

## **Article III - MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section 1**

The Society shall consist of active members only, Full, Associate, International, or Emeritus.

### **Section 2**

**Members** - Full membership shall be extended to pediatric gastroenterologists, research scientists, and physician nutritionists with a major and sustained interest in the area of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and/or Nutrition who are permanent residents or citizens of a country of North America.

### **Section 3**

**Qualifications for Full Membership** - Ordinarily, applicants will qualify for Full membership by fulfilling criteria specified below.

**1. Pediatric Gastroenterologists** - Certified or eligible for certification in Pediatric Gastroenterology by a national examining board of the United States of America, Canada or Mexico, by virtue of having completed an accredited pediatric gastroenterology fellowship in a training program approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education of the United States of America, by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or by the Mexican Board of Gastroenterology. Verification of eligibility for certification should be submitted in writing by the training director.

**OR**

Five years of broadly based experience in Pediatric Gastroenterology. These five years should be of such type and quality that they substitute for the clinical and research exposure one might have encountered during sub-specialty training. A combination of sub-specialty residency training in Pediatric Gastroenterology and practice of Pediatric Gastroenterology to equal five years is considered acceptable. A minimum of 50% current full time professional activities must be spent in Pediatric Gastroenterology.

**2. Physician Nutritionists** - Certified or eligible for certification in Pediatric Nutrition by a national examining body in the United States or Canada.

**OR**

Five years of broadly based experience in Pediatric Nutrition. These five years should be of such type and quality that they substitute for the clinical exposure one might have encountered during sub-specialty training. A combination of sub-specialty residency training in Pediatric Nutrition and practice of Pediatric Nutrition to equal five years is considered acceptable. A minimum of 50% current full-time professional activities must be spent in Pediatric Nutrition.

**3. Research Scientists** - Ph.D. or M.D. in a basic or clinical science with a sustained research interest in Pediatric Gastroenterology and/or Hepatology and/or Nutrition

**OR**

**4. Pediatric Clinical Affiliate** –Practitioners of affiliate clinical services such as social workers, psychologists, occupational therapists and physiatrists who have completed the appropriate certificate/required degree and accredited pediatric supervised internship/fellowship in the United States, Canada or Mexico. Must have 50% current full time professional activities in Pediatric Gastroenterology. Affiliate members have the same privileges as full members with the exception of voting rights and ability to hold office.

**5.** Under extraordinary circumstances, the Executive Council may grant Full membership status to other individuals after review.

### **Section 4**

**Qualifications for Associate Membership** - Ordinarily, applicants will qualify for Associate membership if they are training in a clinical or basic science which demonstrates the likelihood of a sustained interest in Pediatric Gastroenterology and/or Hepatology and/or Nutrition.

Physicians enrolled in accredited Fellowship programs in Pediatric Gastroenterology, Pediatric Transplant Hepatology and/or Pediatric Nutrition within North America are automatically admitted as Associate Members. Membership becomes effective at the beginning of each academic year, after the training director of an accredited program provides the National Office with a list of current trainees enrolled in their program.

**OR**

Ph.D. students in a basic clinical science with a sustained research interest in Pediatric Gastroenterology and/or Hepatology and/or Nutrition. Membership becomes effective at the beginning of each academic year, after the student's supervisor submits to the Secretary-Treasurer a completed membership application form, a copy of the trainee's curriculum vitae and a written statement outlining the relevance of the applicant's research interests. If the student's supervisor is not a member of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, an additional letter of reference from a full member is required.

Associate membership becomes effective at the beginning of the first academic year and lasts for the period of training and a maximum of up to four years. At the end of this period, associate members will automatically become full members, provided they fulfill the membership criteria outlined in Article III, Section 3, including verification of fellowship completion and board eligibility by the training program director. Associate membership provides all the benefits of membership with the exception of voting rights. Dues are assessed at a reduced rate, to be reviewed annually by council.

#### **Section 5**

**Qualifications for International Membership** - Any non-North American resident who is a member of European Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN), the Latin American Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition (Sociedad Latinoamericana de Gastroenterología y Nutrición Pediátrica), and the Asian Pan Pacific Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition (APPSPGHAN) may apply for membership in NASPGHAN by submission of 1) verification of membership in that society by the Secretary-Treasurer of the society, 2) a completed membership form and 3) a curriculum vitae.

Non-North American individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for International Membership but are not a member of one of these societies may apply for membership of NASPGHAN by submission of 1) a completed membership application form, 2) a curriculum vitae and 3) a letter of recommendation from a NASPGHAN member in good standing who can attest to the individual's qualifications.

International members have the same privileges as full members with the exception of voting rights. Dues are assessed at Full membership rate, except for members of ESPGHAN, who will be assessed at a NASPGHAN membership rate that does not include the cost of the Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition. Reduced membership rates may be available for other International members dependent on the World Bank economic ranking and country tier.

#### **Section 6**

**Qualifications for Emeritus Membership**- Any member admitted to the organization as a full member, with a minimum of 10 consecutive years of membership in good standing immediately preceding the request for Emeritus membership, who has reached 65 years of age or older and who is fully retired is eligible for emeritus membership. Emeritus members have the same privileges as full members but are not required to pay dues.

#### **Section 7**

**Application Procedure**- Application for Full membership shall be initiated by the candidate by submitting a membership application form and curriculum vitae to the National Office of the organization. One sponsoring letter from a full member of the society should be submitted with the application.

#### **Section 8**

**Election to Membership**- Election to Full or International membership shall take place by a vote of the Executive Council at its meetings. Complete applications must be submitted to the National Office at least one month prior to the Executive Council meeting. Any application for membership that does not clearly fulfill the recommended

criteria will be circulated to the Executive Council members before a meeting and reviewed by the Executive Council at the meeting. In all cases, a decision in favor of membership would require a majority vote by the Executive Council at that time.

*Excerpted from the NASPGHAN Bylaws, as amended and adopted by the NASPGHAN membership September 2009 and amended June 2011 amended April 2016 amended April 2020*