



Academia Panamericana de Ingenieria
Academia Pan-Americana de Engenharia
Pan American Academy of Engineering



PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS CONSIDERED AND RECOMMENDED by the Board of Directors February 26, 2026

Proposed amendments to the statutes are shared in accordance with the recommendations of the President at the meeting of December 11, 2025, as submitted in the President-Elect's Report together with those considered by the Board of Directors during the meeting of February 26, 2026.

STATUTE REFORM

Given that all communications are now electronic, unlike when the Statutes were drafted, it is considered that various deadlines in the Statutes can be adjusted to reflect the efficiency offered by electronic communications. Therefore, it is proposed to amend the advance notice period for all proposed amendments to the Statutes from ninety (90) to forty-five (45) days and to recognize the participation of the Academicians as stipulated in Article 30.

Thus, Article 55 would be amended as follows:

Article 55 All proposed amendments must be sent to the Members of all categories of the Academy **forty-five (45)** days prior to the Extraordinary Plenary Session that will consider them, indicating which articles proposed to be amended and the reasons for the amendments. The amendments must be approved by two-thirds of the Full Members participating in the Session.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Given that all communications are now electronic, unlike when the Statutes were drafted, it is considered that various timeframes in the Statutes can be adjusted to reflect the efficiency offered by electronic communication.

In light of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend the processes for evaluating, electing, and admitting new Academics, so that the Election Committee receives from the Secretary the nominations that have been reviewed and determined to meet the requirements established in the Statutes, and that these nominations be submitted to a vote by the membership as proposed below.

Article 18 The selection process for candidates for the categories of Full or Associate Member will be as follows:

18.1 The President and Secretary of the Academy will review all nominations received on time to verify compliance with the requirements established in these Bylaws. Nominations that do not meet these requirements will be returned to the proposers, but the President may grant a period of up to ten (10) days for the person or persons responsible for a proposal to complete missing information and background details. The Secretariat will organize the proposals by country and reproduce them for email to each member of the Election Committee **ninety (90)** days prior to the scheduled date of the Induction Ceremony. A complete list of existing Members in all categories, organized by country, will also be sent.

18.3 The Academy Secretariat shall send, by email or other expedited means, the names of the nominees accepted by the Election Committee to each of the Full Members, no less than **seventy-five (75)** days prior to the scheduled date of the Induction Ceremony. The Full Members shall review the qualifications of the nominees and vote within ten (10) days for the acceptance or rejection of a proposal, justifying their decision in case of rejection. No Full Member may excuse themselves from voting unless they present justifiable reasons. The vote is secret, and the Secretariat shall take appropriate measures to maintain the confidentiality of both the Full Members' votes and the decision of the Election Committee.

FISCAL YEAR

An analysis of the Board of Directors' fiscal and fiduciary responsibilities reveals that these require a schedule for annual meetings and ordinary plenary sessions, a departure from current practice and custom. These responsibilities are separate from the terms under which the Academy operates.

According to the bylaws, the Academy's Treasurer is obligated to submit an Annual Balance Sheet as of December 31st of each year, duly certified by a licensed Public Accountant in the Academy's host country, and send it to the members of the Board of Directors **thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting**. Furthermore, the Treasurer must also send the members of the Audit Committee the **Annual Balance Sheets for the two periods preceding the Ordinary Plenary Session thirty (30) days prior to the meeting so that they may be considered**.

If the date established by the statutes for the Annual Balance Sheet is December 31 of each year and the Annual Balance Sheet has to be duly certified by a qualified Public Accountant (Certified), to be sent to the members of the Board of Directors, then a schedule as detailed below could be envisioned.

1. January 31 - Preparation of Draft Annual Balance Sheet by Treasurer
 - Submission of Draft Annual Balance Sheet to Board of Directors
 - Draft Annual Balance Sheet by Treasurer to Certified Public Accountant

2. February 28 - Issuance of Annual Balance Sheet by Certified Public Accountant
 - Submission of Certified Annual Balance Sheet to Audit Committee
 - Submission of Certified Annual Balance Sheet to Board of Directors

3. March 15 - Board of Directors' Evaluation of Annual Balance Sheet by Certified Public Accountant
 - Submission of Annual Balance Sheet by Certified Public Accountant to the Register

4. April 1-15 - Annual Meeting / Ordinary Plenary Session
 - Presentation of Certified Annual Balance Sheet to Biennial Plenary Session
 - Inauguration of President-Elect
 - Election of New Board of Directors

In consideration of the foregoing and to comply with the provisions of Articles 24 and 27 of the bylaws, it is proposed to amend Article 27 as follows:

Article 27 The Academy shall meet every two (2) years in a ***Biennial*** Ordinary Plenary Session ***during the first half of April***. The Board of Directors shall decide on the ***exact date and location***.

MEMBERS – CONDITIONS

The expansion of knowledge and specialization have impacted engineering as much as, or even more than, other professions. The development of environmental, biomedical, information systems, and other engineering fields has brought into engineering teaching and practice professionals and academics whose university degrees are not in engineering, but who are university professors in engineering schools, training new generations of engineers or collaborating in the development and invention of engineering equipment. As the statutes were originally drafted, many distinguished engineering professionals and academics are excluded from joining the Academy because their university degree is not in engineering. To ensure that distinguished professionals who teach and practice engineering can be candidates for the Academy, it is proposed to amend Article 7, as indicated below.

Article 7 The Academy is composed of the following membership categories: Full, Associate, Honorary, Emeritus, and Life Members.

The requirement for election as a Member, in any category, is that the nominee hold a university degree in engineering in any of the specialties, recognized for professional practice by the institutions that regulate said practice in their country or in any other country of the Continent; ***or be a professor in engineering schools of recognized universities; or have academic prestige in related disciplines that have impacted the practice and profession of engineering, with recognition from the National Academy(ies) of Engineering, Science, Invention, or Health.***

Members must be individuals of impeccable reputation, professional integrity, with a vocation for service, and who can demonstrate:

7.1 Be engineers graduated from a recognized university in the country or abroad, **or professors, academics, scientists, or inventors as previously qualified**, with a significant track record in professional practice.

7.4 Have recognition from the organized engineering community of their country, through the National Association(s), the National Academy of Engineering, **the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Invention**, and other engineering institutions or specialized chambers of recognized prestige. Have the endorsement of the Full Members of the Academic Council of that country.