

Christian Science Committee for Institutional Service in the State of Oregon

BYLAWS

I. NAME

Christian Science Committee for Institutional Service (CSCIS) in the State of Oregon, a joint committee formed as an unincorporated association effective 6-1-85 of branches of The Mother Church, the First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts.

II. PURPOSE

1. To provide a Christian Science ministry to residents at Federal, State, County and City prisons, jails, hospitals, mental hospitals, youth and veterans facilities in Oregon.
2. To provide post-release Christian Science information to residents prior to their release.

III. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of these Bylaws, the following terms are defined as used in these Bylaws.

1. **Active Branch:** A Member Branch that actively participates in at least one of the following ways: has made a financial contribution within the previous twelve months; currently supplies a Chaplain, Chaplain's Assistant, Church Representative, and/or Executive Committee member from its membership.
2. **Branch:** A Branch Church or Society of The Mother Church (TMC), The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts, listed in *The Christian Science Journal*.
3. **Chaplain:** A Christian Scientist who is a member of a Branch and The Mother Church, has completed Christian Science class instruction, and has volunteered and been appointed and assigned by the Executive Committee to serve on the CSCIS in specific institutions in accordance with Section VI of these Bylaws. A Chaplain uses the initials C.S. after the name, i.e. John Smith, C.S.
4. **Chaplain's Assistant:** A Christian Scientist who is a member of a Branch and TMC and who has volunteered and been appointed and assigned by the Executive Committee to serve on the CSCIS in specific institutions, in accordance with Section VI of these Bylaws.
5. **Christian Science Ministry:** Includes but is not limited to prayer in support of this work; one-on-one meeting with institution residents in response to a request; distribution of authorized Christian Science literature; provision of Christian Science Church services; participation in training classes or meetings as invited/delegated; meeting with institution

staff; participation in Committee meetings, and correspondence as needed to report and communicate with institution residents, the Executive Committee, and Member Branches.

6. Church Representative: An individual who has been selected by his/her Branch to report the work and activity of this Committee to their Branch membership.
7. Committee: The Christian Science Committee for Institutional Service in the State of Oregon (CSCIS).
8. Committee Member: A Chaplain, Chaplain's Assistant or Executive Committee Member
9. Executive Committee: Conducts the business of this statewide joint Committee and promulgates procedures.
10. Executive Committee Quorum: A majority of the members of the Executive Committee.
11. Fiscal Year: October 1 through September 30.
12. Member Branch: Any Oregon Branch that has agreed to be a member. A non-Oregon Branch that has requested to be approved and been approved by the Executive Committee.
13. Resident: A person who resides in a City, County, State, or Federal institution, hospital, mental hospital or youth facility; a person who is staying at a Veteran's Administration Hospital.
14. TMC: The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

1. The membership of this statewide joint Committee consists of Member Branches.
2. A Member Branch does not relinquish any rights of self-government, and the Committee cannot take any action which obligates or binds a Member Branch.
3. Member Branches are asked to voluntarily provide financial support to the Committee on a per capita basis. Financial resources are used to cover expenses which include but are not limited to: providing Christian Science literature; reimbursing Chaplains, Chaplain's Assistants, and Executive Committee members for travel expenses; and paying for the meetings, workshops, and miscellaneous operating expenditures necessary to maintain the work of the Committee.
4. A Member Branch withdraws from membership of this Committee by providing written notice to the Executive Committee.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

1. The Executive Committee consists of three to five members, each of whom serves a term of three years. The term begins on the date of election. A member can be elected to a second three-year term, but no member shall serve on the Executive Committee more than six consecutive years within a seven-year period beginning the date of the initial election.
2. Each member of the Executive Committee must be a class-taught student of Christian Science, a member of both TMC and a Branch.
3. The applicant's Branch must submit a letter of endorsement and recommendation for applicant and verify applicant's membership in the Branch.
4. The elected officers of the Executive Committee are Chair and Vice Chair for a term of one year beginning October 1 and may serve only two consecutive terms.
5. If an Executive Committee position becomes vacant before the end of a term, the new Executive Committee Member starts a new three-year term.

VI. APPLICATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAINS & CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANTS

1. Application to serve as a Chaplain or Chaplain's Assistant can be made by completing the form provided by the Committee and submitting to the Secretary.
2. The applicant's Branch must submit the endorsement and recommendation for the applicant and verification of the applicant's membership, which is included on the application.
3. The Executive Committee shall elect by unanimous decision the Chaplain or Chaplain's Assistant.
4. The Chaplains and Chaplain's Assistants are accountable to and report to the Executive Committee.

VII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of Democratic Rules of Order by Fred and Peg Francis shall govern the conduct of business meetings of this Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

VIII REPEAL, REPLACE OR AMEND

Amendments, or action to repeal or replace Bylaws, may be proposed by either the Executive Committee or an Active Branch. Proposed changes shall be sent to all Active Branches. A two-

thirds vote of all Active Branches is needed to approve amendments, or to repeal, or replace a Bylaw.

IX. DISSOLUTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

1. This Committee may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Active Branches. The Executive Committee must submit the proposal to all Active Branches for a vote. Action to dissolve may be proposed by either the Executive Committee or an Active Branch.
2. Any and all property acquired by the Committee is irrevocably dedicated to religious purposes. In the event of liquidation, dissolution or abandonment, property shall be transferred and assigned to the then current Active Branches or to TMC.