

HOW TO START AN AAUP CHAPTER

AAUP members can establish an advocacy chapter at an institution that is either accredited or is a candidate for accreditation and that has at least twenty active AAUP members. Here's what to do.

Calling an Organizational Meeting

The first step is to call an organizational meeting to elect officers. Upon receipt of the names of the officers and a copy of the bylaws by the AAUP national office, official recognition will be extended to the chapter.

Drafting Chapter Bylaws

A committee to draft chapter bylaws is ordinarily appointed at the first organizational meeting. This committee should attempt to do its work promptly, and may be guided by the sample chapter bylaws prepared by the national AAUP. The chapter's bylaws must be in harmony with the principles and procedures of the Association and with its constitution. See [Sample Chapter Bylaws](#).

Electing Officers

Each chapter should have at least the following officers: president, vice-president, and treasurer (or secretary-treasurer). Many chapters also have an executive council comprised of these officers and several others elected at large. Chapters also elect delegates to attend and vote at the new biennial meeting. See [guidance on conducting chapter elections here](#).

Inducting Officers

Many chapters induct their new officers at a formal ceremony held either during the organizational meeting or at the second meeting of the chapter.

Notify the AAUP National Office

Make sure to let the national office know when your chapter is officially launched. Send your officer roster and bylaws to organizing@aaup.org.