ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of this association shall be National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as NFLPN.

PROVISO: This proviso becomes effective on January 1, 2013. The name of this association shall be National Association of Licensed Practical Nurses, Inc (NALPN) effective at the end of the convention in 2018.

ARTICLE II
OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1. The Objectives of NFLPN shall be to serve, to promote, to expand the visibility and to provide education to ensure growth and awareness of the LPN/VN Profession. To accomplish this, NFLPN shall:

a. Establish standards of practice and a code of ethics for Licensed Practical Nurses and interpret them to the public;
b. Serve as an approval agency for continuing education programs;
c. Communicate and cooperate with other organizations of healthcare providers and with governmental agencies to maintain and improve standards of healthcare; and

d. Act as a clearinghouse, collecting information regarding Practical Nursing and distributing the information through publication.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Classes and Qualifications of Members

a. Active. A Practical/Vocational Nurse who holds a current license issued by any State, Territory or Possession of the United States.
b. Retired. An LPN/VN who has achieved retirement age or has retired due to disability may become a retired member with a reduction in annual dues.
c. Student. A student enrolled in an approved School of Practical/Vocational Nursing. Renewal of membership as an active member of NFLPN shall be contingent upon having obtained LPN/VN licensure.
d. Affiliate. A member who is not a Licensed Practical Nurse but who is interested in promoting the objectives of NFLPN.
e. International Member. A member who holds a current LPN/VN license or equivalent from any country outside the United States.
f. Military Members. A Practical/Vocational Nurse who holds a current license issued by any State, Territory or Possession of the United States.

SECTION 2. Types of Membership

a. Membership in Constituent State Association. All Active, Retired, and Student members that reside in a Constituent State shall be a member of that Constituent State and may not join the Individual Member category.
b. Membership at Large.

1. Individual Members. Active, Retired and Student members in a State where no Constituent State Association exists. Membership-at-Large ceases to exist if the State becomes a Constituent State.

2. Individual Active, Retired and Student members residing in a Non-Constituent State may become a member of the nearest Constituent State if they so desire.


4. Affiliate Members. Affiliate members are Members at Large of NFLPN.

5. Student Members in non-constituent states shall be Members at Large.

6. International Members shall be Members at Large.

SECTION 3. Rights and Privileges of Members

a. Active members shall have all the rights and privileges of members including the right to attend meetings, speak, make motions, vote, hold office, serve on a committee and serve as an elected delegate to the NFLPN House of Delegates.

b. Retired members shall have all the rights and privileges of active members except the right to hold office on a national level.

c. Student members shall have the privilege of attending NFLPN meetings with the right to speak, but may not hold office or vote.
d. Affiliate members shall have the privilege of attending the NFLPN meetings with the right to speak but may not hold office or vote.

e. International members shall have the privilege of attending NFLPN meetings with the right to speak, make motions, vote and may hold office.

f. Military members shall have the privilege of attending the NFLPN meetings with the right to speak, make motions, vote and hold office.

SECTION 4. Revocation of Membership. Membership in NFLPN shall be revoked upon date of revocation of licensure, or upon non-payment of dues on the date when dues become delinquent.

SECTION 5. Charter Members. All members in good standing before July 1, 1949 are considered Charter Members of NFLPN.

ARTICLE IV
CONSTITUENT STATE ASSOCIATIONS

SECTION 1. An association of LP/VN Nurses who are members of NFLPN in any State, Territory or Possession of the United States or any Province or Territory of Canada may apply for Constituent State Membership by:

a. Majority vote of its members in convention;

b. Submitting a copy of State Bylaws for approval by the NFLPN Bylaws Committee;

c. Membership shall be granted by the NFLPN Executive Board upon the approval of the Bylaws and payment of dues; and

d. NFLPN shall issue a charter certifying that the association is a Constituent State Association of NFLPN.

SECTION 2. A Constituent State Association shall conform to the Bylaws, policies and ethics of NFLPN and shall belong to no other national Practical Nursing Organization. Except for Members-at-Large all members of NFLPN shall be members of a Constituent State Association.

