

AALA Constitution

Asian Association for Language Assessment

November 2024

(Initial version issued in July 2015)

(Amendment approved by means of Member electronic voting on February 24, 2025)

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Asian Association for Language Assessment, hereinafter referred to as AALA or the Association.

Article II: Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the Association shall be to promote the improvement of language assessment in Asia. The Association's interests will be independent of those of any other organization.

The goals of the Association shall be set in accordance with its purpose and attained through activities organized primarily in the Asian context:

- a. To offer students and faculty in colleges and universities opportunities to understand and present current research and practice;
- b. To offer professional staff in assessment agencies opportunities to understand and present current research and practice;
- c. To conduct an annual conference and other events in the region to promote interaction and communication among students, faculty, and professionals;
- d. To promote professional publications that advance theory and practice;
- e. To advocate for the ethical design, development and use of assessments;
- f. To recognize outstanding achievements among its membership.

Article III: Membership

Section 1

Membership in AALA is open to those who are involved or have an interest in matters related to language assessment in Asia.

Section 2

Membership shall be open to all those who apply for membership to AALA. Members are eligible to vote and to participate in all the activities of the Association; and Regular Members are eligible to be a candidate for office (subject to eligibility as outlined in Article V of the AALA By-Laws).

Section 3

Various classes of members may be created as specified in the By-Laws.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1

The officers of AALA shall be President, Co-President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Officer, Members at Large, and Immediate Past President. These officers shall be elected as specified in the By-Laws.

Section 2

The Co-President shall succeed to the office of President, the First Vice President to the office of Co-President, the Second Vice President to the office of the First Vice President, and the President to the office of Immediate Past President, who will serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Board with the voting right.

Section 3

The duties of the officers shall be as specified in the By-Laws.

Article V: Legislation and Administration

Section 1

The Executive Board shall be the principal policy-making body of AALA and shall be responsible for managing its resources and activities.

Section 2

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Co-President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer, Immediate Past President, up to three Members-at-Large, and a number of Co-opted Members as necessary.

Article VI: Committees

AALA shall have a By-Laws Committee and such standing committees as are specified in the By-Laws and such ad hoc committees as shall be created by the Executive Board.

Article VII: Amendments

Section 1

Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by the Executive Board, by the By-Laws Committee, by the Annual General Membership Meeting, or by a petition of at least 50 members of the Association submitted to the Secretary.

Section 2

Any amendment initiated in accordance with Section 1 shall be reviewed by the By-Laws Committee, which shall consider the need for and appropriateness of the proposed amendment, in consultation with those who initiated it, and make a recommendation to the Executive Board on whether the proposed amendment should be adopted. The Executive Board shall then consider the amendment and decide whether to approve it.

Section 3

Any amendment that is approved by the Executive Board in accordance with Section 2 shall be submitted to the full active membership of AALA for approval by means of an e-mail ballot. A two-thirds majority of the members who vote shall be required for adoption of the amendment.

Article VIII: Financial Assets

Section 1

No part of the earnings of AALA shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for expenses incurred or for services rendered.

Section 2

If dissolution of AALA occurs, the Executive Board shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Association, dispose of all of the assets of the Association.