

REGION 9 REPRESENTATIVE

A Region 9 Representative is an OA member chosen by a Region 9 Intergroup/NSB/LSB/unaffiliated group meeting within Region 9 to be its representative during the Region 9 Assembly, and to carry out all the associated tasks of a liaison between the Assembly and the represented group. Groups are encouraged to choose their representatives for a 2- or 3-year period, so that the representative is able to learn the Assembly procedures and stand for regional elections. The duties of R9 Representatives per our policy manual are below.

According to the Region 9 Bylaws Article IV, Section 2b (iii) and 2a (vi), a representative of an unaffiliated group may be granted a voice and even a vote if and only if this is approved by the majority of the Assembly.

Service Bodies may decide to send their representative(s) to the Region 9 Convention as well.

3	QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGION 9 REPRESENTATIVES:
3a	Each representative shall be elected by the Intergroup, National/Language Service Board or unaffiliated groups they serve.
3b	The term of Region 9 representative shall be designated by their Intergroup, National/Language Service Boards or unaffiliated Groups and each representative is always subject to recall by those who selected them.
3c	Each representative should have a minimum of six (6) consecutive months of current abstinence and at least one (1) year service beyond group level.

3.2	DUTIES OF REGION 9 REPRESENTATIVES:
(a)	After the Assembly/Convention details have been decided upon by the hosting group and sent out to service bodies by the Region 9 Secretary, it is the responsibility of the representative to:
(i)	Register for the Assembly with the Region 9 Secretary (using the form provided by the Region), taking care to do so before the registration deadline stated on the form. If the representative wishes to participate in the Convention, they should register for that event following the instructions provided by the hosting service body.
(ii)	In addition to that, the representative can ask the region for financial assistance, in case the cost of participating in the Assembly prove to be too high for their service body to cover.
(iii)	The request has to be made at least 3 months prior to the Assembly. Note that the funds allocated for representative assistance are limited and there is no guarantee that the support will be granted to all those applying. (2017)
(iv)	Book Hotel Accommodation – the representative may choose to stay at the place where the Assembly and Convention are held (details will be provided by the Region), which usually proves the most convenient option, but if they wish, they may also find a different place to stay.
(v)	Organise and book the travel arrangements.
(b)	Receive the Assembly Materials Binder before the Assembly.

	Materials relating to the business that is to be carried out during the Assembly will be sent out before the Assembly takes place. The representative is responsible to read those materials (they will include information on the motions that are to be voted upon) and, if possible, to discuss them with the service body they represent. The service body has the right to instruct its representative according to the way they should vote. However, as new information and amendments to the motions may appear during the Assembly, most service bodies allow their trusted representatives to make the final decision as to the voting during the Assembly itself.
(c)	Committee Participation
	The representatives are asked to consider participating in one of the Region 9 committees. Committee meetings take place during the Assembly, but often require members to work for the committee throughout the year. (2017)
(d)	Assembly Participation
	The representative is to attend all of the business sessions of the Assembly in order to vote and participate in the debates.
(e)	Standing for Elections
	During every Assembly, elections for positions of Committee Chairs and members of Region 9 Board are held (see Region 9 Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3 and Article IX, Section 3). A representative that feels willing to serve at region level is welcome to put themselves forward as a candidate. They may want to discuss such a decision with the Region Chair and their sponsor.
(f)	Reporting back to the Service Body.
	The representative reports the matters discussed by the Assembly back to their service body including the Assembly workshops, and ideas and goals for the future. The form of this report is up to the representative and their service body. Many representatives prepare written reports and present them during workshops.
(g)	Hand your service to the next representative.
	Encourage your group to choose its next representative a year before your term is due to end. During that year, allow the person chosen to have a closer look at your work and assist them when their term begins. (2010d)