SECTION 3. A Constituent State Association which fails to comply with the Bylaws or the policies and ethics of NFLPN may have its charter revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the NFLPN Executive Board. This vote shall be by ballot. Notice of the proposed revocation shall be given by the Executive Board of NFLPN to the Constituent State Association at least two (2) months prior to the vote of revocation of the charter. Upon receiving notice, the Constituent State Association has the right to appear through its representatives before the Executive Board of NFLPN and oppose the revocation of its charter, before the final action is taken.

SECTION 4. A Constituent State Association whose charter has been revoked may be reinstated as a Constituent State Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board of NFLPN. This vote shall be by ballot.

SECTION 5. Proposed amendments to the Constituent State Association Bylaws shall be submitted for review to the NFLPN Bylaws Chairman, who shall approve the proposed amendments if they are not in conflict with the NFLPN Bylaws. The proposed amendments shall be submitted at least three (3) months prior to the State’s annual meeting and returned by the NFLPN bylaws Committee chairmen within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed amendments.

SECTION 6. The constituent State Association shall:

a. Submit annually to NFLPN, within one (1) month after their selection, a list of the names and addresses of all State Officers, Chairmen and Presidents of local divisions.

b. Notify NFLPN office of any changes in the name or address of any member, using the official membership form. Promptly report the death of any member to the NFLPN office.

SECTION 7. Inactive Constituent State Associations.

a. Constituent State Associations which are no longer able to conduct state/national business shall be considered inactive.

1. No current elected officers designated to maintain communications with NFLPN headquarters/ or oversee business operations of state business.

2. No annual meetings held to allow member participation of state business.

3. No election of state officials.

4. No election of NFLPN Delegates.

b. Letters shall be sent to any remaining state members requesting their opinion/or participation in maintaining an active state association by holding office/or fulfilling state business duties.

c. If no response to this request is received by two-thirds (2/3) vote, the NFLPN Executive Board shall deem the Constituent State as inactive. Vote must be by ballot.

d. A state may reactivate by following Article IV, Section 1, Item a, b, and c, as necessary.
ARTICLE V
DUES

SECTION 1. The annual dues shall be:
   a. Active Members, one hundred dollars ($100.00), $65.00 to national $35.00 reimbursed to state:
   b. Retired Members, sixty-five dollars ($65.00), $50.00 to national $15.00 reimbursed to state;
   c. Military Members, seventy dollars ($70.00), all applied to national;
   d. Student Members, twenty-five dollars ($25.00), $20.00 to national $5.00 reimbursed to state;
   e. Affiliate Members, sixty dollars ($60.00), $55.00 to national $5.00 reimbursed to state:
   f. International Members, seventy dollars ($70.00), all applied to national;
   g. Members at Large, seventy dollars ($70.00), all applied to national.

SECTION 2. Payment of Dues
   a. Renewal notice shall be mailed to members from the NFLPN central office 60 days prior to expiration date on the membership card.
   b. All dues shall be sent to the NFLPN central office (national, state, and local) on or before the expiration date shown on their NFLPN membership card. NFLPN Membership expires if dues are not paid by the expiration date. The NFLPN central office shall then reimburse the state their amount of dues at the end of each month. It shall be the State Treasurer’s responsibility to distribute the local dues back to the local chapter/division.

   a. The NFLPN central office shall mail a current membership roster to the Treasurer of each constituent state on the first of each month and quarterly to Individual Member and Military Member liaison.
   b. The Constituent state office shall, within thirty (30) days of the expiration date, notify members whose membership has now expired that their name will be removed from the membership rolls unless the unpaid dues are paid within sixty (60) days from the expiration date.
   c. The NFLPN office shall, within thirty (30) days of the expiration date, notify Members-at-Large whose membership has expired that their name will be removed from the membership rolls unless the unpaid dues are paid within sixty (60) days from the expiration date.
   d. The NFLPN central office shall, within thirty (30) days of the expiration date, notify members whose membership has expired that their name will be removed from the membership rolls unless the unpaid dues are paid within sixty (60) days from the expiration date.

