

How to start a National Organization

No hard and fast rules determine where or when a Neonatal National Organization should be established. However, because national organizational development requires communication, collaboration, and planning, you should ask yourself three questions:

1. Do you believe regular communications among neonatologists in your area is needed?
2. Is your professional community capable of fostering an atmosphere of cooperation and collaboration among neonatologists from different institutions?
3. Can you identify a sufficient number of potential leaders in your area to provide the necessary momentum and guidance for chapter development?

If you answered yes to these questions, you already have a solid foundation upon which to build a national organization. All you need to do is begin. The steps to forming a chapter require work, but the work involved is well worth the end product. It generally takes several organizational meetings to move from the inquiry process to chapter application.

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the National Neonatal Association of -----

PURPOSE

The purpose of this ASSOCIATION shall be:

1. To promote the highest standards of neonatal practice and education, and Research
2. To maintain an organization that will assist the neonatologists in optimizing professional development and economic and general welfare.
3. To provide an organization that promotes the general welfare of neonatologists.

GOALS

The goals of the ASSOCIATION shall be to:

1. Facilitate an exchange of information between neonatologists
2. Maintain for its members a forum for continuing education
3. Provide communication networks among neonatologists
4. Participate in legislative activities that will promote and improve neonatal care for the infant and family
5. Promote equitable compensation commensurate with the education, training and responsibilities of the neonatologists
6. Support and participate in the ongoing development and implementation of specialty certification

7. Work toward standardization and accreditation of programs that prepare doctors to work in advanced practice neonatal units
8. Facilitate and support advanced practice