



CHAPTER BYLAWS

These bylaws are a standard template required for use by all CUPA-HR Chapters.
Please do not edit or amend this document.

ARTICLE I. NAME AND AREA SERVED

The name of the Chapter is the Southern New England Chapter of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR), herein referred to as the “Chapter.” This Chapter includes the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

ARTICLE II. AFFILIATION

The Chapter is affiliated with CUPA-HR as indicated by the signed “CUPA-HR and CUPA-HR-Chapter Affiliation Agreement.”

ARTICLE III. PURPOSE

The Chapter is organized and is to be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any further United States Internal Revenue law). The Chapter shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by organizations exempt from federal income tax under these statutes.

The Chapter supports CUPA-HR’s mission to serve higher education by providing the knowledge, resources, advocacy and connections to achieve organizational and workforce excellence.

The purpose will be accomplished through the strategic priorities of CUPA-HR as approved by the national board and posted on cupahr.org.

In support of the national organization, chapter leaders will strive to apply the following values to the work of the Chapter:

- **Inclusive Participation and Engagement**
Participation in chapter programs and events is open to all higher education human resource professionals from any institution in the chapter area, regardless of national CUPA-HR membership status. Higher education human resources professionals outside of the chapter geographic area are also welcome to participate.
- **Integrity**
We honor our commitments, make decisions in the best interest of higher ed human resources professionals, and act as responsible stewards of chapter resources.
- **Excellence**
We hold to the highest standards in all that we do as we endeavor to exceed higher ed human resources professionals’ expectations.
- **Partnerships**
We recognize the benefits of partnership and explore all opportunities to collaborate with other chapters, associations and organizations to advance our objectives.
- **Responsiveness**
We respond to higher ed human resources professionals needs, inquiries and requests in a timely manner and consistently seek their feedback to improve our products and services.

- **Diverse Perspectives**

We value diverse points of view and actively solicit the input of higher education human resources professionals within our geographic area in making decisions about the Chapter.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Participation in Chapter programs and events is open to all higher education human resources professionals from any institution in the Chapter area, regardless of national CUPA-HR membership status. Higher education human resources professionals outside of the Chapter geographic area are welcome to participate.

Membership for purposes of voting on Chapter business, is reserved for higher education human resource professionals at CUPA-HR National Association member institutions within the Chapter's defined geographic area.

Section 1. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be from July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Officers

The affairs of the Chapter shall be governed by a Board of Directors with specific duties and authority given to the **designated officers** which include **Past President, President, President-elect, Secretary and Treasurer**. All designated officers on the Board of Directors must meet the criteria as outlined in Section 2. Chapter Officer Selection Criteria. Any additional board positions, including terms of office and officer responsibilities, may be appointed at the discretion of the Board of Directors and presented during the regular annual business meeting of the Chapter, or other time as decided by the designated officers.

- A. The **President** serves as the Chief Volunteer of the Chapter and partners with the national CUPA-HR board to achieve the Association's mission. The President provides leadership to the Board of Directors, who sets policy for the Chapter. The President also chairs meetings of the Board after developing the agenda and helps guide and mediate Board actions with respect to organizational priorities and governance concerns. In consultation with other Board members, the President may appoint committees as they determine is advisable to assist in accomplishing the mission and goals of the Chapter.
- B. The **President-elect** shall serve as the special aide to the President and shall assume all President duties in the absence of the President. The President-elect serves as President of the Program Planning Committee charged with planning and implementing the annual conferences and meetings of the Chapter.
- C. The **Past President** shall act as advisor to the President and the Board to ensure continuity of leadership.
- D. The **Treasurer** shall ensure that the Chapter operates on sound fiscal principles. The Treasurer shall present to the Board of Directors the Chapter's annual budget and periodically report on the Chapter's fiscal status. The Treasurer shall recommend to the Board of Directors all fiscal policies and operating procedures.
- E. The **Secretary** shall record all official actions of the Board of Directors and of the membership at the Chapter's annual business meeting. The secretary will also ensure that members are notified of the time, date and place of meetings, and ensure distribution of agenda materials.