ARTICLE VI
EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. The officers of NFLPN shall constitute the Executive Board.
SECTION 2. The Executive Board shall:
   a. Transact the business of NFLPN between conventions, including the adoption of a budget, establishment of bank accounts, and designation of check signers the following: President or Vice President and the Treasurer, two of whom shall sign each check or in the event of a financial emergency the Executive Direction and Director of Accounting may sign checks with the verbal approval of the Treasurer, President and/or Vice President;
   b. Maintain a headquarters office and contract the services of a management company for conducting the daily business of NFLPN and the President of the contracted management company shall serve as Executive Director of NFLPN during the duration of their contract with NFLPN;
   c. Establish written policies and procedures for the operation of NFLPN;
   d. Procure a surety bond for the President, Vice President and the Treasurer;
   e. Select a reputable accountant to review and prepare a monthly report of the NFLPN financial records to include receipts and disbursements of all accounts. Select a reputable CPA to review and prepare an annual report of the NFLPN financial records to include receipts and disbursements of all accounts. The report shall be completed prior to the Annual Convention. The fiscal year shall be July 1st – June 30th;
   f. Admit Constituent State Associations to membership;
   g. Fill vacancies not otherwise provided for;
   h. Determine the registration fee for convention;
   i. Approve the appointments to standing and special committees;
   j. Provide for the implementation of actions and directives of the NFLPN House of Delegates;
   k. Grant exception to the provision of these Bylaws (Article V, Section 4) for plans meeting with its approval which affect the membership year or the collection and payment of dues to NFLPN; and
   l. Recommend to the House of Delegates persons for Honorary Membership.
SECTION 3. An office shall be declared vacant if an officer is absent from two (2) successive NFLPN Executive Board meetings without adequate excuse.

SECTION 4. Between meetings of the NFLPN Executive Board, the President may submit any matter that does not require immediate action, to each member of the NFLPN Executive Board, by mailing identical information to each. Votes shall be cast by mail.

SECTION 5. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Executive Committee shall act on all matters requiring immediate action between meetings of the Executive Board, either by meeting in committee or by telephone conference call. Any action taken shall be reported by the Secretary to the members of the Executive Board no later than thirty (30) days after said action and shall be made part of the minutes at the next Executive Board meeting.

ARTICLE VII
OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of NFLPN shall be the President, a Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and four (4) directors.

SECTION 2. Terms of Office.
   a. The term of office of each officer shall be two (2) years or until a successor is elected and shall begin at the adjournment of the convention at which the officer is elected.
   b. No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.
   c. A portion of a term greater than half shall be considered a term.

SECTION 3. Vacancy of an Office.
   a. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall become President for the remainder of the term.
   b. In the event of a vacancy occurring in any office except that of President the office shall be filled by the NFLPN Executive Board until the next Annual Convention when a new officer shall be elected to fill the remainder of the term.
   c. In the event an officer is elected to another position at the Annual Convention, a special election shall be held prior to the dismissal of the House of Delegates to fulfill the remainder of the term of the office vacated.

SECTION 4. Each candidate for any office shall have been a member of NFLPN for the past three (3) consecutive years and shall have served as a delegate at no less than two (2) annual conventions of NFLPN. A member of NFLPN who is a member of the Board of another national Practical Nursing Organization is not eligible to serve as an officer of NFLPN. If an officer of NFLPN becomes an officer of another national Practical Nursing Association, that action shall be deemed a resignation from office in NFLPN.
   a. All candidates for office of NFLPN shall hold a current license for LPN/VN;
   b. No candidate shall hold dual licensure as an LPN/VN and RN;
   c. Officers/Directors completing their RN education during their term shall resign that office upon receiving their licensure as an RN.

