

**2018-2019 WNA Professional Policy Committee  
Report and Recommendations on Benefits for Specialty Nursing Associations to Join WNA's  
Organizational Affiliate  
Adopted by the WNA Membership January 18, 2019**

## **Report Summary**

### Background

ANA and other State Nursing Associations have created a membership structural unit called, **Organizational Affiliate**. **Organizational Affiliates** are specialty nursing organizations that hold organizational-level membership of ANA or the SNA. The goal of the relationship is to increase communication for the purposes of working together, share information and collaborate in finding solutions to issues that face the nursing profession, regardless of specialty. While each organization maintains its autonomy, the nursing profession and the patients we serve benefit from a shared voice that speaks on health care issues from a position of unrivalled experience and expertise. For WNA, we have been the convener of the Wisconsin Nursing Coalition (WNC). The membership and the participation of the WNC continue to decline. The WNC has been meeting to identify if a new relationship model could be developed. At the May 2018 WNA Board of Directors Meeting it was decided to form a Task Force to conduct a feasibility study to determine the benefits of WNA developing an Organizational Affiliate structure. The members of the Task Force were Linda Gobis, WNA President, Beth Markham, WNA Vice President, Pam Macari Sanberg, WNA Treasurer and Wendy Crary, WNA Board Director-at-large.

At the July 20, 2018 meeting, the WNA Board of Directors accepted the report and approved the recommendations of the Task Force which included the following information:

1. Summary of the structure, bylaws and benefits of ANA Organizational Affiliate membership..
2. Summary of the common elements contained in the seven ANA Constituent/State Nursing Associations Midwest Regional States related to structure, bylaws and member benefits.
3. A draft of proposed changes to the WNA Bylaws that develop an Organizational Affiliate membership structure.
4. Recommend that the proposed bylaw changes be forwarded to the WNA Bylaw Committee to prepare for the WNA Annual Membership Meeting.
5. Recommend that the October 2018 WNA Dialogue Forum include WNA member input regarding the benefits that should be afforded the WNA Organizational Affiliate member.

**Recommendations: That the WNA Board of Directors will implement the following:**

**Membership as a WNA Organizational Affiliate beyond what is provided for in the WNA Bylaws will include the following benefits:**

1. **Increase professional nurse unity.**
2. **Two meetings per year with agreed upon white paper development between meetings.**
3. **Special pricing on conference registration for specific educational or informational offerings.**
4. **Members access to WNA's official publication, The Wisconsin Nurse.**
5. **Provide a column/article in each issue of The Wisconsin Nurse. (Content to be provided by the Organizational Affiliate)**

- 6. Access to member-only section of the WNA website related to legislative and regulatory issues.**
- 7. Access to password protected Organizational Affiliate section on the WNA website. (Content to be provided by the Organizational Affiliate)**
- 8. WNA maintain Organizational Affiliate electronic distribution member listing.**
- 9. Explore membership to Wisconsin Student Nurses Association, voice no vote.**
- 10. Explore designating a seat for the Organizational Affiliate representative, voice no vote.**