

NNLM Region 6 State Stakeholder Advisory Groups

NNLM Mission

To advance the progress of medicine and improve public health by providing U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information and improving individuals' access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health.

Purpose of Region 6 State Advisory Groups: To provide leadership guidance for each state's outreach and engagement activities conducted by Region 6 staff and Partner Outreach Program members.

Charge

1) To guide the development and implementation of an action plan for each state in Region 6 that addresses how NNLM can support specific health disparities identified as priorities for that state, with a focus on medically underserved populations.

2) To develop strategic recommendations, programs, and relationships that advance the health of communities through equal access to biomedical and health information resources and data.

Specifically, members of the Advisory Group will provide three core services:

Identify Opportunities

- Provide input on communities that would most benefit from NNLM and NLM products and services
- Recommend organizations to join NNLM
- Offer ideas and input on potential partnerships with organizations in the state
- Advise on potential conferences, health fairs, or other public events that would benefit from an NNLM Region 6 presence

Provide Feedback

- Review and offer guidance on effective messaging and outreach from R6
- Develop recommendations for ongoing communications across the state from R6
- Consult with R6 on the development and implementation of any state-wide assessments

Align Activities

- Decide on select priority health topics for the state that align with NNLM initiatives and priorities
- Develop state action plan to guide Region 6 training, funding, and engagement activities

Eligibility

To be eligible for membership, individuals must work in and/or be residents of Region 6 and be employed in one of the following: libraries, health care, public health, nonprofit, or faith-based

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organizations. Members must have an interest in working towards the mission of NNLM and the purpose of the advisory groups.

Recruitment

NNLM Region 6 will promote the opportunity across multiple communication channels. An online form will collect information including position, experience, interest, and an attestation that the nominee will serve through April 30, 2026 if appointed.

Board Composition

The Advisory Group will consist of 13 members, including one Region 6 staff. To foster an interdisciplinary approach, members of the group will be recruited and selected from a variety of professional backgrounds, including libraries, health care, public health, nonprofit, and faith-based work. In addition, composition will strive to reflect multiple roles (director/manager, program staff, etc.) and types of communities served (urban, suburban, rural).

To ensure the advisory group is interdisciplinary, a limit will be established on the number of individuals who can join based on professional role, which is as follows:

- 1 state librarian
- 3 public health representatives
- 3 public library representatives
- 3 health professionals
- 3 health sciences/hospital librarians (at least one of these will be from a Partner Outreach Library, from the previous grant)
- 3 nonprofit/faith-based organization leaders

The Region 6 staff member will facilitate State Advisory Group meetings through Year 1. Beginning Year 2, the State Advisory Group will have two co-chairs, elected from self-nominated members, who will be responsible for facilitating meetings and working closely with R6 staff to develop agendas. Staff will proactively share progress, outcomes, barriers, and successes with one another through weekly and monthly Region 6 staff meetings.

Expectations of Board Members

- Members are expected to attend quarterly meetings.
- Members are expected to come prepared to each meeting.
- Members are expected to communicate non-confidential issues and decisions back to the entity they represent, and to bring concerns, feedback and recommendations to the board.

Terms

The Advisory Group is a time-limited appointment coinciding with the NNLM 2021-20216 grant cycle. The term will be for 5 years. Members will receive an annual stipend of \$150.

Resignation and Termination

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- Any member may resign by writing an email resignation to the R6 staff member at any time.
- If members are not meeting expectations for the state advisory group, they will be asked to step down.

Decision making

Decisions will be made by majority vote. Each member will have equal vote. The Region 6 staff member will only vote in case of a tie.

Records

The Region 6 taker will be assigned for each meeting. Meeting minutes will be sent to all members within one week. Meetings will be recorded but not made public.