SECTION 5. Duties of Officers.
   a. President. The President shall:
      1. Preside at the House of Delegates;
   2. Serve as chairman of the NFLPN Executive Board;
   3. Appoint all standing and special committees as necessary, except the Nominating Committee, with the approval of the Executive Board;
   4. Be ex-official member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; and
   5. Perform all other duties pertaining to his office and as prescribed by the parliamentary authority.
   b. Vice President.
      1. If the President is absent or unable to serve, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President.
      2. The Vice President shall serve as Chairman of the Convention Planning Committee.
   c. Secretary. The Secretary shall:
      1. Record the minutes of the all meetings of the NFLPN Executive Board and Executive Committee and the House of Delegates and submit to the NFLPN office within sixty (60) days of the meeting;
      2. Read all official papers or communications to the Convention and NFLPN Executive Board;
      3. Receive all reports of NFLPN officers and committee chairmen no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Executive Board meeting and no later than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Convention and immediately upon adjournment of these meetings submit one copy to the President and one copy to the NFLPN office with the minutes;
      4. Submit a report to the members of the Executive Board within thirty (30) days any action taken by the Executive Committee requiring immediate action; and
      5. Serve as Co-chair of the Convention Planning Committee.
d. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:
   1. Serve as chairman of the Finance Committee;
   2. Sign checks as required;
   3. Oversee the selected accounting firm in preparation of all NFLPN financial reports. Ensure monthly financial report of all receipts and disbursements is sent to the NFLPN President, Executive Board, State Presidents and Financial Committee no later than thirty (30) days after current monthly bank statement has been received;
   4. Prepare and present in writing a complete line item year end financial report of all receipts and disbursements of all accounts, to include each category and line item, to the House of Delegates at the Annual Convention;
   5. Present the review of the Certified Public Accountant of the financial records to the House of Delegates at the Annual Convention. Copies of the financial review are to be sent to State Presidents two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Annual Convention; and
   6. Present the adopted budget for the new fiscal year to the House of Delegates at the Annual Convention.

ARTICLE VIII
NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1.
   a. Elections shall be by ballot and plurality vote shall elect. Proxy voting is not permitted.
   b. Election of officers and directors shall be conducted at the Annual Convention.
   c. The President, Vice President and two (2) Directors shall be elected in the even numbered years. The Secretary, Treasurer and two (2) Directors shall be elected in the odd numbered years.
   d. All ballots, credentials of the voting body and other records of the election shall be preserved for one (1) year after the election.

SECTION 2.
   a. A member may be a candidate for only one elected office. A member may not be a candidate for both an elected office and the Nominating Committee.
   b. An officer may be a candidate for another office but need not resign his present office unless elected.

SECTION 3.
   a. At the Annual Convention, five (5) members shall be elected to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Chair and vice Chair shall be determined by the highest and second highest plurality vote. In the event of a tie for Chair, the Nominating Committee shall vote to determine the Chair from the two (2) tied members.
   b. Candidates for the Nominating Committee shall have been a member of NFLPN for the past three (3) consecutive years and shall have served as a delegate at not less than two (2) Annual Conventions.
   c. Three (3) members of the Nominating Committee, one of whom shall be the Chair or Vice Chair, shall establish a quorum for a meeting of the Nominating Committee.

SECTION 4. The Nominating Committee shall:
   a. Solicit nominations from NFLPN Members;
   b. Consider the qualifications of candidates proposed by membership and by the Nominating Committee;
   c. Secure the written consent and affirmation of all proposed nominees;
   d. Prepare a report of nominees for NFLPN Executive Board and Nominating Committee with at least one (1) but not limited to one (1) name for each office to be filled and five (5) but not limited to five (5) names for the Nominating Committee; and
   e. Send a copy of the Nominating Committee report to the NFLPN office at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention and a copy to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

SECTION 5. Nominations from the floor shall be in order following the report of the Nominating Committee. A member making a nomination shall submit the nominee’s qualifications and written consent to serve if elected to the Secretary immediately following nominations.

