

**SOUTH CENTRAL CHAPTER
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON
BY-LAWS
(Revised September 1, 2006)**

**ARTICLE I
General**

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the South Central Chapter of the Structural Engineers Association of Washington, Inc. The term "Association" as hereinafter used shall refer to that Corporation. The term "Organization" or "Chapter" shall refer to the South Central Washington organization.

Section 2. The object of the organization is to promote the interest of the Profession of Structural Engineering in the Yakima/Tri-Cities and surrounding geographical area, in the ways included in the Articles of Incorporation of the State Association.

**ARTICLE II
Membership**

Section 1. (a) An Honorary Membership may be awarded by the Board of Directors to any person who meets either of the following qualifications: 1) A person of acknowledged eminence in some branch of engineering or the science related thereto; or 2) A person who has been a member in good standing of this Association for 25 years or more and who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, has contributed outstanding service to the Association.

A person who has been a MEMBER prior to award of Honorary Membership retains all rights of MEMBER, and shall be designated as an HONORARY MEMBER.

(b) A MEMBER of the Association shall be a Registered Professional Engineer specifically authorized by the Washington State Board of Engineering Examiners to practice Structural Engineering, and regularly engaged in the practice of Structural Engineering at the time of his admission to this classification. The term MEMBER shall include all members designated as HONORARY MEMBER, LIFE MEMBER, and RETIRED MEMBER as specified in this section unless specifically noted otherwise.

(c) A Professional Associate member shall be a Registered Professional Engineer or Architect, licensed to practice in the State of Washington.

(d) An Affiliate member at the time of admission to the Association shall be a person who, by scientific attainments or practical experience, holds a position in a special pursuit with qualifications to cooperate with Structural Engineers in the advancement of professional knowledge and practice.

(e) An Associate member at the time of admission to the Association shall have graduated from an approved engineering school or college or shall have had other engineering education or experience which is satisfactory to the Board of Directors. That member's designation as an Associate shall cease upon the achievement of ten (10) years' combined education and experience at which time the membership classification shall be automatically changed to Affiliate member.

(f) A Student member at the time of admission to the Association shall be a Junior, Senior, or Graduate Engineering Student interested in Structural Engineering who is enrolled in an approved engineering school or college. That member's designation as a Student member shall cease when no longer a full-time student in an engineering school or college, or after four years as a Student member whichever occurs first.

(g) A Life or Retired membership may be awarded to a member at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Qualifications for such membership shall be as follows:

- (1) Life member shall have been a member in good standing of this Association for a minimum of 20 years.
- (2) Retired member shall have been a member in good standing of this Association for a minimum of 10 years.
- (3) Member shall have retired from the active profession of engineering or have reached the age of 65 years.
- (4) Member shall have made written request to the Board of Directors for such membership.

A member receiving such membership classification shall retain the class of membership at the time of retirement plus the designation of "Life" or "Retired". A MEMBER receiving such membership classification shall be designated as a LIFE MEMBER or as a RETIRED MEMBER.

(h) A Non-resident member is a member of the Association who moves their residence out of the State of Washington who applies for a non-resident membership. The Application shall be written communication to the Chapter President who shall present the application to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may grant the member's request for the current calendar year. Non-resident membership may be renewed at the discretion of the Board of Directors when requested in writing. A Non-resident member shall receive all correspondence and other information pertaining to the Association which is normally mailed to the general membership. A Non-resident member shall also be entitled to all rights and privileges accorded this classification of membership, except that said member may not have a vote in Association affairs and may not hold elected office. Annual dues for this classification of membership shall be one-half of the amounts listed in Article V, Section 1 of these By-laws.

(i) Subject to review by the Board of Directors, any person who meets the qualifications listed above may become an Honorary member, MEMBER, Professional Associate member, Affiliate member, Associate member, Student member, Life member, or Retired member providing said member subscribes to the aims and objects of the Association as specified in the Articles of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of the State of Washington on April 22, 1950 and pays the prescribed admission fee. Such person meeting the qualifications for MEMBER or Professional Associate member shall be accepted only in the higher classification for which they qualify. When any member acquires the qualifications of MEMBER or Professional Associate member, membership classification shall be automatically changed to the higher classification for which the member qualifies.

(j) When MEMBER is written in capital letters it shall refer to a "MEMBER" as described in paragraph (b) of this Section. When "member" is written in small letters it shall refer to all classes of members as described in paragraphs (a) through (h) of this Section.

