



Public Interest Section Bylaws (As Revised-August 29, 2023)

For more information about the Public Interest Section, including current Officers and Operations Manual, please visit the [Public Interest Section](#) web page.

- I. Name of Organization
- II. The Purposes and Objectives of the Section Are
- III. Membership
- IV. Dues
- V. The Executive Committee
- VI. Duties of the Executive Committee
- VII. Standing Committees
- VIII. Nomination and Elections Procedures
- IX. Publications
- X. Amendment

I. Name of Organization. The name of this organization is the Public Interest Section of the American Accounting Association.

II. The Purposes and Objectives of the Section Are to serve the common good with respect to issues related to the function of accounting. The Section's overall goal is to positively affect human welfare and promote social justice through teaching, research, and service. The Section encourages and supports new scholars and educators in the field.

III. Membership. All persons who pay the annual dues levied by this Section, subject to the rules of the American Accounting Association, can be members of the Section. There will be two (2) classes of membership: (1) Regular Members and (2) Student Members.

Regular members of the Section are eligible to vote, hold office, and participate in all activities of the Section.

Student members, during the period of matriculation in a post-secondary program, are eligible for student membership in the Section. Student members of the Section may not vote in matters coming before the Section, may not serve on Section committees, nor hold a Section office.

IV. Dues. Dues will be determined by the Public Interest Section Executive Committee and will be recommended to the Public Interest Section membership for its approval. Dues categories will be structured to reflect the Section strategy and to increase participation of classes of individuals facing varying economic conditions.

V. The Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of the Public Interest Section will consist of Chair, Chair-Elect, Past Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, Vice Chair-Director of Communications, Vice Chair-Director of Research, Vice Chair-Director of Education, Vice Chair-Director of Membership, Council Representative, and Council Representative-Elect. They are responsible for directing the affairs of the Section and formulating the plans, policies, rules, and procedures they consider necessary to achieve the Section mission.

VI. Duties of the Executive Committee.

Chair. The Chair serves a two (2) year term. The Chair is responsible for administering the affairs of the Section. The Chair will act as Chair of the Executive Committee and will preside at all meetings of the Section. Except for committee members previously appointed to terms that have not yet expired, the Chair has the authority to appoint members to committees and task forces, and, at his/her discretion, to remove members of committees and task forces.

Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect is elected for a two (2) year term. The duty of the Chair-Elect is to assist the Chair in administering the affairs of the Section.

Past Chair. The Past Chair serves on the Public Interest Section Nominations Committee. He/she will assist the Chair and Chair-Elect in their efforts to implement the Section strategy. The Past Chair will serve in that office for two (2) years.

Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer is elected for a two (2) year term. The duty of the Secretary-Treasurer is to supervise the keeping of records of Section meetings, policies, and procedures. The Secretary-Treasurer will work with AAA professional staff relative to collection and disbursement of Section funds. The Secretary-Treasurer will report to the Section members at its business meeting on the financial affairs of the Section and will provide that information for dissemination to the Section members.

Vice Chair-Director of Communications. The Vice Chair-Director of Communications is (appointed or elected) for a two (2) year term. The duty of the Vice Chair-Director of Communications is to maintain the Public Interest Section website, social media outlets, and all online communications.

Vice Chair-Director of Education. The Vice Chair-Director of Education is elected for a two (2) year term. The duty of the Vice Chair-Director of Education is to serve as Chair of the Public Interest Education Committee.

Vice Chair-Director of Membership. The Vice Chair-Director of Membership is elected for a two (2) year term. The duty of the Vice Chair-Director of Membership is to serve as Chair of the Public Interest International Committee.

Vice Chair-Director of Research. The Vice Chair-Director of Research is elected for a two (2) year term. The duty of the Vice Chair-Director of Research is to serve as Chair of the Public Interest Research Committee.

Council Representative. The Council Representative serves a three (3) year term and is eligible for one (1) additional three (3) year term. The duty of the Council Representative is to report in a timely manner all relevant Council meeting information to the Section Executive Board.

Council Representative-Elect. The Council Representative-Elect serves a three (3)-year term. The duty of the Council Representative-Elect is to attend Council meetings when the Council Representative cannot.

Filling of Vacancies. In the event that a member of the Executive Committee other than the Chair is unable to serve the full term, the duties will be assigned to another person selected by the Executive Committee. When the Chair cannot serve, then the duties will be assumed by the most recent Past Chair who is willing to serve. When the Chair-Elect is not able to serve, the Public Interest Section Nominations Committee will nominate another candidate who will be affirmed by a vote of the membership.

VII. Standing Committees.

Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee duties include soliciting candidates from the membership for open offices and preparing a slate of at least one (1) candidate for each of the open offices. It will consist of the Past President (who will be a non-voting member and will chair the committee) and five (5) other elected persons. Members of the Public Interest Nominations Committee are not eligible for nomination

to any Public Interest Section office while serving on the committee.

Publications Committee. The Publications Committee will consist of a Chair appointed by the Section Chair and other members as needed. The duties of the Publications Committee of the Section are to recommend

changes in policy issues associated with all Section publications and recommend incoming editors of Section publications.

VIII. Nomination and Elections Procedures. The slate will be posted 30 days in advance of the election and will include at least one (1) name for each position. Additional nominations may be made by a petition signed by ten (10) Regular Public Interest Section members submitted to the President 15 days prior to the beginning of the election. Persons so nominated must previously have agreed to serve if elected. The membership of the Section will be notified prior to the election of the nominations made by petition. All elections will be conducted by mail, facsimile, or electronic vote. Only Regular members of the Public Interest Section are eligible to vote.

IX. Publications. The Section may publish newsletters, proceedings, working papers, monographs, journals, teaching aids, and other materials consistent with the purposes and objectives of the Section.

X. Amendment. Amendments to the bylaws of the Public Interest Section may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by a petition signed by ten (10) Regular Public Interest Section members submitted to the Executive Committee 45 days prior to the start of voting. Notice of amendments to the bylaws of the Public Interest Section to be presented for vote will be given to the members 30 days prior to the vote. Only Regular members of the Public Interest Section are eligible to vote. The bylaws of the Public Interest Section may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Regular members who return ballots by mail, facsimile, or electronic vote.