ARTICLE IX
MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Annual Convention of the NFLPN shall be held in the month of August, September, or October at the time and place selected by the NFLPN Executive Board. A quorum for the Annual Convention shall consist of a majority of the Delegates registered at the Annual Convention.
SECTION 2. Executive Board meetings.
   a. Regular meetings shall be held immediately prior to and following the Annual Convention, and at one other time during the year, the date to be selected by the Executive Board. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of this Board, two (2) of whom shall be members of the NFLPN Executive Committee.
   b. Special meetings may be called by the President and shall be called by the President upon the signed request of a majority of the members of the NFLPN Executive Board.

SECTION 3. All NFLPN Executive Board and Executive Committee meetings shall be open to any NFLPN Member desiring to attend, except when a majority of the NFLPN Executive Board/Committee has voted to go into Executive Session to discuss a sensitive matter.

SECTION 4. A copy of the NFLPN Executive Board and/or Committee meeting minutes shall be made available to any NFLPN Member upon written request and payment of printing and postage charges.

SECTION 5. If travel is curtailed or forbidden so as to prevent holding an annual meeting, voting by mail for the purposes of electing officers, the Nominating Committee and adopting amendments is hereby authorized. The NFLPN Executive Board is empowered to prescribe full and appropriate procedure for the purpose thereof.

SECTION 6. If it is impossible to hold an annual meeting because of war, a natural disaster or other emergency, the Executive Board is empowered to function on behalf of NFLPN.

ARTICLE X
STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Standing Committees are constituted to perform a continuing function and remain in existence permanently or for the life of the assembly that established them.

SECTION 2. Standing Committees shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and at least one but not limited to one other member.

SECTION 3. If the Chairman is absent or unable to serve, the Vice Chairman shall assume the duties of the Chairman.

SECTION 4. Each Standing Committee shall serve a term concurrent with the President.

SECTION 5. A quorum for a committee shall consist of a majority of the members of a committee.

SECTION 6. A Committee Chairman may request from the President and the NFLPN Executive Board the removal and the replacement of a Committee Member that is inactive and non-responsive to the duties of the Committee.

SECTION 7. The Standing Committees and duties shall be as follows:
   a. Awards Committee shall:
      1. Promote and recognize outstanding achievements of LPN/VNs that are and continue to be members in good standing of NFLPN.
   b. Bylaws Committee shall:
      1. Consider for approval all proposed amendments to the Bylaws;
      2. Provide a copy of approved proposed amendments to the NFLPN office on or before June 15.
   c. Continuing Education Committee shall:
      1. Develop and promote continuing education programs for LPN/VNs;
   d. Convention Planning Committee shall:
      1. Prepare, organize and present an agenda for the Annual NFLPN Convention;
      2. Consist of the Executive Committee and three (3) other members;
      3. Be chaired by the Vice President and Co-chaired by the Secretary.
   e. Credentials Committee shall:
      1. Keep accurate record of all in attendance at the Annual Convention;
      2. Report record of attendance to the House of Delegates at each Business Session; and
      3. Check credentials of current membership status for voting.
   f. Ethics Committee shall:
      1. Receive, review and respond on written complaint of conduct of any member when conduct is injurious to the organization or another person, or where any major infraction of the organization Bylaws has occurred.
   g. Finance Committee shall:
      1. Prepare and present an annual budget to the NFLPN Executive Board for adoption;
      2. Present the approved budget to the House of Delegates at the Annual Convention.
   h. Government Affairs Committee shall:
      1. Inform NFLPN of pending federal legislation
pertaining to nurses, nursing, and health and education; and
2. Recommend policy and action concerning state and federal legislation regarding Practical Nursing education and practice.
   i. Committee of Members of State Board of Nursing shall:
   1. Be composed of LPN's serving on State Boards of Nursing;
   2. Inform and/or make recommendations to the NFLPN Executive Board of changes pertaining to nursing education, licensure, and practice that would affect LPN/VN in their State.
   j. Membership Committee shall:
   1. Study and evaluate matters affecting membership in the association; and
   2. Develop plans to retain members and increase membership. Such plans shall be subject to the approval of the NFLPN Executive Board.
   k. Resolution/Position Statement Committee shall:
   1. Prepare and present resolution/position statements that affect the education and practice of Practical Nursing.
   l. State Presidents Committee shall:
   1. Make recommendations to the NFLPN Executive Board on matters pertinent to Constituent State Association programs and on matters of mutual interest; and
   2. Plan for and conduct a joint Conference of State Presidents and NFLPN Executive Board at the Annual Convention.
   m. Strategic Planning Committee shall:
   1. Ensure goals set forth for NFLPN are recognized and implemented; and
   2. Review goals on an annual basis to update as progress is made.
   n. Student Affairs Committee shall:
   1. Organize and conduct a Student Day Program at the Annual NFLPN Convention; and
   2. Develop plans for recruitment of student members and further collaborate with PN Educators/Schools. Such plans shall be subject to approval of the NFLPN Executive Board.
   o. Ways and Means Committee shall:
   1. Consider ways to generate funds for NFLPN.

