

FBLA-PBL PROFESSIONAL DIVISION NATIONAL BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this division of FBLA-PBL, Inc. shall be the "Professional Division"

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of the Professional Division shall be to support and further promote FBLA-PBL, Inc. and its goals.

- Progress—keep members informed and up to date on current business trends;
- Service—support the association's programs and serve as liaisons between the workplace and the classroom;
- Education—mentor the members of the association to strengthen leadership abilities and provide career counseling.

Section 2. The Professional Division shall not have any purpose or engage in any activity inconsistent with the status of an educational and charitable organization as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any successor provision thereto, and none of these goals shall at any time be deemed or construed to be other than the public benefit purposes and objectives consistent with such educational and charitable status, nor shall the Professional Division adopt goals or engage in activities inconsistent with the goals and policies of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. All persons associated with or participating in the professional development of FBLA-PBL, Inc. shall be eligible for membership in the Professional Division.

Section 2. Students enrolled in undergraduate programs in a school with an active FBLA or PBL chapter shall not be eligible for membership in the Professional Division. Graduate students shall be eligible for membership provided they do not hold membership in another division.

Section 3. Any person eligible for membership who has paid current dues to the Professional Division shall be a professional member in good standing.

Section 4. The membership year shall be August 1 through July 31.

ARTICLE IV

Dues and Finance

Section 1. National dues shall be approved by a 2/3 vote of the national board of directors based on fiscal reports by the national office and on recommendations from the national officers of the Professional Division. National dues shall be remitted to the national office.

Section 2. Any person eligible for membership who has paid dues shall be a Professional Member for a period corresponding with the membership year. Renewal notices shall be sent to members by the national office.

Section 3. An annual audit shall be provided.

Section 4. The fiscal year shall be the fiscal year of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

ARTICLE V

National Officers and Elections

Section 1. The national officers of the Professional Division shall be a president, a vice president, and a secretary-treasurer.

Section 2. To be considered a candidate for office, a current Professional member shall have been a Professional member for a minimum of two full membership years (August 1 through July 31) and shall file an official application, signed by a nominating member, with the association president and CEO by February 15. All campaign materials must be approved by the Screening Committee that shall be composed of the president, the chairperson of the board of directors, and the Professional Division Staff Liaison. The campaign materials must be received by the Campaign Screening Committee no later than February 15, and candidates will receive notification as indicated in the Guidelines.

Section 3. No two national officers shall be elected holding membership in the same state.

Section 4. National officers shall be elected by mail by plurality vote. Ballots shall be sent to members prior to March 15 and shall be returned postmarked no later than April 30 in order to be counted.

Section 5. National officers shall assume their duties at the close of the National Leadership Conference. The vice president and secretary-treasurer shall serve a term of one year or until their successors are elected. The president shall serve a term of two years or until his/her successor is elected.

Section 6. A vacancy in any office other than president shall be filled by the Professional Executive board. Should the office of the president become vacant, the vice president shall automatically become president.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of Professional National Officers

Section 1. The president shall:

- preside at meetings of the Professional Division and the Professional Executive board
- appoint committees and chairmen
- appoint a parliamentarian to serve in an advisory capacity
- serve as an ex-officio member of all committees
- serve as a member of the board of directors
- promote the goals of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

Section 2. The vice president shall:

- preside in the absence or upon the request of the president
- assist the president
- coordinate all committees
- assume the office of president in case of a vacancy
- promote the goals of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

Section 3. The secretary-treasurer shall:

- A. keep an accurate record of all meetings of the Professional Division and the Professional Executive board
- B. submit the required reports to the national office and other reports as requested
- C. maintain necessary files
- D. assist the national office in keeping an accurate record of national officer travel expenses and disbursements, and in planning national officer travel
- E. present an annual financial report to members at the National Leadership Conference
- F. promote the goals of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

Section 1. A meeting shall be held annually at the FBLA-PBL National Leadership Conference for the purpose of receiving annual reports, and other business as necessary.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the president with the approval of the Professional Executive board and association president and CEO.

Section 3. Written notice of meetings shall be sent to members at least 45 days in advance.

Section 4. The voting body shall consist of members in good standing registered at the meeting. There shall be no proxy voting.

Section 5. A quorum for all meetings shall consist of a majority of the members in good standing who are registered at the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII Professional Executive Board

Section 1. The national officers of the Professional Division shall, with the ex-officio, non-voting members, constitute the Professional Executive Board.

Section 2. The chairman of the board of directors, association president and CEO, the association Professional Liaison, and the national presidents of the FBLA and PBL student divisions shall be ex-officio, non-voting members.

Section 3. The Professional Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Professional Division between its business meetings, fix the time and place for meetings, make recommendations to the Professional Division, and perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws. The board shall be subject to the orders of the Professional Division, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by FBLA-PBL, Inc. or the board of directors of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

Section 4. The Professional Executive Board shall meet at least once annually. Additional meetings may be called upon the written request of one voting member of the Professional Executive Board, upon approval by the association president and CEO.

Section 5. Action of the Professional Executive Board shall require a majority vote of the voting members of the Executive board.

ARTICLE IX Committees

Section 1. The president shall appoint committees and chairpersons as deemed necessary by the Professional Executive Board or the national officers of the Professional Division.

ARTICLE X Emblems and Insignia

Section 1. The Professional Division emblems shall be the emblems of FBLA-PBL, Inc. Only members in good standing may use official emblems and insignia.

ARTICLE XI Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The rules contained in Roberts? Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Professional Division in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the rules of FBLA-PBL, Inc. these bylaws, or any special rules of order the Professional Division may adopt.

ARTICLE XII Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by the board of directors of FBLA-PBL, Inc. upon recommendation by the national officers of the Professional Division.

Section 2. All national officers of the Professional Division must agree to the recommendation to amend these bylaws before the recommendation may be submitted to the board of directors.

Section 3. The board of directors of FBLA-PBL, Inc. may amend these bylaws by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors.

Section 4. No amendment shall be in conflict with the ethics or rules of FBLA-PBL, Inc. Amendments required to qualify or retain qualification as an educational and charitable organization as defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or any successor thereto, shall automatically become a part of these bylaws upon adoption by the board of directors of FBLA-PBL, Inc.

*Amended July 1994
Amended November 1997*