



NASLEHL

**National American Sign Language Education
of Heritage Language Learners, Inc.**

Bylaws

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October 11, 2025**

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Bylaws

National American Sign Language Education of Heritage Language Learners, Inc.

Article I. Name

Section 1.1

This organization shall be known as the National American Sign Language Education of Heritage Language Learners, Inc. (NASL-EHL).

Article II: Objective

Section 2.1

The purpose of National American Sign Language Education of Heritage Language Learners, Inc. (NASL-EHL) is to provide a place for ASL and other known natural sign languages professionals and administrators to address best practices and issues related to natural sign languages as a content subject in the areas of language development, curriculum, instruction and assessment for Deaf¹ children and Children of Deaf Adults (CODA) from birth-to-21 in home, educational and community settings.

Section 2.2

The vision of NASL-EHL is to promote integration and standardization of ASL and/or other known natural sign languages as heritage language²¹ into the 0-21 education system to foster Deaf and Children of Deaf Adults' Sign Language literacy as an integral component of their overall literacy.

Section 2.3

The mission of this organization shall be infused with Deaf-centrism, multiculturalism, diversity, technology, and best practices in the following four strands:

- (a) Sign Language as Heritage Language Planning
- (b) Sign Language Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (c)
Sign Language Specialized Services
- (d) Sign Language Professionalization

¹ Natural visual-spatial sign languages that are originally used by signers acquired from home, school or Deaf communities. In North America, there are several known natural sign languages (i.e.: Black ASL, Hawaii Sign Language, Indigenous Sign Languages). Heritage signers are often characterized as having strong receptive and expressive skills in their natural sign language.

Article III. Membership

Section 3.1

Membership for the NASL-EHL shall be open to ASL professionals and administrators in the education field of birth-to-21-years-old Deaf and CODA learners as defined in the articles.

Section 3.2

An ASL professional is an individual whose focus is in the education of every Deaf and CODA learners in home, educational and community settings.

Section 3.3

An ASL professional is an individual whose focus is in the early language education of every child.

Section 3.4

An ASL administrator is an individual whose focus is in the administration of a birth-to-21 home, educational, and community setting where every Deaf and CODA student receives her/his ASL education.

Section 3.5

A professional whose major focus is to train, instruct, and develop pedagogy of ASL as Heritage Language.

Article IV. Membership Dues

Section 4.1

Annual membership dues shall be ten percent of the total cost of American Sign Language Roundtable (ASLRT) registration.

Section 4.2

Members for which dues have been paid shall be entitled to vote.

Article V. Officers

Section 5.1

The officers of the NASL-EHL executive board shall be a president, president-elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and executive director. These officers shall perform the duties described by the Bylaws.

Section 5.2

President: The president shall:

- Call and preside at all meetings
- Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees
- Carry out and/or cause to be carried out the policies, bylaws, and resolutions of the NASL-EHL organization

- Make annual report to the NASL-EHL organization
- Oversee standing committees and new projects
- Set direction and vision for organization

Section 5.3

President-Elect: The president-elect shall:

- Collaborate with the President to learn the role of the President
- Become familiar with the programs of the NASL-EHL and its governance
- Assist and support the President as needed
- Succeed the president in event of the resignation of president effective immediately

Section 5.4

Vice President: The vice-president shall:

- Serve in place of the president during the president's absence
- Be responsible for the upkeep of the membership roll during business meetings
- Work with the ASLRT Chairperson to plan conference
- Work with standing committees
- Ensure compliance with the bylaws

Section 5.5

Secretary: The secretary shall:

- Keep the minutes of the meetings of the NASL-EHL organization in an electronic format
- Perform other secretarial duties as may be required
- Maintain and oversee the membership list
- Serve as custodian of the organizational records

Section 5.6

Treasurer: The treasurer shall:

- Be responsible for the finances of the NASL-EHL organization
- Prepare written budget report at every board meeting and at the ASLRT business meeting
- Comply with applicable laws including reporting on non-profit status to the IRS

Section 5.7

Executive Director: The executive director shall:

- Serve the NASL-EHL executive board as an ex-officio, non-voting member
- Carry out duties as prescribed by the NASL-EHL executive board

- Be hired by the NASL-EHL board
- Receive compensation

Section 5.8

The terms of the president, president-elect, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer shall be two (2) years. The President and Secretary are elected every odd years and the Vice President and Treasurer every even years. The executive-director shall have a continuing term and may be terminated at anytime either by resignation or the NASL-EHL board.

Section 5.9

In the absence or disability of the president and vice president, the NASL-EHL executive board shall choose an officer to preside pro-term.

Section 5.10

No members shall receive any salary or payment for their services.

Section 5.11

Nominations for the executive board may be made from the floor during ASLRT and the nominee shall be present for the vote. In the event of more than one (1) nominee, written ballots shall be cast and the member receiving a majority of the votes shall be declared elected.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 6.1

Unless otherwise provided for these bylaws, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority of the organization.

Section 6.2

Business meetings of NASL-EHL shall be held annually at the ASLRT.

Section 6.3

A quorum to conduct the business of the NASL-EHL business meeting shall consist of at least 25% of the membership.

Section 6.4

Each member is entitled to one vote as outlined in Section 4.2.

Section 6.5

Members shall put forth a motion during the business meeting.

Article VII. Duties of the Executive Board

Section 7.1

The duties of the executive board will be to:

- Oversee all operations of the organization

- Recommend a course of action to its membership
- Prepare and approve the annual budget
- Meet regularly to conduct business meeting

Section 7.2

Members of the executive board shall strive to maintain the highest ethical standards and represent a sense of fairness, civility, and personal integrity.

Section 7.3

A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of a majority.

Article VIII. Standing Committees

Section 8.1

Standing committees shall be the following:

- American Sign Language Roundtable (ASLRT)
- American Sign Language Curriculum Instruction Assessment (ASL CIA)
- Amy E. Hile Memorial Foundation
- Financial Committee
- Governance Committee
- Marketing Committee
- Fundraising Committee

Section 8.2

The standing committees shall consist of no less than three (3) members. The committee shall appoint the chairperson, and the president shall approve the appointment for the term of the appointed Committee Chairperson's office. Members of the committee will be selected by signing up with the Committee Chairperson.

Section 8.3

Chairperson shall be responsible for keeping minutes and records of the committees' activities. An electronic copy of the report shall be submitted to the Board secretary.

Section 8.4

The president shall create an ad hoc committee to carry out the duties that may assist the NASL-EHL organization.

Article IX. Amendments

Section 9.1

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting representative of the NASL-EHL members present during the general meeting at ASLRT.

Section 9.2

Proposal for amendments shall be made within one (1) month or thirty (30) days in advance before the general meeting at ASLRT.

Article X. Adoption**Section 10.1**

The Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption and shall supersede any and all prior bylaws governing this, the National American Sign Language Education of Heritage Language Learners, Inc.

Article XI. Dissolution**Section 11.1**

In the event the dissolution of NASL-EHL is agreed upon by the majority vote of members, NASL-EHL assets shall be transferred to a similar nonprofit organization (i.e.: National ASL & English Bilingual Consortium for Early Childhood Education, National Association of the Deaf).