ARTICLE XI

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

SECTION 1. The House of Delegates shall:
   a. Take positions, determine policy and set direction on issues of a national nature;
   b. Elect members of the Executive Board and Nominating Committee; and
   c. Adopt and amend Bylaws when necessary.

SECTION 2. The House of Delegates shall be composed of:
   a. Members of the NFLPN Executive Board;
   b. Past Presidents of NFLPN;
   c. Delegates elected by ballot by official voting bodies of the Constituent State Association;
   d. Delegates elected by Individual Members-at-Large at the Annual Convention;
   e. Delegates elected by International Members-at-Large at the Annual Convention;
   f. Delegates elected by Military Members-at-Large at the Annual Convention.

SECTION 3. The number of Delegates shall be:
   a. Eight (8) Delegates from the Executive Board;
   b. All Past Presidents of NFLPN who are currently members;
   c. Four (4) delegates plus one (1) for each twenty-five (25) active and retired member as of December 31 preceding the annual convention for:
      1. Each Constituent State Association;
      2. Individual Members-at-Large;
      3. Military Members-at-Large; and
      4. International Members-at-Large.

SECTION 4. Election of Delegates.
   a. Constituent State Associations
      1. Prior to February 1st of each year, the headquarters office of NFLPN shall notify the President and Secretary of each Constituent State Association of the number of Delegates and Alternates to which each is entitled.
      2. To insure equitable representation, each Constituent State Association shall elect Delegates by ballot. The Delegates shall be chosen by plurality vote.
      3. A newly formed Constituent State Association may elect Delegates determined by the number of member's dues that have been paid at the time of application for a charter.
   b. Members-at-Large.
      1. Delegates representing Individual Members-at-Large shall be elected from among the Individual Members-at-Large registered at the Annual Convention at a meeting called by the NFLPN President preceding the Annual Convention.
      2. Delegates representing Military Members-at-Large shall be elected from among the Military Members-at-Large registered at the Annual Convention at a meeting called by the NFLPN President preceding the Annual Convention.
      3. Delegates representing International Members-at-Large shall be elected from among the International Members-at-Large.
ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. These bylaws may be amended at the Annual Convention.
SECTION 2. All proposed Amendments to the NFLPN Bylaws shall be submitted to the Bylaws Committee Chairman for consideration of the Bylaws Committee on or before April 1st.
SECTION 3. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at the Annual Convention of NFLPN, provided that notice of the proposed amendments have been mailed to the Delegates at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.
SECTION 4. These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Convention of NFLPN without previous notice by a nine-tenths (9/10) vote.
SECTION 5. Any amendment adopted by NFLPN applicable to Constituent State Associations shall automatically become a part of the Bylaws of each Constituent State Association and need not be submitted for approval.
SECTION 6. The Bylaws Committee may make editorial changes, which in no way alter the intent of Bylaws or Amendments.

ARTICLE XIII
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the meetings of NFLPN in all cases to which they are applicable and not inconsistent with these Bylaws.