

# NAMI 2021 Elections Information

## Information for NAMI Affiliates/ NAMI State Organizations in Good Standing

Eligible NAMI Affiliates and NAMI State Organizations will be electing five of this year's eleven candidates to fill the five open seats on the 2021-2022 NAMI Board of Directors.

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 legal and fiduciary responsibilities of a nonprofit board;
- Serve a three-year term, with the opportunity to serve two consecutive terms if reelected;
- Understand and support NAMI's programs and public policies;
- Attend and participate fully in all Board meetings, Annual Conventions, and other organizational functions as well as dedicate time weekly to NAMI Board service;
- Be NAMI members in good standing; and,
- Make what the individual believes 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:

- **Candidate profiles** can be found at [www.nami.org/2021Candidates](http://www.nami.org/2021Candidates) which 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 everyone to hear directly from the candidates. Speeches are posted at [www.nami.org/2021candidates](http://www.nami.org/2021candidates).
- **Live candidate speeches** will take place online in early July. While NAMIcon 2021 will be held virtually again due to COVID-19, we will still provide all NAMI Board candidates the opportunity to make their "on-site" convention speeches which are typically held the first day of the convention. Please visit [www.nami.org/2021Elections](http://www.nami.org/2021Elections) for more information towards the end of June.

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**NAMI conducts elections each year in conjunction with its Annual Meeting. Each NAMI Affiliate and NAMI State Organization in good standing is entitled to vote.**

## NAMI AFFILIATE VOTE WEIGHTS

✓ **How Votes are Allocated:**

- Each Affiliate with 5 or more current, paid memberships in NAMI's database as of 70 days prior to the NAMI Annual Meeting is considered "in good standing" and eligible to vote.
- An Affiliate vote is weighted based on the number of memberships they had as of that deadline. See chart at right for how vote weight is determined.
- Your Affiliate vote weight is indicated on your ballot.
- All NAMI State Organizations have one vote, regardless of size.**

# of memberships	= vote weight
5 - 50	1
51 - 100	2
101 - 200	3
201 - 300	4
301 - 400	5
401 - 500	6
501 - 600	7
601 - 700	8
701 - 800	9
801 or more	10

✓ **Voting for Board Candidates:**

- You must vote for five (5) board candidates.
- Your ballot will not submit if you try to vote for fewer or more than five candidates.

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### What you need to do now:

- 1) **Read the materials online in their entirety.** You can find general information about NAMI elections at [www.nami.org/voting](http://www.nami.org/voting) and information specific to this year's elections at [www.nami.org/2021elections](http://www.nami.org/2021elections). The 2021 NAMI Elections page includes links to information about the candidates and all necessary voting documents and instructions.
- 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 instead grant that right to another individual by naming a delegate to cast the vote.
- 3) **Complete the credentialing process.** Fill out the Credentialing Form to tell 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. The form can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021-NAMI-Elections-Credential-Form>.

Questions? → [voting@nami.org](mailto:voting@nami.org)