Section 2. Chapter Officer Selection Criteria

- A. Commitment to the Chapter and its activities.
- B. All individuals holding a designated officer position must be listed as a representative of a higher education institution that is a member of the CUPA-HR national organization within the Chapter's defined geographic area.

- C. A higher education human resources professional who is currently employed in the field with no less than 50% of their job devoted to human resources activities.
- D. Provide leadership that is consistent with CUPA-HR's commitment to providing equal opportunity for participation in all aspects of the organization without regard to race, gender, national/ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age, veteran, religion or disabled status.

Section 3. Terms of Office and Tenure

Terms of office of the **President, Past President, and President-elect** shall begin on July 1 following the date of election and shall continue until the following June 30. The Chapter President automatically succeeds to the office of Past President in the year following tenure as President. The President-elect shall succeed to the office of President in the year following tenure as President-elect.

The **Secretary** and the **Treasurer** shall serve **two-year terms** beginning on July 1 and ending June 30. Members may be re-elected to a two-year term in these positions. These positions will be filled in alternating years.

Section 4. Key Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall abide by all components outlined in the Affiliation Agreement.

Section 5. Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in any office, the Board of Directors shall make an interim appointment that shall be for the remainder of the former incumbent's term of office. The President-elect will serve in the absence of the President.

Section 6. Removal from Office

A board member, including designated board officers, may be removed from the Board of Directors for cause by a two-thirds vote of board members then in office and present at any regular or special meetings of the Board of Directors. The proposed removal shall be set forth in the notice of any such regular or special meeting, sent at least 10 days prior thereto.

Section 7. Officer Compensation

Officers shall not receive any stated salaries for their services.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. Chapter Annual Meetings

The Chapter shall hold an annual business meeting at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Sixty days' notice shall be given by the Board of Directors to members of the Chapter of such dates and places as may be determined for the Annual Meeting. Except as provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, a majority vote of members present as defined in article IV and voting at a properly called meeting shall be sufficient to carry any matter before the Chapter.

Meetings of the Chapter may be postponed or suspended by the Board of Directors when necessary, because of exceptional circumstances, but notification of such postponement or suspension and the reason therefore shall be given to the membership whenever possible at least thirty days in advance of the date on which the meeting of the Chapter ordinarily would be held.

Except as herein provided "Robert's Rules of Order as Revised" shall govern the proceedings of the Chapter during the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Board of Directors Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the Chapter President, and a majority of the membership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business. Except as provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, a majority vote of board members present and voting at a properly called meeting shall be sufficient to carry any matter before the board.

- A. Action by Unanimous Written Consent: Unless otherwise restricted by the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, the Board may take action without holding a meeting if all designated officers consent in writing to the adoption

of a resolution authorizing or ratifying an action, and the written consent is filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board. Electronic mail may be used to provide consent in writing.

B. Telephonic/Video Conferences: An officer may participate in a meeting of the Board by a conference telephone, video conference or similar communication equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting may communicate with each other, if all participants are advised of the communications equipment, and if the names of all participants in the conference are divulged to each participant. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this Section constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

ARTICLE VII. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY, INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

Section 1. Permissible Indemnification

The Chapter may indemnify an individual who is a party to a proceeding because he or she is an authorized representative against liability incurred in the proceeding if: (a) He or she conducted himself or herself in good faith; (b) he or she reasonably believed (i) in the case of conduct in his or her official capacity, that his or her conduct was in the best interests of the Chapter; and (ii) in all other cases, that his and her conduct was at least not opposed to the best interests of the Chapter; and (c) in the case of any criminal proceeding, he or she had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; or (2) he and she engaged in conduct for which broader indemnification has been made permissible or obligatory under a provision of the certificate of incorporation. An authorized representative's conduct with respect to an employee benefit plan for a purpose he or she reasonably believed to be in the interests of the participants in, and beneficiaries of, the plan is conduct that was not opposed to the best interests of the Chapter. The termination of a proceeding by judgment, order, settlement or conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent is not, of itself, determinative that the authorized representative did not meet the relevant standard of conduct described in this section.

