

■ Policy 1: Council Membership

The volunteer members of the Council's Board of Directors are elected by the Board from among the Council's three major stakeholders: CNME-affiliated educational institutions, the profession of naturopathic medicine, and the general public. An accurate, current résumé of a nominee for membership on the Council's Board shall be on file with the Council's executive director before the Council may elect the nominee. The following are the Council's three categories of membership:

Institutional Member Representatives

- **Institutional member representatives** are academic administrators or faculty members from the accredited programs. Institutional member representatives do not represent the interests of their individual institutions; they serve in the same capacity as the Council's profession and public members, supporting the Council's mission and objectives, and remaining mindful of all the constituencies the Council serves. The Council has three positions allotted for institutional member representatives. The accredited naturopathic programs take turns on a rotational basis nominating institutional member representatives, in accordance with Council Policy 14 below. The members serve three-year, non-renewable terms. Nominees are elected by majority vote of the Council's members at its annual meeting.

Profession Members

- **Profession members** of the Council hold a current license to practice naturopathic medicine in a United States or Canadian jurisdiction that regulates the practice of naturopathic medicine. They are active members of a national, state or provincial association of naturopathic physicians, and they either currently serve as faculty members in a CNME-accredited or candidate program or have experience as educators, or are knowledgeable about accreditation. The Council shall have a minimum of four and a maximum of six profession members.

A committee appointed by the president from among the Council's members nominates individuals as profession members. They serve three-year terms, with a limit of two consecutive full terms. Nominees are elected by majority vote of the Council's members at an annual or semiannual meeting.

Public Members

- **Public members** are defined as individuals who are not:
 1. An employee, member of the governing board, owner, or shareholder of, or consultant to, an institution that offers a naturopathic doctoral (ND) program that either is accredited by the CNME or has CNME candidacy (i.e., preaccreditation status)—or has applied for accreditation or candidacy—or has the same relation (e.g., employee or consultant to an ND program);
 2. A member of any trade association or membership organization related to, affiliated with, or associated with the CNME; or
 3. A spouse, parent, child, or sibling of an individual identified in paragraph (1) or (2) above.

Additionally, public members are not naturopathic physicians; are not students in a naturopathic medicine program; are not affiliated with a naturopathic medicine program (~~“affiliated” is as~~ defined in the Policy on Potential Conflicts of Interest; (see below); are not members of and do not have any other role with an association of naturopathic physicians; and do not have any role in a state's or province's licensing activities for naturopathic physicians.

Public members bring expertise in educational administration, academics or accreditation to the Council. The Council shall have a minimum of two and a maximum of three public members.

A committee appointed by the president from among the Council's members nominates individuals as public members. They serve three-year terms, with a limit of two consecutive full terms. Nominees are elected by majority vote of the Council's members at an annual or semiannual meeting.

Additional Council Membership Requirements

- The Council must ensure that the Board of Directors includes significant representation of individuals whose major professional activities include teaching, including one individual whose primary activity is teaching.
- The Council must ensure that the Board of Directors includes at least two individuals whose primary professional activity is the practice of naturopathic medicine.
- A member's term begins at the conclusion of the annual or semiannual meeting at which the member is elected and ends at the conclusion of the annual or semiannual meeting three years later.
- Before attending their first Council meeting as members, new members participate in a period of training and orientation overseen by the Council's executive director. Additionally, the Council President assigns a CNME Board member who is in his/her second term to serve as a new member's mentor for the first year of service on the Council.

Commitment to the Council

Members of the Council agree to:

1. Support the mission and objectives of the Council;
2. Be well informed on the Council's articles of incorporation, bylaws, eligibility requirements, accreditation standards, policies and procedures;
3. Ensure that the Council's activities remain in accord with its governing documents and the *Handbook of Accreditation*;
4. Remain mindful of the constituencies the Council serves: the public, naturopathic medicine programs and their students, and the naturopathic medical profession; and
5. Prepare for and attend ~~the~~ all meetings of the Council except when a situation arises that makes attendance impractical or impossible (e.g., serious illness, family emergency).