

## **ARTICLE V**

### **ELIGIBILITY TO MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION 1.**

**A.** Subject to the provisions of this Article V, any person shall be eligible for membership in this organization who is (i) employed by the governments of the United States or Canada, or the political subdivisions thereof or therein, or by any business enterprise therein; and (ii) pays all dues and maintains his or her dues on a current basis with the National Union.

**B.** Membership is only open to a person employed in a bargaining unit represented by the National Union, members and employees of a body affiliated with the National Union by written agreement, or any person employed by or providing service as a staff member or as an elected officer of the National Union.

**C.** A member who fails to pay dues shall lose good standing without a union trial or without notice. Any request for reimbursement for overpayment of dues shall be limited in scope to the current fiscal year.

**D.** A member on dues checkoff who has no earnings from which dues can be withheld is responsible for paying dues directly to the National union in order to remain in good standing.

#### **SECTION 2.**

Good standing is defined as continuous, timely payment of all dues owed to the National Union. A member shall have the opportunity to maintain his or her good standing status for the purpose of being a candidate for elected union office by paying all back dues owed within fifteen (15) days of the close of any nomination period. It is the responsibility of the member to maintain his/her union standing.

#### **SECTION 3.**

There shall be no discrimination against any member, or any applicant for membership by reason of race, ethnicity, creed, color, religion, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, or disability.

#### **SECTION 4.**

No person may become a member of the National Association or any Local Unit who has, at any time, been found to be guilty of any conduct violative of Article XII, Sec. 1, of the National Constitution without obtaining a waiver of these provisions by the Executive Board of the Local Unit and the National Executive Committee.

#### **SECTION 5.**

A member, upon retirement or separation from employment with federal, state, county, municipal or a political subdivision, government or corporation doing business with the federal, state, county and municipal government, or any other business enterprise, is entitled to become a retired member. However, members who retire and wish to retain NAGE insurance and other benefits at a reduced annual cost may do so. To qualify for reduced cost, such retiree must have been a member for five (5) or more years or a chartered member. Such retired member can attend local meetings but may neither

vote nor hold local office unless he/she is a full dues paying member in good standing, and has received a waiver from the National Executive Committee.

**SECTION 6.**

Any member in good standing in a Local Unit, who has been assigned to the jurisdiction of another Local Unit, shall be entitled to a certificate from his original Local Unit, stating his membership and the duration thereof.

**SECTION 7.**

The National Association of Government Employees subscribes to the pertinent Executive Order, Labor Management Relations rules, regulations and laws governing the Federal “Standards of Conduct for Labor Organizations” and subscribes to comparable codes for states, counties, municipalities and their subdivisions as may be applicable.

**SECTION 8.**

No person shall use, conspire to use, or threaten to use force or violence to restrain, coerce, or intimidate, or attempt to restrain, coerce, or intimidate any member of the National Association of Government Employees for the purpose of interfering with or preventing the exercise of any right to which s/he is entitled under the pertinent rules, regulations, laws and Executive Orders referred to in Section 7.

**SECTION 9.**

The National Association of Government Employees prohibits its National and Local Unit officers and members from directly or indirectly through a spouse, minor child, or otherwise, from participating in business or financial interests which conflict with their duty to the Association.

**SECTION 10.**

No Local Unit or the National Union shall directly or indirectly make any loan to any member or employee

**SECTION 11.**

Nothing in this or any other provision of this Constitution shall prevent a Local Unit from investing funds in State chartered credit unions as well as Federal credit unions or in the federally insured savings and loan associations, whenever such investments shall be authorized by a regular meeting of the Local Unit or by the National Executive Committee.

**SECTION 12.**

A National Union member called to active duty in our Armed Services shall be considered a member in good standing during such service.