***Rationale for Bylaws Amendments***

***June 2025***

**Membership Categories**

**Article II, Section 2, F.** **Membership Descriptions.** **New Professional Members.** ACA has changed its New Professional Category of Membership to allow two years, as opposed for just one. This is a retention strategy. To remain compliant with ACA, members in their first two years of employment, or anyone new to NCDA, may sign up for this category for a limit of two years.

**State Divisions**

**Article IV, Section 1 Addition of F. Establishment of State Divisions.** State Divisions are often confused with who grants their charter. NCDA has the authority to grant charters and not the State Counseling Associations. Section F was added for clarity.

**Article IV, Section 2, A, (1) and (2) Autonomy of State Divisions.** Based on the feedback from NCDA’s state divisions, the board is advocating that only the Presidents of the divisions should be required to become voting members of NCDA. It appears to be a financial hardship for all state officers to pay for NCDA membership dues also. In (2), if a state division has someone other than the President serving as the representative on their state counseling association board, it is recommended that they too hold NCDA membership.

**Article IV, Section 2, B Autonomy of State Divisions.** This change allows the state division to decide whether to collect their dues directly, or work with their state counseling association to collect their dues.

**Article IV, Section 5 B. Revocation of Charter.** The new words were added for clarity.

**Nominations and Elections**

**Article V. Section 1, A. (3) Nominations.** The Nominations and Elections Committee now uses a sophisticated system of rubrics to evaluate potential candidates. For this reason, nominations from the floor will no longer be permitted. All candidates should be subject to the same vetting process.

**Article V, Section 1 B. (1) Special Requirements.** The requirements for the Treasurer were updated to reflect the current financial status of the association.

**Article V, Section 5, B. (2). Special Requirements (and throughout the document)** The addition of “Advisory Board Representative” was added to all ACA Governing Council Representative references throughout the bylaws. The change reflects the upcoming ACA governance changes. (Governing Council members will be moved to the Advisory Board.)

**NCDA Board of Directors**

**Article VI, Section 1, C. Officers and Trustees.** The titles of NCDA’s 6 trustee positions are now listed for clarify. No other change to those roles is recommended. The word “constituency” has become the norm when talking about the various trustees who represent each group.

**Article VI, Section 3, F. Functions of the Board of Directors**. The responsibilities of the Treasurer were added to reflect the current role.

**Committees, Councils, and Other Working Groups**

**Article IX, Section 6, B Credentialing Commission.** The role and title of the Director of the Credentialing Commission was added for clarify. That role will become non-voting to stay consistent with the non-voting role of other staff positions on NCDA’s Boards, Councils, and Commissions.

**Article IX, Section 6, D Current Credentials.** The titles of the Credentials have been updated reflecting the current operation. The Certified Career Counselor Educator has been retired, and the title of Certified Supervisor of Career Practitioners has been updated to better reflect the role and work on those holding that credential.

**Publications**

**Article X, Section 2. Distribution.** This section was updated to match the current digital distribution operations.