

**BYLAWS FOR THE MIDWEST SECTION  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, INC.**

**ARTICLE I. Name and Organization**

1. The name of this organization shall be the Midwest Section, American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Inc.
2. The geographical area of this section shall include the states of Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota in the United States of America; and Manitoba and Ontario, Canada.
3. The constitution of this Midwest Section shall consist of the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Incorporated, which shall govern the Midwest Section in all of its practices. The Bylaws of the Midwest Section shall not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association. Every amendment to the Bylaws of the Association shall become effective and binding on this section.

**ARTICLE II. Purpose**

The purpose for which the Midwest Section is formed is to associate members of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry residing within the geographical area of the section in order that they may more effectively participate in the development and promotion of the policies and programs of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry and contribute to its growth and influence. To achieve these purposes, the section shall:

1. Promote education and training in the field of Clinical Chemistry.
2. Encourage and promote standards for certification of individuals practicing clinical chemistry.
3. Encourage individuals practicing clinical chemistry to pursue advanced studies and engage in scientific investigations.
4. Promote scientific knowledge of clinical chemistry through meetings, seminars, discussions, reports, and publications.
5. Initiate and participate in programs related to the practice of clinical chemistry that are of interest to the public.
6. Promote programs for the education of lawmakers and consumers concerning the clinical laboratory professions in general and for recognition of the profession of clinical chemistry.

### **ARTICLE III. Membership**

1. The qualifications for membership shall be those defined in the Bylaws of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Article I. The Association consists of Members, Honorary Members, Emeritus Members, Affiliates, and Student Associates.
2. Members of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry residing within the area described for the Midwest Section normally shall be members of that section. Members may, however, request the National Office to assign them to another local Section or the Midwest Section from another local section if they so desire. The Section shall consider applications for membership and shall forward these applications for membership to the Association indicating either nomination for membership or rejection.
3. For the transaction of business of the Section, twelve (12) members of the Section shall constitute a quorum. Only Members and Emeritus Members in good standing shall have voting privileges.

### **ARTICLE IV. Officers**

1. The officers of the Midwest Section shall be: Chairperson, Chairperson-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Past-Chairperson, and Elected Representative(s) of the National Council.
2. The Chairperson shall be the executive officer of the organization. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the Midwest Section and the Executive Committee, be an ex-officio member of all committees (except the Nominating Committee), appoint all Standing Committee members deemed necessary, maintain liaison with the officers of the National Association and Committee on Local Sections, and perform all the other duties pertaining to this office. The Chairperson may concurrently hold a position as National Councilor if elected. The term of the Chairperson shall be one (1) year.
3. The Chairperson-elect shall serve in effect as vice-chairperson and be designated as Chairperson for the following year. He/she shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, and act for him/her in case of absence or disability. The term of office of the Chairperson-Elect shall be one (1) year.
4. The Past-Chairperson shall serve as the chair of the nominating committee. The term of the Past-Chairperson shall be one (1) year.
5. The Secretary shall take minutes of all meetings of the Midwest Section at which business is conducted, to include meetings of the Executive Committee, and keep these in his/her custody. He/she shall notify all members of the Midwest Section of membership meetings, maintain an up-to-date section membership mailing list, maintain a permanent

correspondence file, and carry out such correspondence of the Midwest Section as is delegated to him/her by the Chairperson. The term of office of the Secretary shall be two (2) years. The election will be carried out during the alternate year of the Treasurer election.

6. The Treasurer is responsible for handling of the Midwest Section's finances under the guidance of the Executive Committee. The term of the Treasurer shall be two (2) years. The election will be carried out during the alternate year of the Secretary election.

7. Representative of the Midwest Section in the House of Delegates shall be elected by the membership to a term of three (3) years and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in that office. The Delegate shall act as representative of the Midwest Section. In the event that the Delegate cannot attend the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee can appoint an Alternate Delegate.

a. The number of Delegates to represent the Midwest Section shall be in accordance with rules described in the National AACC Constitution and Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE V. Chapters**

1. Within the Section there can be subsections designated as Chapters of the Midwest Section.

2. Chapters shall be appropriately named to reflect the location served and be sanctioned in writing by the Executive Committee of the Midwest Section.

3. The purpose of the Chapters shall be to promote and conduct scientific activities apart from regular local section activities which would advance and improve the science and practice of clinical chemistry in accordance with Article II of both the AACC Constitution and the Midwest Section bylaws.

4. Chapter activities may receive financial support from the Local Section at the discretion and with approval of the Executive Committee. Such financial support and other monies acquired by the Chapter as a result of its activities shall be held as a sub-account of the Midwest Section Treasury.

5. Chapter activities shall enjoy all Local Section benefits, e.g., AACC insurance coverage of the Local Section, provided such activities are officially communicated and sanctioned by the Chairperson of the Midwest Section.

