



CALL
CALVIN ACADEMY FOR
LIFELONG LEARNING

**CONSTITUTION
AND
BYLAWS**

2026

The Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning: Constitution and Bylaws
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THE CALL CONSTITUTION

1. ARTICLE I - NAME

1.1. Name

The official name of the organization is *Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning*.

1.2. Acronym

The acronym for the organization, CALL, will be used throughout this Constitution and Bylaws and may be used in publicity for the organization.

2. ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

2.1. Affiliation

The Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning is an organization affiliated with Calvin University.

2.2. Purpose

The purpose of CALL is twofold: first, to enrich the lifelong spiritual, intellectual, cultural, and social lives of its members, primarily by offering engaging, challenging, and culturally relevant programming and second, to create a mutually supportive partnership between Calvin University and all persons who wish to share knowledge, talents and experience.

2.3. Responsibility

2.3.1. The membership of CALL, through its Board of Directors, has responsibility for designing, managing, and carrying out its various activities in accordance with the Bylaws.

2.3.2. CALL will report to an Advancement Division representative as appointed by the President of Calvin University.

3. ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

3.1. Eligibility

CALL programing is tailored to adults 50 years of age and older, but there are no age restrictions or academic prerequisites.

Personal Characteristics

Members should have a broad range of interests, inquisitive minds, spiritual and intellectual vitality, and a willingness to respectfully contribute to the enrichment of fellow CALL participants.

3.2. Relationship to Calvin University

Members must be supportive of the goals and purposes of Calvin University.

3.3. Participation

CALL membership is primarily for persons who will participate regularly and actively in the organization.

3.4. Dues

There will be an annual monetary amount set for membership dues.

4. ARTICLE IV- LEADERSHIP

4.1. Board of Directors

CALL will be led by a Board of Directors of at least six and not more than twelve members elected from and by the membership, plus two members appointed by the President of Calvin University. All directors are expected to support the values, philosophy, and educational focus of CALL and Calvin University.

4.2. Term of Office for Board Members

The term of office for a Board member is three years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms. A previous Director may become eligible for re-nomination after a one-year absence from the Board.

5. ARTICLE V – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

5.1. Proposed Amendments

- 5.1.1. Proposed amendments may be initiated either by CALL members or by the Board of Directors.
- 5.1.2. Proposed amendments must be reviewed and approved by the CALL Board of Directors and both the Vice President of the Advancement Division and the President of Calvin University.
- 5.1.3. Proposed amendments must be made available to the membership at least seven days prior to consideration at a duly constituted CALL membership meeting.

5.2. Adopting Amendments

For adoption, proposed amendments require approval by at least a two-thirds vote of those present at a CALL membership meeting.

6. ARTICLE VI - EXEMPTION AND DISSOLUTION

The Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL) functions as a program of Calvin University and operates under the University's existing 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. CALL does not maintain a separate legal or nonprofit identity. In the event of the dissolution of the CALL program, all assets defer to Calvin University.

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BYLAWS

1. ARTICLE I - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1.1. Nomination of Directors

- 1.1.1. Nominations for Board members shall be made by the Executive Committee from the membership of CALL.
- 1.1.2. At least one month prior to the annual meeting the Executive Committee shall submit to the Board a slate of candidates for Board positions which are open.
- 1.1.3. After approval by the Board, this slate of candidates shall be included in the annual meeting notice to CALL members.

1.2. Election of Directors

- 1.2.1. Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of CALL from the slate of candidates.
- 1.2.2. Nominations may be made from the floor provided the nominee has given prior approval to such action.
- 1.2.3. Election may be by unanimous consent or by voice vote. If the number of candidates exceeds the number to be elected, the voting shall be by ballot, a simple majority required for election.
- 1.2.4. Following the annual meeting, the new Board shall meet to elect its officers.

1.3. Vacancies on the Board

- 1.3.1. Resignation of a Board member must be in writing and shall be submitted to the Board President or Secretary.
- 1.3.2. The Board may make appointments to fill mid-term vacancies in elected positions after having solicited names of candidates from the Executive Committee.

- 1.3.3. Vacancies in positions appointed by the President of Calvin University may be filled only by the President of Calvin University.

- 1.4. Absences from Meetings

- 1.4.1. Three consecutive unexcused absences from regular Board meetings by a Board member shall, after due notification, normally be considered equivalent to resignation.
- 1.4.2. Vacancies resulting from such absence may be filled in accordance with section 1.3 above.

- 1.5. Meetings

- 1.5.1. The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at such times and places as it may determine.
- 1.5.2. Special meetings may be called by the President or at the written request to the Board Secretary by two or more members of the Board.
- 1.5.3. Notice shall be given to all Board members at least forty-eight hours prior to all meetings.

- 1.6. Membership Fees

The Board of Directors shall set the annual membership fee and announce it during the annual membership renewal and new-member drive.

