

ACCREDNET BYLAWS

Article I

Purpose

The purpose of AccredNet is to coordinate efforts and share information among States that have, or anticipate having, a law enforcement accreditation program within their respective state and to offer assistance to other states that may desire to establish a state accreditation program to recognize law enforcement or related agencies for achieving a level of professionalism as determined by that individual State.

Mission

AccredNet is a federation of state law enforcement accreditation entities, which provides guidance, advocacy and support to advance law enforcement accreditation at the state level and promote excellence in policing through standards that reflect state and national professional best practices.

Vision

To provide access to state accreditation to all law enforcement agencies through professional standards representing best practices in contemporary policing.

Article II

Organization and Membership

- A. AccredNet is composed of State organizations or organizations that are responsible for conducting the accreditation process within their respective State who desire to participate in AccredNet. AccredNet is open to states that anticipate starting an accreditation program.

Article III

Officers and Duties Thereof

Officers of AccredNet include a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past Chair.

A. **Chair**

The Chair shall automatically become the immediate past chair following a two-year term for an additional two years.

The Chair shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Ensure facilitation of AccredNet meetings.
- b. Develop meeting agenda with input from appropriate source(s),
- c. Support and advise AccredNet board and committee members.
- d. Partner with appropriate donors for financial and logistical support.
- e. Provide leadership and direction for AccredNet.

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- f. Encourage transparent communication between all AccredNet members.
- g. Help guide and mediate AccredNet actions with respect to organizational goals and objectives.
- h. Ensure timelines are met and encourage active participation of all AccredNet members.
- i. Monitor financial planning and financial reports.
- j. Represent AccredNet in a professional manner to appropriate entities.
- k. Encourage all members to consider long range plans for AccredNet and how trends in law enforcement will impact our mission.
- l. Appoint two AccredNet members annually to audit treasury activities.
- m. Administer AccredNet meetings, votes, and agenda items in a professional manner.

B. **Vice-Chair**

The Vice-Chair shall automatically become the Chair following a two-year term as Vice Chair for an additional two years. Chair would then become the immediate past chair for an additional two years at which time elections would be held for a new Vice Chair.

The Vice Chair shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. In the absence of the Chair, coordinate and facilitate AccredNet meetings, ensure agenda and minutes are distributed.
- b. Report activities to Chair.
- c. Work closely with Chair and AccredNet members.
- d. Perform work assigned by the Chair.
- e. Provide leadership and direction for AccredNet.
- f. Help ensure transparent communication among AccredNet members.
- g. Represent AccredNet in a professional manner to appropriate entities.
- h. In the absence of the Chair, perform other duties and responsibilities as needed.

C. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of any AccredNet meeting, recording votes and forwarding the minutes to all members in a timely manner. The Secretary shall be elected for a two-year term at the annual meeting of AccredNet from the member states. The Secretary is eligible for a reelection every two years.

D. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall keep a record of all income and expenditures relating to the Annual Conference as furnished by the current Chair. The Treasurer

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shall issue income and expenditure reports at monthly meetings, and annual reports at conferences to all members. The Treasurer shall be elected for a two-year term at the annual meeting of AccredNet from the member states. The Treasurer is eligible for a reelection every two years.

- E. **Immediate Past Chair.** The Immediate Past Chair will assist committees as requested by the current Chair and other duties that may be requested by the current Chair.

Article IV

Sub-Committees shall be based by appointment by Chair as needed.

Sub-Committees may be appointed by the Chair for purposes of conducting AccredNet business as approved by Members. AccredNet maintains one standing subcommittee. This subcommittee shall be the Conference Committee. The AccredNet Chair will appoint a chairperson to the Conference Committee based on the chosen site for the upcoming yearly conference.

Each year, preceding the conference, the Chair shall appoint two AccredNet members to audit the AccredNet account(s) of the treasurer. The audit findings will be submitted to the Chair and made available to the membership in a timely manner.

Article V

Meetings and Conduct of Business

- A. AccredNet may meet virtually monthly. Members may vote on all issues electronically during the virtual meetings.
- B. AccredNet will meet at least once a year in a location determined by Members. Members may vote on the next location at the closing of the yearly conference or if necessary, electronically if approved by the Chair.
- C. Should any votes on AccredNet business be conducted between annual meetings as authorized in this Article, the issue, the means of the vote and results shall be reported in the meeting minutes as well as an addendum to the minutes of the last scheduled annual meeting.

Voting

- A. A. quorum consists of those Members present at an annual meeting. A simple majority of Members present determines the vote.
- B. When issues are submitted to Members for electronic vote, a time limit shall be established by the Chair, and a majority of those voting within the time limit shall decide the issue.
- C. Each member state of AccredNet is allowed one vote on each item brought before the membership for voting consideration. A "member state" is defined as a law enforcement accrediting body that has a state law enforcement accreditation

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program that has been in operation for more than one year AND is in good standing (dues paid when established) with AccredNet. Any exceptions to this definition must be approved by majority vote of AccredNet members.

Article VI

Annual AccredNet Dues

- A. AccredNet members must pay annual membership dues of (Amount TBD) on or before January 31st of each year. The dues will be submitted to the AccredNet treasurer, and the funds will be used only for the furtherance of AccredNet business. Examples of approved expenditure include (but are not limited to) web presence, annual conference expenses, travel, and promotional items
- B. Any single expenditure of AccredNet dues in excess of \$500 must be approved by the AccredNet membership. Chair may approve expenditures up to that amount.

Article VII

Revisions of Bylaws

Bylaws of AccredNet are approved by Members present at the annual meeting or by electronic vote prior to annual meeting. Any future revision or change requires a two-thirds majority of Members present at an annual meeting. Notice must be given to Members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the annual meeting of any change proposed.

Dissolution of Organization.

The AccredNet organization may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of Members in attendance at the annual meeting provided thirty (30) days' notice is sent to all members by electronic means notifying them of the proposed vote to dissolve. If the vote to dissolve passes all unexpended or unobligated funds shall be donated to the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund.

Passed and approved this 8th **of** March **, 2022.**

Harry J. Delgado, Ed.S.
Chair, AccredNet