6. Each Chapter shall designate a Chapter coordinator who shall be the Midwest Section Chairperson's contact and line of communication with the Chapter.

**ARTICLE VI. Committees**

1. The standing committee of the Midwest Section shall be the Executive Committee. Other committees, such as Program, Membership, Nominating, Education, Legislature, and Finance Advisory, committees shall be appointed at the direction of the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, immediate Past-Chairperson, and Elected Delegate(s). It shall have the power to act for the Section on all matters not otherwise specified, or whenever it is not practical or possible to convene the general membership for a decision. All actions taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported to the membership at least once per year.
3. The Program Committee shall consist of at least two (2) members appointed by the Section Chairperson. The Committee shall plan the programs and carry through arrangements for all meetings of the Section.
4. The Membership Committee shall consist of at least two (2) members appointed by the Section Chairperson to one-year terms. The Committee will attempt to encourage and promote membership applications.
5. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the immediate Past-Chairperson, with assistance by the Executive Committee. This Committee shall be responsible for identifying members in good standing of the Midwest Section to be nominated to the full Section membership for election as officers of the Section. This Committee shall have the responsibility of preparing the ballot for election of the officers and see that it is distributed to the full membership of the Section not later than June 1.
6. The Legislative Committee shall consist of one member from each State in the Midwest Section. The Section Chairperson shall appoint the members and designate the committee Chairperson. The members of the Committee shall make themselves aware of all legislative action taken by various government agencies within their respective states which may affect the practice of clinical chemistry and report this information to the Executive Committee and/or the National Legislative Committee as necessary. The Legislative Committee members shall be able to act as spokespersons for the Midwest Section when invited by government agencies to provide input concerning legislature pending in their respective states. The Committee shall have close liaison with the National Association Committee on Professional Relations.
7. The Education Committee shall consist of the Chairperson-elect and at least two (2) members of the Midwest Section appointed by the Section Chairperson. During a member's second year on the Committee, he/she shall serve as Education Committee Chairperson and Continuing Education Officer for the Midwest Section. The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that ACCENT credits are issued in accordance with the National AACC Constitution and Bylaws.

8. The Finance Advisory Committee shall consist of the treasurer and at least one (1) other member appointed by the Section Chairperson. The Committee will report to the Executive Committee of the Section.

9. A Historian shall be appointed by the Section Chairperson. The appointed members shall serve three years. The Historian will be responsible for maintaining the section's archives and documenting current issues that he/she deems important regarding the historical aspects of the section.

#### **ARTICLE VII. Election of Officers**

1. Elections. The Section Chairperson shall be responsible for ensuring that the Nominating Committee, with the assistance of the Section Secretary, provides information to all Midwest Section members regarding the upcoming election. This information should include a ballot showing vacancies to be filled, the name(s) of the individual(s) nominated to fill these positions, and a biographical sketch of each candidate. Provisions shall be made for possible write-in(s). This information will be distributed no later than June 1. Ballots shall be cast and returned within thirty (30) days of distribution of the ballot. For each office, the nominee receiving a plurality of votes so counted shall be declared elected.

2. The past-Chairperson shall, no later than fifteen (15) days before the beginning of the National Association Meeting, notify the Section Chairperson, who shall immediately submit to the National Association the names of the officers elected for the following fiscal year and notify the elected candidates.

3. Vacancies. In the event the office of the Chairperson becomes vacant during the year, the Chairperson-Elect shall become Chairperson for the remainder of the year and shall assume the regular term of office as Chairperson the following year. If the vacancy should occur in the office of Chairperson-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, or Delegate, the Chairperson shall appoint a successor for the remainder of the term of office. Such an appointee shall be eligible to be elected to that office the following year.

#### **ARTICLE VIII. Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the Section shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31. The tenure of all the officers and members of committees shall normally begin on January 1 of the year following their election or appointment; they shall serve until their successors are elected or appointed.

**ARTICLE IX. Meetings**

Meetings shall be held at the discretion of the officers, but there shall be not less than one (1) each year. Notices of meetings shall be distributed not later than thirty (30) days before the events. At that time, the treasurer shall present a financial summary and answer all questions regarding expenditures.

**ARTICLE X. Distribution of Finances on Dissolution**

If the Midwest Section should be dissolved, any funds then in its custody shall revert to the National Treasury of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Incorporated, as provided in the Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE XI. Amendments**

These articles may be amended by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of the membership at any regularly scheduled meeting at least thirty (30) days, and not more than sixty (60) days, after members have received notice of proposed changes.

Revision 2/24/2005

This copy of the bylaws is current in September 2007.  
Douglas F. Stickle, PhD, DABCC, FACB  
Chair, 2007, AACCC Midwest