our bylaws.

ARTICLE III- PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS

The purpose of the _____
use chapter initials here

- a) To assume responsibility for contributing to nursing education in order to provide for the highest quality healthcare;
- b) To provide programs representative of fundamental and current professional interest and concerns, and
- c) To aid in the development of the whole person, and his/her professional role, and his/her responsibility for the health care of people in all walks of life.

The function of the _____
use chapter initials here

shall include the following:

- a) To have direct input into standards of nursing education and influence the education process.
- b) To influence health care, nursing education and practice through legislative activities as appropriate.
- c) To promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities towards improved health care and the resolution of related social issues.
- d) To represent nursing students to the consumer; to institutions, and other organizations.
- e) To promote and encourage students participation in interdisciplinary activities.
- f) Refuse to engage in, or condone, discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, marital status, life style, disability or economic status.
- g) To promote and encourage collaborative relationships with nursing and related health organizations.

ARTICLE IV-MEMBERS

Section 1. Constituent Associations:

Any school chapter or state association whose membership is composed of active or associate NSNA members and who has submitted the Official Application for NSNA Constituency Status (the Application) containing the areas of conformity, and upon meeting such other policies as the Board of Directors may determine, shall be recognized as a constituent.

- a) The Application must be submitted annually and can be submitted at the Annual Convention site during the delegate credentialing process for the Annual House of Delegates meeting. The Application may be sent to NSNA on a date postmarked no later than 10 working days after the close of the House of Delegates meeting of the same year.
- b) Recognized Constituents shall be composed of at least 10 members. Requirement of 10 or more members must be met on a date eight weeks prior to the Annual House of Delegates Meeting. There shall be only one chapter in each school campus.

prior to the Annual House of Delegates Meeting. There shall be only one chapter in each school campus.

- c) A state association shall be composed of at least two school chapters in any state, or only one school chapter if there is only one nursing school in the state. There shall be only one state association in any state. School chapters shall belong to their state association when one exists. The term "state" in these bylaws shall be understood to apply equally to any state in the United States of America, to the District of Columbia, or to any territory, possession, or dependency of the United States of America.
- d) For yearly recognition as a constituent, constituent associations shall be required to submit annually the Official Application for Constituency Status which shall include the following areas of conformity: purpose and function, membership, dues, and representation.
- e) A constituent association which fails to comply with the bylaws and policies of NSNA shall have its status as a constituent revoked by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors, provided that written notice of the proposed revocation has been given at least two months prior to the vote and the constituent association is given an opportunity to be heard.
- f) School chapters and state associations are entities separate and apart from NSNA in their administration of activities, with NSNA exercising no supervision or control over these immediate daily and regular activities. NSNA has no liability for any loss, damages, or injuries sustained by third parties as a result of the negligence or acts of school chapters or state associations, or the members thereof. In the event any legal proceeding is brought against NSNA as a result of such acts of omission or commission by a school chapter or state association, said school chapter or state association will indemnify and hold harmless the NSNA from any liability.

Section 2. Categories of Constituent Membership:

Members of the constituent associations shall be:

1. Active members:

- a) Students enrolled in state approved programs leading to licensure as a registered nurse.
- b) Registered nurses enrolled in programs leading to a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing.
- c) Active members shall have all the privileges of membership.

2. Associate members:

- a) Prenursing students, including registered nurses, enrolled in college or university programs designed as preparation for entrance into a program leading to an associate degree, diploma or baccalaureate degree in nursing.
- b) Associate members shall have all of the privileges of membership except the right to hold office as president or vice president at state and national levels.

3. Individual members:

Individual membership shall be open at the national level to any eligible student when membership in a constituent association is not available. Individual members shall have the privileges of membership as prescribed in Article IV, Section 2, items 1 and 2.

- 4. Active, associate and individual membership shall be renewable annually.

Section 4. Active, associate and individual membership may be extended six months beyond graduation from a student's program in nursing, providing membership was renewed while the student was enrolled in a nursing program. Sustaining membership shall be renewable annually.

Section 5. Dues:

- a) The annual NSNA dues for active, associate, and individual members shall be \$30 per member, plus \$_____ state and school dues, payable for the appropriate dues year. The dues year for members shall be a period of twelve consecutive months.
- b) The annual NSNA dues for active, associate, and individual members joining for two years shall be \$50 per member, plus \$_____ state and school dues (note: be sure to put two years state and school dues here), payable for the appropriate dues years. The dues years for these members shall be a period of twenty-four consecutive months.
- c) The NSNA Board of Directors shall have the authority to change

membership dues, providing such dues do not exceed the amounts set in these bylaws.

- d) National and state dues shall be payable directly to NSNA. NSNA shall remit to each state constituent the dues received in behalf of the constituent.
- e) Any member who fails to pay current dues shall forfeit all privileges of membership.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 3. Delegate Representation:

a) School constituents:

- 1. Each school chapter that is a recognized constituency, as determined by these bylaws, shall be entitled to one voting delegate and alternate, and in addition, shall be entitled to one voting delegate and alternate for every 50 members.
- 2. The school chapter delegate(s) shall be a member(s) in good standing in the chapter and shall be selected and/ or elected by members of the school chapter according to chapter bylaws. The school chapter may designate an alternate delegate for each delegate by one of the following two mechanisms:
 - a) Selection and/or election by members of the school chapter according to chapter bylaws; or
 - b) Written authorization to the State Board of Directors requesting them to appoint a member of the State Board to act as a state appointed alternate for their school chapter.
 - 1. School chapters shall approve the appointment.
 - 2. The State Board of Directors shall verify that any state appointed alternate is a member in good standing of the NSNA and the state association.
 - 3. A school chapter must have a selected and/or elected delegate present at the NSNA Convention in order to have a state-appointed alternate seated in the House of Delegates.
 - 4. All alternates, whether school selected or state appointed, shall have the same privileges as an elected delegate when seated in the House.
 - 5. Each school constituent shall be entitled to delegates according to the number of members in good standing in NSNA. Delegates shall be computed on the basis of the number of members in each constituent as evidenced by the annual dues received by NSNA on a date eight weeks prior to the annual meeting.

b) State Constituents:

Each state constituent shall be entitled to one voting delegate and alternate. This delegate shall be the state president. If the state president cannot serve, a designated representative and alternate shall be elected at a state meeting or by the state Board of Directors.

ONLY DULY ELECTED SCHOOL OR STATE PRESIDENTS WHO ARE NSNA MEMBERS MAY SUBMIT APPLICATION. PRINT AND SIGN WHERE APPROPRIATE. FACULTY SIGNATURES NOT VALID.

Membership # _____ Exp. Date _____

Name _____
Print Title

Name _____
Signature Date

Address _____
Number Street Apt.

_____ City State Zip

Email _____

Date Sent _____ Phone _____

Advisor Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

School _____