

# 2025 NAMI Elections Information

## Information for Eligible NAMI Affiliates and NAMI State Organizations

Eligible NAMI Affiliates and NAMI State Organizations will be electing five of this year's ten candidates to fill the five open seats on the 2025-2026 NAMI Board of Directors as well as voting on a proposed amendment to NAMI's Bylaws.

### NAMI Board of Directors

The NAMI Board is a hard-working, policy-level board whose members play active and important roles in setting direction for the success of the national organization. To best serve in the Board role, members are expected to:

- Understand and protect the fiduciary health of the organization;
- Understand and adhere to the legal and fiduciary responsibilities of a nonprofit board;
- Serve a three-year term, with the opportunity to serve two consecutive terms if reelected;
- Understand and support NAMI's programs and public policies;
- Attend and participate fully in all Board meetings, Annual Conventions, and other organizational functions as well as dedicate time weekly to NAMI Board service;
- Be NAMI members in good standing; and,
- Make what the individual believes to be a significant financial contribution to NAMI, on an annual basis.

See the [NAMI Board President's Open Letter](#) for a more complete discussion of the skills and expertise that are desired for NAMI Board service.

### Candidate Visibility

The following opportunities will be provided for members to acquaint themselves with Board candidates:

- **Candidate profiles** can be found at [www.nami.org/2025candidates](http://www.nami.org/2025candidates) and include a photograph, resume/CV, a pre-recorded speech, the reasons the candidate came to NAMI and is running for the Board, the letter of nomination from the NAMI Affiliate or NAMI State Organization, and a summary of responses provided by the nominator to specific questions about the strengths the candidate will bring to the Board.

### Proposed Bylaws Amendments

Voters can find information about the bylaws amendment proposed this year, including the specific changes that would be made to the [NAMI Bylaws](#) if the amendments are approved, by going to [www.nami.org/bylawsamendment](http://www.nami.org/bylawsamendment).

# 2025 NAMI Elections Information

**NAMI conducts elections each year in conjunction with its Annual Meeting.**

✓ **How Votes are Allocated:**

- ☐ Each Affiliate with 5 or more current, paid memberships in NAMI's database as of 70 days prior to the NAMI Annual Meeting is eligible to vote.
- ☐ An Affiliate vote is weighted based on the number of active memberships they had as of that deadline. See chart at right for how vote weight is determined.
- ☐ All NAMI State Organizations have one vote, regardless of size.

# of memberships	= vote weight
5 - 50	1
51 - 100	2
101 - 200	3
201 - 300	4
301 - 400	5
401 - 500	6
501 - 600	7
601 - 700	8
701 - 800	9
801 or more	10

✓ **Voting for Board Candidates:**

- ☐ You must vote for five (5) Board candidates.
- ☐ Your ballot will not be submitted if you try to vote for fewer or more than five candidates.

✓ **Voting for the Bylaws Amendment:**

- ☐ You must make a selection of "For", "Against", or "Abstain".
- ☐ Your ballot will not be submitted if you do not make a selection.

## Why Vote?

**Every vote counts!** National elections have shown how important every vote can be. With five open seats elected by the members each year but more than five candidates, the final tally can be very close – don't let those decisions be made without you!

## Ideas for Deciding How to Vote

- **Talk with your affiliate and state members:** Convene your members however works best for your organization to discuss the issues that are important to you and consider the candidates. Make your decision based on the group's consensus.
- **Polling or voting:** Every NAMI member has access to the candidate information at [www.nami.org/2025candidates](http://www.nami.org/2025candidates). Ask your members to review the candidate profiles and choose their preferred candidate. They can vote formally or informally, via e-mail, by phone message, or in a meeting, whatever works for you and your community.
- **Collect questions and input:** Ask your members to let you know what matters to them most and what questions they would like posed to the candidates. Review those questions against the information shared in the candidate profiles to inform decision-making.

## What You Need to Do Now

- 1) **Read the materials online in their entirety.** You can find general information about NAMI elections at [www.nami.org/voting](http://www.nami.org/voting) and information specific to this year's elections at [www.nami.org/2025elections](http://www.nami.org/2025elections). The 2025 NAMI Elections page includes links to information about the [candidates](#), the proposed [bylaws amendment](#), and all necessary voting documents and instructions.
- 2) **Decide who will be casting the online ballot for your organization.** Generally, the Board President, Model B Steering Committee Chair, or Executive Director casts the ballot for an affiliate or state organization. The leadership can instead grant that right to another individual by naming a delegate to cast the vote.
- 3) **Complete the credentialing process.** Fill out the Credential Form to tell NAMI who has been named the delegate to cast the ballot for your affiliate or state organization. Once confirmed, the delegate will then receive instructions so they can complete the voting process. The form can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2025-NAMI-Credential-Form>.

Questions? Email [voting@nami.org](mailto:voting@nami.org)