

**2024**  
**CHAPTER BYLAWS**

**BYLAWS OF GREATER CLEVELAND  
ORGANIZATION FOR NURSING  
LEADERSHIP (GCONL)**

I. **NAME**

The Greater Cleveland Organization for Nursing Leadership (GCONL) is an organization of nursing leaders and is an affiliate chapter of the Ohio Organization of Nursing Leadership (OONL).

II. **SCOPE**

a. Vision and Mission

To serve as a catalyst to promote excellence in nursing, influence policy, and the provision of safe high quality health care by promoting innovative practices and contemporary healthcare delivery systems across the continuum.

b. Purpose

The purpose of GCONL is to:

- i. Enhance preparation of leaders in nursing; mentor all nurses.
- ii. Provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and strategies and the dissemination of information and materials related to nursing leadership.
- iii. Provide a voice in the legislative arena to influence policy formation and nursing advocacy.
- iv. Identify and define nursing practice, nursing education, health care issues, and the evaluation of nursing care delivery systems.
- v. Support research that improves the health of the community and the social determinants of care.
- vi. Facilitate collaborative efforts among all healthcare professionals by encouraging an active role in community initiatives.
- vii. To be a recognized voice for nursing leadership in the Greater Cleveland area.

III. **MEMBERSHIP**

a. Affiliation to OONL

GCONL shall serve as a regional affiliate to the Ohio Organization for Nursing Leadership.

b. Procedure for Membership

i. Establishment of Membership:

1. An open letter of invitation announcing membership criteria will be sent to the members and chief nurse executives/officers and deans/directors of nursing programs in the Greater Cleveland area during the biennial renewal period (odd years). Nursing leaders will be encouraged to attend and to extend membership opportunities to other qualified nurse leaders in their organization.
2. During the non-renewal period (even years), an open letter of invitation announcing membership criteria will be sent to the chief nurse executive/officers and deans/directors of

nursing programs in the Greater Cleveland area. Nursing leaders will be encouraged to extend membership opportunities to newly qualified nurse leaders in their organization.

- c. Active Voting
  - i. Membership is open to registered nurses who have completed the application and are current with their dues, and that meet one of the following criteria:
    - 1. Hold an organizational role with administrative or management accountability for strategic, operational and/or management outcomes in sites where health care is delivered.
    - 2. Consultants in nursing with a focus on administrative expertise and strategic management outcomes.
    - 3. Editors of nursing journals.
- d. Non-Voting/Non-Office Holding
  - i. Emeritus status is bestowed upon retired individuals upon recommendation from the board.
  - ii. Members who no longer meet membership requirements due to employment changes may continue to attend meetings for as long as two years following their position changes; they shall not be eligible to vote or hold office during this time.
  - iii. Nursing leaders/faculty in nursing and other health care programs.
- e. Retention / Termination of Membership
  - i. A member who changes institutions shall retain membership as long as membership criteria is met, and they are within the Greater Cleveland area.
  - ii. Termination of membership shall be immediate for any of the following reasons:
    - 1. Written letter of resignation directed to the secretary.
    - 2. Ineligibility for membership brought about by change in employment.
    - 3. Non-payment of dues.
- f. Meetings
  - i. Regular meetings shall be held not less than quarterly or as determined by the executive officers.
  - ii. The President, as necessary, may call special meetings.
  - iii. Meetings with other groups shall be jointly held as the need is determined by the membership.
- g. Dues
  - i. Biennial dues of \$60.00 per member are payable by March 31st of the renewal year. In non-renewal years, single annual dues are \$30.00.
  - ii. Emeritus members shall be exempt from dues assessment.

- iii. Elected leadership positions are exempt from dues during their term.
- iv. If membership is terminated, regardless of the reason, no portion of dues are refundable.

#### IV. **OFFICERS**

Any active voting member in good standing who is also a full member of OONL shall be eligible for elective office in GCONL.

- a. Officers shall be a President, President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer who shall be elected by the membership.

- b. Duties:

- i. President

- 1. Presides at all meetings.
    - 2. Appoints chairpersons of all standing and ad hoc committees.
    - 3. Serves as board designee to the OONL board.
    - 4. Serves as an ex-officio member on all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee.
    - 5. Writes an annual report to OONL every September.

- ii. President Elect

- 1. Presides at any meeting in the absence of the President.
    - 2. Supervises biennial review and revision, if indicated, of the by-laws.
    - 3. Chairs the Program Committee, if needed.

- iii. Secretary

- 1. Records all regular and special meetings.
    - 2. Distributes meeting minutes to members electronically.
    - 3. Conducts correspondence as directed.
    - 4. To verify accuracy, provides each member with a current roster in May.
    - 5. Confirms meeting place.
    - 6. Notifies the membership at least (2) weeks in advance of the location, date and time of the meeting.

- iv. Treasurer

- 1. Collects dues and is responsible for the financial affairs of the chapter.
    - 2. Submits a financial report at scheduled business meetings.
    - 3. Prepares an annual fiscal report.

- v. Immediate Past President

- 1. Serves as advisor to the President.
    - 2. Performs other duties as assigned.

#### V. **COMMITTEES**

- a. Standing Committees

- i. Program Committee ad hoc

- 1. For the purpose of program planning.

2. Appointment to the Program Committee includes all officers and other interested members.
- ii. Bylaws Committee
  1. For the purpose of reviewing the bylaws on a biennial basis and recommending changes as necessary.
  2. Appointment to the Bylaws Committee shall be made by the President-Elect.
- iii. Ad Hoc Committees
  1. Ad Hoc Committees will be created as needed.
  2. The President shall make appointment of each committee chairperson and function.
  3. Selection of the members of the ad Hoc Committees shall be by volunteer and at the prerogative of the Committee Chairperson.

**VI. TERMS OF OFFICE**

- a. The president and president elect shall serve for a term of two (2) years.
- b. If the office of the President becomes vacant, the President-Elect shall succeed to the office of the President and shall continue to serve as President for the subsequent term.
- c. If the office of the President-Elect becomes vacant, a special election shall be held to fill that position.
- d. For other officers, the President shall appoint individuals to fill the remainder of the term.

**VII. ELECTION**

- a. A willingness to serve request will be sent out prior to the fourth quarter meetings.
- b. Elections shall be held every two (2) years prior to the fourth quarter meeting by electronic ballot unless there is but one (1) nomination for any office, at which time the vote may be considered confirmation.
- c. A majority of votes cast shall determine the decision of all elections.
- d. Elected officers will be announced at the fourth quarter meeting of odd years.
- e. No officer shall be eligible for re-electing to the same office after two (2) consecutive terms until there is a lapse of one (1) two-year term except the office of Treasurer. At the conclusion of the term, the secretary and treasurer will serve in an advisory capacity until the end of the first quarter of the following calendar year.
- f. Any officer filling a vacancy for less than three (3) months shall be eligible for two (2) consecutive terms.

**VIII. QUORUM**

- a. The total number of voting Members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**IX. AMENDMENTS**

- a. Recommendations for Bylaws changes are to be emailed to the membership in advance of the next regularly scheduled meeting by the secretary.
- b. The Bylaws can be amended at any regular meeting if a quorum is present.

X. **DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION**

In the event of dissolution of the organization:

- a. All members of the organization shall receive a written notice indicating the said action.
- b. All assets shall be donated to OONL.
- c. All members will immediately cease in the use of the name of the organization and the use of titles of the current officers or committee members.