

LLLI Area Networks

LLLI Area Networks are a collection of LLLI-recognized Areas bound together through an agreement of mutual accountability to LLLI and its policies. All Area Networks must maintain a primary connection to another LLLI recognized Area Network or directly to LLLI. Up to 12 Area Networks may connect directly to LLLI at one time. This number may change at the Executive Director's discretion. The governing instruments of directly-connected Area Networks must include the provisions outlined in Appendix 6C.

A group of Areas may form a new LLLI Area Network and seek recognition as such by conforming to requirements outlined in Appendix 6C.

Specialized support networks, departments, or workgroups support a specific program or project, whether permanent or temporary. Possibilities include workgroups to develop events, communications, or publications.

The following was added:

APPENDIX 6C LLLI Area Networks – Obligations and Privileges

1) LLLI Area Network Obligations and Privileges.

To be recognized as an LLLI Area Network, it must have:

- a. The participation of at least 5 LLLI Areas.
- b. A decision-making body (or method) to establish and refine agreements among those Areas.
- c. An explicit system of mutual accountability among those Areas with regard to LLLI policies and other agreements made by those Areas.
- d. An adequate system for handling and reporting monetary transactions.
- e. A means for admitting and removing Areas from the area network.

/In addition, an LLLI Area Network must:/

- a. Recognize LLLI as the sole source for accreditation of LLLI Leaders, and that such accreditation is valid worldwide.
- b. Ensure the transparency of and access to its financial records by its Areas and LLLI.
- c. Ensure the transparency of and access to its programmatic reporting by its Areas and LLLI.
- d. Regularly provide an outline of its system of accountability and other Area agreements for review by the Executive Director, and its respective accountability network (if applicable).
- e. Ensure that the essential elements of its Area agreements are simple enough to be understood by all participating Areas.
- f. Maintain a primary connection either with LLLI directly or with another LLLI-recognized Area Network, for mutual support and accountability.
- g. Provide LLLI with a roster of its Areas and Area Networks, and report any changes in a timely manner.

/An LLLI Area Network may:/

- a. Use the LLLI name and logo, consistent with LLLI policies.
- b. Participate in any specialized support networks (including departments and workgroups) facilitated by LLLI.

c. Collect and process LLLI dues and fees, as needed, and donations to support the LLLI activities of its Leaders.

2) Use of Place Names by LLLI Entities.

LLLI Areas or Area Networks wishing to use place names in their organizational names must meet the following criteria:

- a) Have the participation of at least 80% of the Leaders residing within in the named boundary.
- b) A set of organizational principles that is equivalent to the LLLI Reference Set and which are binding on the Area Network's governing body when setting its own policies and agreements. Know and observe all legal requirements for operation within that boundary.

3) Connecting Directly to LLLI.

Area Networks wishing to connect directly to LLLI must meet the following criteria:

- a) Recognition of the LLLI Philosophy and that all activities must be consistent with it.
- b) Recognition of the right and responsibility of LLLI to set global policy for the organization.
- c) A purpose statement that is consistent with the purposes of LLLI.
- d) A set of organizational principles that is equivalent to the LLLI Reference Set and which are binding on the Area Network's governing body when setting its own policies. Recognition that it is part of a broader network of LLLI Areas and Area Networks, and that it should not take actions that are injurious to the whole.
- e) Recognition of the LLLI Leader class of participant, and that LLLI is the sole authority for the accreditation of Leaders.
- f) Enter into an agreement of mutual accountability to LLLI policies with the other Area Networks connecting directly to LLLI.

The Executive Director may limit the number of Area Networks connecting directly to LLLI, and in doing so must establish an explicit guideline that is consistent with the LLLI Reference Set of Organizational Principles and is fairly applied.

4) Connecting Indirectly to LLLI.

Every Area must maintain a primary connection to an Area Network that either:

- a) Directly connects to LLLI, or
- b) Connects indirectly to LLLI through a chain of primary connections with other Area Networks.

/Rationale/

The /Area Network Obligations and Privileges/ completes the organizational policies commonly known as agreements. These policies provide Leaders with explicit obligations and privileges to meet individual community needs. They also ensure that the LLLI mission and philosophy remain central to our work worldwide.

The Executive Director will work with Leaders worldwide to form Area Networks, including a USA entity. This is implementation and more information will be forthcoming from the Executive Director.