

## **Duties and Qualifications of Regional Action Commission Members**

### **1. Membership**

The Regional Action Commission (RAC) will have at least six members one from each geographic region: Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Pacific, Rocky Mountains, and Southwest, with the possibility of additional member(s) from non-contiguous states/regions. Each member will have served as an officer or active volunteer of a state organization and must hold an AMS-approved Montessori teacher or Administrator credential. The Commission should reflect the diversity of the AMS membership. All Commissioners must be AMS members in good standing.

### **2. Member Criteria**

The following criteria will be considered when a new commission member is selected to be included on the slate presented to the board for approval: composition of current Commissioners' and applicant's expertise and experience in regional activities and relations, including advocacy work, applicant's level of Montessori credential and Montessori educational experience, geographical representation, previous volunteer experience and evidenced dedication to and interest in AMS.

### **3. Length of Term**

The length of a Commissioner's term is three years with a term limit of two terms. New terms begin July 1. Individual member's terms will be staggered to ensure continuation of an experienced commission. If a member resigns prior to the completion of the three-year term, a replacement may be recommended by the Commission and approved by the AMS Board of Directors to complete the term. With the exception of the Chairperson, who represents the Commission on the AMS Board of Directors, any other Commissioner elected to the AMS Board of Directors during a Commission term must resign from the Commission.

If a member resigns prior to the completion of the three-year term, a replacement may be recommended by the Commission and approved by the AMS Board of Directors to complete the term. Except for the Chairperson, who represents the Commission on the AMS Board of Directors, any other Commissioner elected to the AMS Board of Directors during a Commission term must resign from the Commission.

The Chair shall serve three years as Chair and may be re-elected for a second term. The Chair's Commission term will be extended to align with their three-year Board term. A member may be removed from the Commission by 2/3 vote of the remaining members. A member may be removed after missing two consecutive Commission meetings or for lack of participation.

The officers are determined by vote of the RAC membership. They shall serve three years and may be re-elected for a second term. A Nominating Committee of RAC will recommend to the AMS Board of Directors officer candidates to the Commission, chosen from the members after

all members are polled for his or her desire to serve. In the case of multiple candidates, an election for the officer position will be held and confidential ballots will be collected from all RAC members by the AMS staff liaison.

#### **4. Duties of Members**

A commission member must be willing to dedicate sufficient volunteer time. Commission members are expected to participate actively in the work of the Commission including attending all in-person and teleconference meetings at least monthly, and to participate in the AMS RAC Connect and the State and Regional Groups Connect Community. The member's duties include reviewing written materials and contacting regional members in between meetings, recommending RAC policy and procedural changes to the AMS Board of Directors and possibly making presentations. Promotion of AMS regional events and organization of volunteers to help AMS staff facilitate planning and implement the Traveling Symposium. Attendance at state and regional conferences and events to represent AMS is also expected.

To assure expertise and a high degree of quality in the work of the commission, more specifically a commission member is expected to:

#### **RAC Strategies for Reaching Outcome Goals:**

##### **In order to create stronger brand recognition for AMS, RAC will:**

1. complete personal reach outs to regional schools, TEPs, and organizations to review AMS's mission, vision, and actions.
2. be present at regional or state level events to promote AMS work.
3. act as ambassadors for AMS in communication with state and regional leaders.

##### **In order to increase the number of AMS member schools, RAC will:**

1. promote the benefits of AMS membership regionally.
2. engage in communication and deep listening with regional school, TEP, and individual members regarding what they need from AMS.
3. provide advice to individuals or groups who show interest in establishing a state group.

##### **In order to advance quality Montessori education, nationwide, RAC will:**

1. Facilitate regional in-person learning, networking, and peer to peer sharing.
2. remind schools and TEPs within their region of AMS professional development offerings.
3. develop relationships and partnerships with state organizations and MPPI.

**In order to ensure Montessori schools and teacher education programs share and collaborate within regions, RAC will:**

1. provide introductions, templates, gatherings, and encouragement for doing so.
2. acknowledge collaborative efforts through AMS newsletters and publications.
3. model and facilitate collaboration at regional gatherings.

**In order to better understand what school leaders are thinking and needing, RAC will:**

1. create formal and informal lines of communication to encourage schools, TEPs and individuals to share feedback and input and hear directly from AMS.