

**Constitution of Wisconsin Association of Colleges
for Teacher Education
Approved November 2012**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association is to coordinate and stimulate improvement in the education of professional school personnel in Wisconsin.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the “Wisconsin Association of Colleges for Teacher Education”.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Association are:

1. To provide leadership in promoting teaching as a lifelong profession that is foundational to the social, political, and economic strength of Wisconsin communities.
2. To support the preparation of teachers who are globally-minded to provide leadership in the development of a world class education system in Wisconsin.
3. To support the preparation of teachers who employ their professional knowledge and skills in classrooms to close performance gaps and achieve new levels of excellence and equity.
4. To articulate to prospective teachers the value of teaching as a career that directly impacts student learning and makes a difference in the world.
5. To establish an effective voice for teacher education institutions at the state level on matters of policy related to teacher education.
6. To establish a multi-faceted communication system among teacher education institutions and with stakeholders such as the WI Department of Public Instruction, PK-12 schools, state government, professional education organizations, and business and industry to facilitate discussion of issues related to teacher preparation and its impact on student learning.
7. To facilitate interaction among teacher education institutions to foster deep understanding of and the ability to respond effectively to contemporary issues in education.
8. To provide a vehicle for teacher education institutions within the state to assist the national organization in:
 - a. Developing and defining positions on issues of importance to teacher education.
 - b. Coalescing support for national policy and activity.
 - c. Supporting the programs and activities of the state association.
 - d. Making educational policy recommendations.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- A. Comprehensive membership. All regionally accredited colleges and universities with state approved teacher preparation programs which are AACTE member institutions in Wisconsin are eligible for comprehensive membership. Functions of membership shall be exercised by institutional representatives appointed in accordance with provisions in the Bylaws.
- B. State membership. All other regionally or state accredited colleges and universities with state approved teacher preparation programs which are non-AACTE member institutions in Wisconsin are eligible for state membership. Functions of

membership shall be exercised by institutional representatives appointed in accordance with provisions in the Bylaws.

- C. Affiliate membership. All institutions and agencies with state approved teacher preparation programs in Wisconsin are eligible for affiliate membership. Functions of membership shall be exercised by institutional/agency representatives appointed in accordance with provision in the Bylaws.**

ARTICLE IV – LIAISON RELATIONSHIPS

Liaison relationships may be established with associations and agencies with an interest in the preparation of professional school personnel.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall be a President, President-elect, Secretary, and a Treasurer and such other officers as may be deemed necessary to the elected in accordance with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be the officers elected by institutional representatives to the state or regional unit in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Bylaws.

In addition, membership of the Executive Committee will include the immediate past-president of the Association and elected representatives from the leadership of the UW Deans and Directors and the Wisconsin Independent Colleges of Teacher Education.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

The Association shall hold two meetings annually (one in the fall semester and one during spring semester of the academic year) and such other meetings as may be called by the Executive Committee. The fall meeting shall be designated as the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – RULES OF ORDER

The deliberations of the Association shall use a consensus agenda and process, but revert to use of Robert’s Rules of Order (latest version) for decision making that requires a majority vote of the membership. The Secretary of the Association shall serve as parliamentarian as needed.

ARTICLE IX – NONPROFIT STATUS

The Association is not organized for profit and no part of its funds shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

In the event that the organization will be dissolved, bills will be paid or encumbrances cleared, and any reserve or remaining funds will be divided among member institutions on a pro rata basis.

ARTICLE X – AFFILIATION (Changes are underlined and reflect current AACTE policy.)

The Association shall be affiliated with the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in accordance with the following policies approved by the national Board of Directors:

- A. For purposes of obtaining affiliation the state unit membership shall consist of at least 66 percent of the AACTE member institutions in the state.**

- B. Continuance of affiliation shall be contingent upon:**

1. Maintenance of a membership of at least 66% percent of the AACTE member institutions in the state.
2. Assurance that the voting rights of comprehensive members comprise at least 51 percent of the total voting rights for the state unit.
3. Submission to the national Board of Directors of an annual state activity report to include a review of program and fiscal activities and a certification of membership within the state unit.
4. Biennial review by the AACTE Board of Directors.

Adoption and maintenance of a state Constitution and state Bylaws consistent with the nationally approved models of same.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS (Changes are underlined.)

Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the state Executive Committee by institutional representatives. The state Executive Committee must approve the proposed amendments by a majority vote. After approval by the state Executive Committee, such proposed amendments must be sent to all member institutions within the state unit at least two weeks before the meeting at which they are to be voted upon, or, if the vote is to be taken electronically, at least two weeks before the voting deadline.

Proposed amendments will not become a part of this Constitution until such proposed amendments are approved in person or by proxy by two-thirds of the members of the state unit and until such proposed amendments are approved by the AACTE Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - BYLAWS

Bylaws may be adopted or amended by the Executive Committee subject to a majority vote of institutional representatives at a regular or special meeting and approval of the national Board of Directors.