Unless ordered by a court, the Chapter may not indemnify an authorized representative under this Section: (1) In connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the Chapter except for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the proceeding if it is determined that the authorized representative has met the relevant standard of conduct under this Section; or (2) in connection with any proceeding with respect to conduct for which he or she was adjudged liable on the basis that he or she received a financial benefit to which he or she was not entitled, whether or not involving action in his or her official capacity

Notwithstanding above, an authorized representative of the Chapter who is a party to a proceeding may apply for indemnification or an advance for expenses to the court conducting the proceeding or to another court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 2. Mandatory Indemnification

The Chapter shall indemnify an authorized representative who was wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of a proceeding to which the authorized representative was a party because he or she was an authorized representative of the Chapter against reasonable expenses incurred by the authorized representative in connection with the proceeding.

Section 3. Advances of Expenses

The Chapter may, before final disposition of a proceeding, advance funds to pay for or reimburse the reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the proceeding by an authorized representative who is a party to the proceeding if the authorized representative delivers to the Chapter: (1) A written affirmation of the authorized representative's good faith belief that the relevant standard of conduct described in Section 1 of this Article has been met by the authorized representative or that the proceeding involves conduct for which liability has been limited under a provision of the certificate of incorporation; and (2) A written undertaking to repay any funds advanced if the authorized representative is not entitled to mandatory indemnification under Section 2 of this Article and it is ultimately determined under Section 1 or Section 4 of this Article that the authorized representative has not met the relevant standard of conduct described in Section 1 of this Article. The undertaking required by this Section must be an unlimited general obligation of the authorized representative but need not be secured and may be accepted without reference to the financial ability of the authorized representative to make repayment. Authorizations under this section shall be made: (1) By the board of directors: (a) If there are two or more qualified directors, by a majority vote of all the qualified directors, a majority of whom shall for such purpose constitute a

quorum, or by a majority of the members of a committee of two or more qualified directors appointed by such a vote; or (b) if there are fewer than two qualified directors, by the vote necessary for action by the board in accordance with Subsection (c) of Section 33-1100 of the Connecticut General Statutes Annotated, in which authorization directors who are not qualified directors may participate; or (2) By the members, but a member who is also a director who at the time is not a qualified director may not vote on the authorization.

Section 4. Determination and Authorization

The Chapter may not indemnify an authorized representative under Section 1 of this Article unless authorized for a specific proceeding after a determination has been made that indemnification is permissible because the authorized representative has met the relevant standard of conduct set forth in said section. The determination shall be made: (1) If there are two or more qualified directors, by the board of directors with a majority vote of all the qualified directors, a majority of whom shall for such purpose constitute a quorum, or by a majority of the members of a committee of two or more qualified directors appointed by such a vote; (2) By legal counsel (a) selected in the manner prescribed in subdivision (1) of this Section, or (b) if there are fewer than two qualified directors, selected by the board of directors, in which the directors who are not qualified directors may participate; or (3) By the members entitled to vote to elect directors, but any such member who is also a director who at the time is not a qualified director may not vote on the determination. Authorization of indemnification shall be made in the same manner as the determination that indemnification is permissible, except that if there are fewer than two qualified directors, or if the determination is made by legal counsel, authorization of indemnification shall be made by those entitled to select legal counsel under of this Section.

Section 5. Insurance

The Chapter may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of an individual who is or was an authorized representative of the Chapter, or who, while an authorized representative of the Chapter, serves at the Chapter's request as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another domestic or foreign corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other entity, against liability asserted against or incurred by him or her in that capacity or arising from his or her status as an authorized representative, whether or not the Chapter would have power to indemnify or advance expenses to him or her against the same liability under Sections 1 through Section 7 this Article, inclusive.

