



MENSA®

AMERICAN MENSA LOCAL GROUP CHARTER LOCAL GROUP NAME

This Charter is granted this day of , 20 , by American Mensa, Ltd., a New York nonprofit corporation with its principal place of business at 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, Texas 76006 (hereinafter "AML"), to LOCAL GROUP NAME, Local Group #11-666, a currently existing Local Group (chapter) of AML.

I. PURPOSE

This Charter is a summary of relevant sections of the policy documents of Mensa International and American Mensa that together define and describe the purpose and relationship of a Local Group to and with the parent organization, AML, and is intended to serve as a clarification of the relationship between and a reiteration of the responsibilities of AML and LOCAL GROUP NAME.

II. DEFINITION OF LOCAL GROUP (*for Incorporated Groups*)

- A. LOCAL GROUP NAME is a Local Group (chapter) of AML. Its membership comprises those members of AML who reside in the USPS ZIP code areas as maintained by AML ("the Territory") and may increase or decrease by members declaring a preference for a specific Local Group or as Local Group boundaries are evaluated and redefined.
- B. LOCAL GROUP NAME was recognized by AML on February 30, 1977 and organized as a nonprofit corporation in the state of New Dakota on June 31, 1978 and has been assigned FEIN # 123-45-6789 by the Internal Revenue Service. LOCAL GROUP NAME has applied to the IRS and obtained a determination that it is a tax exempt organization pursuant to IRS Section 501(c)(3).

or

II. DEFINITION OF LOCAL GROUP (*for unincorporated Groups*)

- A. LOCAL GROUP NAME is a Local Group (chapter) of AML. Its membership comprises those members of AML who reside in the USPS ZIP code areas as maintained by AML ("the Territory") and may increase or decrease by members declaring a preference for a specific Local Group of AML or as Local Group boundaries are evaluated and redefined.
- B. LOCAL GROUP NAME was recognized by AML on February 30, 1977.

III. CONFORMITY OF ACTIVITIES AND BYLAWS

- A. Both parties shall operate and conduct their business and affairs in accordance with all applicable local, state and national statutes and regulations, the *Constitution of Mensa*, AML's *Certificate of Incorporation*, the *American Mensa Bylaws*, and AML's *Actions Still In Effect*. In the event of a conflict, the conflict shall be resolved in favor of the first mentioned of the statutes, regulations, and documents listed above, in the order listed. Regardless of any possible conflict, AML owns and controls the use of the MENSA mark and logo in the United States.
- B. LOCAL GROUP NAME shall also operate and conduct their business and affairs in accordance with their bylaws and AML's Minimum Standard Bylaws as approved by the local membership and the AML Board of Directors via the AML Bylaws Committee. These bylaws were initially effective February 29, 1996.

IV. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES

- A. AML's purposes are to identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity; to encourage research into the nature, characteristics, and uses of intelligence; and to provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for its members. As a Local Group of AML, LOCAL GROUP NAME implements the purposes of AML in the Territory.
- B. AML empowers LOCAL GROUP NAME to sponsor and conduct membership meetings, programs and activities, issue newsletters and other publications, and conduct other activities primarily for the benefit of LOCAL GROUP NAME's members and community in fulfillment of Mensa's purposes as set forth in the *Constitution of Mensa* ("Authorized Activities").
- C. Mensa encompasses members representing many points of view. Consequently, LOCAL GROUP NAME as an organization shall not express an opinion as being that of Mensa, AML, or LOCAL GROUP NAME, take any political action other than the publication of the results of its investigations, or have any ideological, philosophical, political, or religious affiliation.

V. FINANCES

- A. All funds disbursed by AML to LOCAL GROUP NAME are the property and responsibility of LOCAL GROUP NAME.
- B. All funds independently raised by LOCAL GROUP NAME are the property and responsibility of LOCAL GROUP NAME.
- C. Upon dissolution of LOCAL GROUP NAME, all funds shall be distributed to the Local Group(s) to which the members of LOCAL GROUP NAME are reassigned, according to the policies of AML.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES

Inclusive of responsibilities listed in the *American Mensa Bylaws and Actions Still in Effect*, LOCAL GROUP NAME and AML shall have the following responsibilities.

- A. AML, as LOCAL GROUP NAME's affiliating organization, shall, as long as LOCAL GROUP NAME is in significant compliance with its responsibilities as set forth in this Charter and any applicable policies, provide:
 1. Funding allotments in accordance with policies and funding formulas set by the American Mensa Committee (Board).
 2. Monthly data and reporting, including the membership of the group, qualified candidates and prospects.
 3. Testing and marketing materials and support.
 4. National-level support in the form of a Regional Vice Chairman (RVC), Board liaisons in key areas, and full-time national staff.
 5. Liability insurance as set forth in *Actions Still in Effect (incorporated groups)* or
- Alternate 5. Liability insurance and Directors & Officers insurance as set forth in *Actions Still in Effect (unincorporated groups)*.
6. Leadership training materials and support.
7. A royalty free, nonexclusive, and non-sublicensable license to LOCAL GROUP NAME for the use of AML's trademarks, service marks, trade names, and logos, including, but not limited to, the mark "MENSA" and the Mensa stylized logo, AML's copyrights, AML's membership lists, and other proprietary materials in connection with Authorized Activities, subject to the terms and conditions of the policies set by the Board. AML retains full ownership of the trademarks, service marks, trade names, and logos recited above, as well as all statutory and common law rights therein.
8. Materials and assistance with Local Group media and public relations.
9. At the Local Group's option, assistance for Regional Gatherings, including listings in the *Mensa Bulletin* and on the Web site and credit card processing.
10. At the Local Group's option, Web services including Web hosting, email aliasing, electronic email lists and discussion forums.

- B. LOCAL GROUP NAME, as a Local Group of AML, shall provide:
 1. A membership meeting (any organized activity for the members) and a business meeting (a meeting of the governing body) in each quarter, notice for which must be communicated to the members of LOCAL GROUP NAME.
 2. A regular newsletter or calendar of activities to LOCAL GROUP NAME members at least quarterly.
 3. A minimum of three elected, voting officers, who are all current members in good standing of American Mensa, Ltd. and of the Local Group. A Local Secretary (LocSec) or equivalently titled chief executive officer and a Treasurer are required. The LocSec must be one of the elected officers and shall be the authorized representative of LOCAL GROUP NAME and liaison with AML. The Treasurer may be one of the elected officers or may be appointed.
 4. Contact information for local officers to the general membership.
 5. One or more separately maintained bank accounts in the name of LOCAL GROUP NAME for Local Group funds. LOCAL GROUP NAME may use the IRS Tax Identification Number provided by AML or may use one obtained from the IRS specifically for the use of LOCAL GROUP NAME, but in no case shall LOCAL GROUP NAME use an individual's Social Security Number in lieu of a Tax Identification Number.
 6. Financial and other information as requested by AML for inclusion with AML's IRS Form 990. In addition, if LOCAL GROUP NAME is or should ever be separately incorporated or granted a tax exempt determination from the IRS, a copy of LOCAL GROUP NAME's IRS Form 990 shall be submitted to the National Office of AML.

VII. TERM

This Charter, as created and from time to time modified by AML, shall be effective as of the date set forth above and shall remain in full force and effect, in perpetuity unless LOCAL GROUP NAME is dissolved by AML in accordance with any applicable *Actions Still In Effect* and the members of LOCAL GROUP NAME are reassigned to one or more other Local Groups, in which case the Charter shall be revoked as of the date of dissolution.