2. ARTICLE II - OFFICERS

2.1. Officers

The officers of CALL shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

2.2. Election and Terms of Office

- 2.2.1. A slate of nominees, usually one nominee for each office, shall be drawn up by the Executive Committee. This slate shall be presented to the Board at the end of the June Board meeting. Additional names may be placed in nomination by the Board at the June meeting.
- 2.2.2. Officers shall be elected by the Board from these nominees, at the June meeting of the Board.
- 2.2.3. Officers shall serve one-year terms, beginning immediately after the June meeting of the Board, and may be re-nominated for each of their remaining term years.
- 2.2.4. The CALL membership shall be duly notified of CALL's officers following the election.

2.3. President

- 2.3.1. The President of the Board of Directors will give leadership to ensure that CALL programs are educationally sound and support Calvin University's mission of integrating faith and learning.
- 2.3.2. The President shall preside at all meetings of CALL, of the Board of Directors, and of the Executive Committee.
- 2.3.3. The President shall, in consultation with the Executive Committee, approve the chairpersons of all committees.
- 2.3.4. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

2.4. Vice-President

The Vice-President shall act as an aide to the President and, in the absence of the President, perform all the normal duties of the President.

2.5. Secretary

2.5.1. The Secretary is responsible to ensure that a correct record of the proceedings of all CALL meetings and of the Board of Directors, with the assistance of the Program Manager.

2.5.2. The Secretary, with the assistance of the Assistant Program Manager, shall deliver copies of materials having potential historical value, such as board minutes, to Heritage Hall of Calvin University.

2.6. Treasurer

2.6.1. The Treasurer shall ensure that there is an accurate financial record kept of all CALL receipts and expenses, shall work with the program manager to prepare monthly financial reports for the Board, and shall serve on the Finance Committee.

2.6.2. On behalf of CALL, the treasurer and program manager will use Calvin University Financial Services for collection and dispersion of funds and for all accounting needs.

2.7. Executive Committee

- 2.7.1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Board, one of the members appointed by the President of Calvin University, and the immediate past president (for one year).
- 2.7.2. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Directors between meetings of the Board, subject to the right of the Board to review Executive Committee action at the next Board meeting.
- 2.7.3. The chairpersons of the committees, having responsibility for the matter or matters being dealt with at the Executive Committee meeting, will normally be invited to attend and will have full privilege of the floor.

3. ARTICLE III – COMMITTEES

3.1. Standing Committees

Standing Committees of the Board shall be as follows:

3.1.1 University Support

This committee advocates on behalf of CALL to Calvin University for space, equipment, mailing, and duplicating services, and for other appropriate needs. In addition, this committee is the avenue for Calvin University to request assistance from CALL for strategic initiatives.

3.1.2 Curriculum Committee

This committee will establish a curriculum that is based on the interests of the membership, and that is in harmony with the stated purpose of CALL as described in Article 2.2 of the CALL Constitution. Qualified instructors or leaders will be drawn both from within the membership and from the community.

3.1.3 Finance Committee

This committee will establish a yearly budget and will recommend membership and class fees to the Board. This committee will also investigate other means of support, such as private donations and foundation grants. Last, the Finance Committee will initiate, evaluate, and recommend changes to our IT system as it relates to membership records, registration, and payment of fees.

3.1.4 Hospitality Committee

This committee will ensure appropriate hospitality services at CALL events and classes, will encourage the entire CALL program to be welcoming, and will maintain a special emphasis on being welcoming to new members.

3.1.5 Member Events Committee

This committee will establish and plan social gatherings for members “and their guests when space permits,” and will arrange a program of special trips and events of shorter duration (typically one-three days in length).

3.1.6 Health, Fitness, and Recreation Committee

This committee will establish programs to assist members in leading healthy and enjoyable lifestyles. This committee will collaborate with the Athletics Department of Calvin University, as well as with other agencies, in establishing and operating some of these programs.

3.1.7 Extended Trips Committee

This Committee will plan and implement a program of both domestic and international trips of longer duration (typically greater than four days).

3.1.8 Marketing Committee

This Committee will develop and evaluate the marketing, advertising, and promotion of CALL, ensuring that the organization’s mission and goals are advanced. This work will be done in collaboration with other CALL committees as appropriate.

3.2 Committee Membership

- 3.2.1 Committee chairpersons are approved by the President, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Board.
- 3.2.2 Committee chairpersons, in collaboration with the program manager, are responsible for recruiting committee members from the CALL membership in sufficient number to carry out the duties of the committee.
- 3.2.3 One Board member shall be appointed to each committee. This appointment shall be made jointly by the committee chairperson and the Board President.
- 3.2.4 There are no term limits for committee members.

3.3 Ad Hoc Committees

The President of the Board shall appoint *ad hoc* committees as required.

4. ARTICLE IV – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

4.1. Procedure

The CALL Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

4.2. Reporting

All amendments to the Bylaws shall be reported promptly to the CALL membership.



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