The NAMI Board is a hard-working, policy-level board whose members play active and important roles in setting direction for the success of the national organization. To best serve in the Board role, members are expected to:

- Understand and protect the fiduciary health of the organization;
- Understand and adhere to the democratic process of a non-profit Board;
- Understand and support NAMI’s programs and public policies;
- Attend and participate fully in all Board meetings, Annual Conventions, and other organizational functions;
- Be NAMI members in good standing; and,
- Make what feels to the individual to be a significant financial contribution to NAMI, on an annual basis.

See the NAMI Board’s Open Letter for a more complete discussion of the skills and expertise that are desired for NAMI Board service.

**Candidate Visibility:** Based on surveys of candidates, those voting in recent elections, input from NAMI’s advisory councils and the NAMI Board’s desire to make as much pertinent information available about candidates as possible, the following opportunities will be provided for members to acquaint themselves with Board candidates:

- www.nami.org/2020Candidates will direct you to the candidate profiles that include a photograph; all professional disclosures; a pre-recorded stump speech; the reasons the candidate came to NAMI and is running for the Board; the letter of nomination from the NAMI Affiliate or NAMI State Organization; and, a summary of responses from both the candidate and the nominator to specific questions about the strengths the candidate will bring to the Board.

- Candidates’ “stump speeches” are posted on the web. These five-minute recorded speeches by each candidate allow those not able to attend the Convention to hear directly from the candidates. Speeches are posted at www.nami.org/2020candidates.

- Because the NAMI Convention has been cancelled due to concerns related to COVID-19, the NAMI board will be working on other options for candidate visibility in the face of the pandemic. Please visit www.nami.org/2020Elections for more information.

**Questions?** → Voting@nami.org
NAMI conducts elections each year in conjunction with its Annual Meeting and Convention. Each NAMI Affiliate and NAMI State Organization in good standing is entitled to vote.

**What you need to do now:**

1) **Read the materials online in their entirety.** [www.nami.org/voting](http://www.nami.org/voting) includes information about NAMI elections, instructions for credentialing to vote, an explanation of the online voting format, information about the candidates and all necessary forms.

2) **Decide who will be casting the online ballot for your organization.** Generally, the president or executive director casts the ballot for an affiliate or state organization. The leadership can also grant that right to another individual by naming a delegate to cast the vote.

3) **Complete the credentialing process:** Fill out the Credentialing Form online at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020-NAMI-Elections-Credential-Form](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020-NAMI-Elections-Credential-Form). This form tells NAMI who has been named the delegate to cast the ballot for the affiliate or state organization. NAMI staff will forward the specific credentials for the organization with a link to the online elections system so the delegate can complete the voting process.

**Where to get more information:**

- Visit [www.nami.org/2020Candidates](http://www.nami.org/2020Candidates) to get information on all the candidates, as well as hear recorded speeches of up to 5 minutes from each candidate.
- Because the National Convention has been cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns, the NAMI Board of Directors will be determining whether additional options can be developed to engage with the slate of candidates. Watch [www.nami.org/2020Elections](http://www.nami.org/2020Elections) for more information.
VOTING PROCEDURES EXPLAINED

✓ How Votes are Allocated:
  □ An Affiliate vote is weighted based on the number of current, paid members in that NAMI Affiliate. See chart at right for information on how vote weight is determined.
  □ Your Affiliate vote weight is indicated on your ballot.
  □ All NAMI State Organizations have one vote, regardless of size.

✓ Voting for Board Candidates:
  □ You must vote for five (5) board candidates.
  □ Your ballot will not submit if you vote for fewer or more than five candidates.

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