ARTICLE III Government

Section 1. The Chapter shall be governed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than five (5) members which include the President, the Vice-President, the last available Past President and at least two (2) members-at-large. If no Past President is available, a special Director shall be elected for a one-year term. Only MEMBERS and Professional Associates in good standing shall hold the offices of Directors.

Section 2. The officers of the Chapter shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by, and shall serve at the pleasure of, the Board of Directors. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be filled by the same person. Only MEMBERS of good standing shall hold the offices of President and Vice-President.

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings, of the Board of Directors and the Chapter.

(b) The Vice-President shall fulfill the duties of the President in his/her absence.

(c) The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, the Chapter, and all records of the Chapter. The Secretary shall maintain a membership list and have charge of all correspondence and notices of meetings. The Secretary shall furnish each member of the Chapter with a copy of the Chapter By-laws. Financial allowances shall be made to the Secretary of the Board of Directors.

(d) The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds of the Chapter, and shall keep financial records of the term of office. He shall make disbursements by direction of the Board of Directors.

(e) No member or committee may obligate funds of the Section without prior authorization of the Board of Directors. Such authorization shall include a limit on the funds that may be obligated.

ARTICLE IV Admissions, Expulsions, Leaves of Absence and Resignations

Section 1. Admissions - The name of every proposed member must be submitted to the Board of Directors with the endorsement of at least three (3) members of the Association, one of whom must be a MEMBER of the Association.

The membership of the Chapter shall receive written notices of all applications for membership within sixty (60) days of receipt by the Board of Directors. The membership shall have a period of one month from date of mailing notices on any application in which to file objections in writing to the election of the application. After the expiration of the prescribed time, the Board of Directors shall vote upon the application, giving due consideration to any objections that may be received. The applicant shall be duly elected upon receipt of favorable votes from a majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Expulsions -

(a) The Board of Directors shall consider proceedings toward the expulsion of any member on receipt of written information, properly signed, indicating that for cause set forth a person belonging to the Association should be expelled. The Board of Directors shall consider the case; and if the circumstances appear to warrant further action, it shall advise said member of the charges. Said member may, if he/she so desires, present a defense either in person or in writing which shall be considered at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The member shall receive due notice of the meeting.

(b) No member shall be expelled from the Association except after due notice has been given as provided in Paragraph (a) of this Section and then only by a majority vote of the Board of Directors with subsequent referral to the MEMBERS of the Chapter. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of MEMBERS voting is required for expulsion of a member provided a majority of all of the active MEMBERS vote.

Section 3. Leaves of Absence - A member of the Association may apply for a leave of absence by written communication to the Secretary of the Chapter, who shall present the same to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may grant the leave of absence for the current calendar year. Leave of absence may be renewed at the discretion of the Board of Directors when requested in writing.

Section 4. Resignations - A member of the Association, with all dues paid, may apply for resignation by written communication to the Secretary of the Chapter, to be presented to the Board of Directors, which is empowered to accept the resignation. A member thus resigned may be reinstated by the Board of Directors without payment of initiation fee.

Section 5. Non-resident Membership - A member of the Association who moves their residence out of the State of Washington may apply for a non-resident membership. The application shall be by written communication to the Chapter President, who shall present the application to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may grant the member's request for the current calendar year. Non-resident member shall receive all correspondence and other information pertaining to the Association which is normally mailed to the general membership. A non-resident member shall also be entitled to all rights and privileges accorded this classification of membership, except that the said member may not hold elected office. Annual dues for this classification of membership shall be one-half of the amount listed in Article V, Section 2 of these By-laws. The dues collected shall be divided between Chapter and State Association on the same basis as full dues.

Section 6. Membership by Reciprocity - A member of the Association of another state, which agrees to a reciprocal membership arrangement with the State Association of Washington, may apply for the same classification of membership in this Association provided the member satisfies all other requirements of these By-laws. The application shall be by written communication to the Chapter President, who shall present the application to the Board of Directors. The Board's consideration of the application shall be governed by section 1 of this Article. The applicant must be a resident of the State of Washington at the time of admission. Upon the Board's approval of the application, normal initiation fees will be waived and the member's appropriate dues shall become payable at the beginning of the following calendar year.

ARTICLE V Fees, Dues, and Assessments

Section 1. The initiation fee shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for MEMBERS, Professional Associate members and Affiliate members, and five dollars (\$5.00) for Associate members.