Section 6. Variation by Chapter Action

The Chapter may, by a provision in its certificate of incorporation or these bylaws or in a resolution adopted or a contract approved by its board of directors or members, obligate itself in advance of the act or omission giving rise to a proceeding to provide indemnification in accordance with Section 1 of this Article or advance funds to pay for or reimburse expenses in accordance with Section 3 of this Article. Any such provision shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements for authorization referred to Section 3 and Section 4 of this Article. Any such provision that obligates the Chapter to provide indemnification to the fullest extent permitted by law shall be deemed to obligate the Chapter to advance funds to pay for or reimburse expenses in accordance with Section 3 of this Article to the fullest extent permitted by law, unless the provision specifically provides otherwise.

The Chapter may, by a provision in its certificate of incorporation, limit any of the rights to indemnification or advance for expenses created by or pursuant to Sections 1 through 7 of this Article, inclusive. Sections 1 through 7 of this Article, inclusive, do not limit a Chapter's power to pay or reimburse expenses incurred by an authorized representative in connection with his appearance as a witness in a proceeding at a time when he is not a party.

Section 7. Definitions

For purpose of this Article, the term "authorized representative" shall mean a director, member, officer, employee, or agent (including each former director, member, officer, employee, or agent) of the Chapter or of any corporation controlled by the Chapter, or a trustee, custodian, administrator, committeeman, or fiduciary of any employee benefit plan established and maintained by the Chapter or a person serving another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise in any of the foregoing capacities at the request of the Chapter.

For purposes of this Article, references to "the Chapter" shall include, in addition to the surviving corporation, any merging corporation (including any corporation having merged with a merging corporation) absorbed in a merger involving the Chapter which, if its separate existence had continued, would have had the power and authority to indemnify its directors, members, officers, employees or agents, so that any person who was a director, member, officer, employee or agent of such merging corporation, or was serving at the request of such merging corporation as a director, member, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under the

provisions of this Section with respect to the surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such merging corporation if its separate existence had continued.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws are a standard template required for use by all CUPA-HR Chapters. This document cannot be edited or amended by the Chapter Board. Only the CUPA-HR National Board can approve an amendment to chapter by-laws by a two-thirds majority vote of the National Board members present and voting at a board meeting. *To be eligible for consideration, proposed amendments must be submitted at least six weeks prior to CUPA-HR's scheduled board meetings (June 1 for summer board meeting, October 1 for fall board meeting, March 1 for spring board meeting.)*

ARTICLE IX. DISSOLUTION OF THE CHAPTER

Section 1 – The Chapter may be dissolved either:

- A. Upon a two-thirds vote of the full Chapter Board, or
- B. Upon a majority vote of the CUPA-HR National Board upon the absence of an operational Chapter Board for a period of 6 months.

Section 2

Upon Dissolution of the Chapter under Section 1, after paying or making provision for paying all liabilities of the Chapter, the remaining assets shall be paid to CUPA-HR, a non-profit organization duly qualified under the applicable rules of the Internal Revenue Service.

Section 3

Any Chapter assets not distributed through Section 2 shall be disposed of pursuant to the direction of the applicable local Court of Common Pleas, or the equivalent thereof, in the County in which the principal office of the Chapter is located, as the Court may determine.

ARTICLE X. MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Methods of Voting

The Chapter is at liberty to utilize any method of communication approved by majority vote of their Board to conduct elections (including nominating procedures). Such methods may include, but not be limited to, secret ballots, e-mail ballots, written ballots, mail ballots, or a combination thereof. Where specific reference is made herein to ballot type, this provision shall take precedence.

ARTICLE XI. EFFECTIVE DATE

These Bylaws are adopted and ratified by a two-third majority vote of the CUPA-HR National Board on the fifth day of December, 2024.