Section 2. The annual dues for each class of membership shall be as follows:

Honorary Member	None
MEMBER	\$95.00
Professional Associate	\$85.00
Affiliate member	\$95.00
Associate member	\$67.50
Student member	\$10.00
Life member	None
Retired member	***

*** 50% of the class of membership at the time of Retirement.

Dues for the current fiscal year shall be paid by candidates for membership before acceptance by the Chapter, reduced by one-half the annual amount on or after July 1 of each year.

Section 3. Annual dues are payable in advance, and are due by January 1, but must be paid by May 1. After May 1, voting privileges are suspended until dues are paid. Any member whose dues are more than one year in arrears, except as herein provided, ceases to be a member of the Association.

Section 4. The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may, on application from any member and for causes, remit part or all of the Chapter's share of dues and/or assessments of the member, or extend the time of payment.

Section 5. Any additional monies required to carry on the activities of the Chapter may be raised through assessments. Any assessments proposed by the Board of Directors shall be referred to the MEMBERS and Professional Associate members by letter ballot. If two-thirds (2/3) of those voting vote favorably, provided at least fifty percent (50%) of the eligible members vote, the assessment shall be declared carried.

Section 6. The Board of Directors is empowered to receive contributions from any source, provided the funds so received are used to further the aims and objectives of the Association.

Section 7. Funds of the Association shall not be used for lobbying.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the Chapter, other than the annual May meeting, shall be held at the call of the Board of Directors. There shall be at least one meeting each quarter.

Section 2. Action by the Board of Directors must be supported by at least three (3) members of the Board. A majority shall constitute a quorum of all committees.

Section 3. (a) The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month, and at the call of the President.

(b) Any group of two members (MEMBERS or Professional Associates) may challenge the vote of the Board of Directors before its acceptance by the chair, and require the question to be put before the membership. A vote of the majority of the MEMBERS and Professional Associate members at the Chapter meeting will serve to require a directed vote by the Board of Directors as representatives of this electorate.

Section 4. Robert's Rules of Order, as latest revised, shall govern all parliamentary procedure not otherwise provided for in these by-laws.

Section 5. A quorum at a meeting shall consist of those MEMBERS and Professional Associate members present, unless that quorum is challenged by two MEMBERS. When the quorum of MEMBERS and Professional Associate members present is so challenged for voting on any specific motion, then a quorum for voting on that motion shall be fifty percent (50%) of the total MEMBERS and Professional Associate members of the Chapter.

Section 6. When a quorum is not present for voting on a specific motion at a meeting, that motion may be submitted by the Board of Directors for a ballot vote by all MEMBERS and Professional Associate members.

ARTICLE VII Elections

Section 1. The election of officers and directors at large shall be held each year at the annual meeting in the month of MAY.

Section 2. Candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President, and Directors shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the following procedure:

A Nominating Committee consisting of five (5) Members shall be appointed by the Board. Service on this committee shall not affect a Member's eligibility for office. The Nominating Committee shall submit at least one name for each office to the membership at the March meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the March meeting provided the nominee is supported by at least three (3) members.

Section 3. The meeting notice for the May meeting shall include a list of all nominees for all offices. A secret ballot shall be taken at the May meeting, with only MEMBERS and Professional Associate Members being permitted to vote. MEMBERS and Professional Associate Members who are unable to attend the May meeting may submit an absentee ballot at their own expense, expressing their choice for officers. This ballot must be received by the Secretary prior to the May meeting. The ballots shall then be counted and those receiving the highest vote shall be declared elected.

Section 4. All elections shall be conducted by Election Committees appointed by the Board of Directors. The results of the balloting at all elections shall be reported to the membership.

Section 5. Officers of the Chapter shall take office after the election at the May meeting.

Section 6. The Past President and President shall represent the Chapter as members of the Board of Trustees, State Association of the Structural Engineers Association of Washington.

ARTICLE VIII
State Association

As a Chapter of the Structural Engineers Association of Washington, Incorporated, this Chapter and its members shall be subject to the Articles of Incorporation of that Association, its By-laws, and action by its Board of Trustees. The members of this Chapter shall enjoy all privileges of membership in the Structural Engineers Association of Washington.

ARTICLE IX
Amendments

Notice of intention to amend these By-Laws must be given thirty (30) days prior to voting on such amendments. By-Laws may then be amended at any regular meeting of the Chapter by two-thirds (2/3) of the MEMBERS and Professional Associates voting, provided a majority of all the active MEMBERS and Professional Associates vote.