

Policy and Procedure for Accepting Electronic Groups into the Oregon Area

Groups meeting electronically may be accepted into the Oregon Area (OA) Service Structure after following the procedure listed in this document. The policy and procedure defines the process for electronic groups, whether registered in the Global Electronic Area (GEA) or other geographic areas of the World Service Conference (WSC) structure, to transfer to the OA. The WSC structure includes USA, Canada, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico. Electronic groups registered in the OA can transfer out of the OA.

1. Oregon Area Electronic Groups Affected by the Policy and Procedure

- a. A group currently registered as an in-person Oregon Area group, temporarily meeting as an electronic group, that wishes to remain electronic; will retain their registration ID# per the World Service Office (WSO) and can officially join the OA as an electronic group. The group submits an Electronic Group Change form on the WSO website. All registration, change, and transfer forms can be found at [al-anon.org>Members>Group Resources>Group Records](http://al-anon.org/Members/GroupResources/GroupRecords).
- b. If a currently registered in-person OA group has split into two separate groups, one electronic and one in-person, the in-person group retains the existing WSO ID#. The electronic group will register as a new meeting following the WSO on-line process.
- c. Registered groups in the OA may request to move from their current district to another OA geographic district or to the Oregon Area Electronic District, or vice versa. Groups then submit a request by email to the Area Group Records Coordinator (AGRC). It is suggested this move be approved once in a 2-year period.

2. The Oregon Area Electronic District (OAED)

- a. The Oregon Area will create an electronic District. The motion to create the OAED is generated by the AWSC and voted on by the Assembly as outlined in the Oregon Area Handbook (OAH) Section V, p.3. The OAED will become an active district when the first electronic group is assigned to it.
- b. An electronic group may choose to join an OA geographic District or the OAED.

3. Electronic Groups Transferring into the Oregon Area from the GEA or another Area

- a. Procedure for Groups Transferring In
 - i. There has been a group conscience to request the transfer.
 - ii. The group will follow the transfer procedure of the WSO, the area it is leaving, and the Oregon Area. The group will submit the WSO on-line Transfer Request Form.
 - iii. The AGRC will assign the group to an Oregon Area District as requested by the group.
 - iv. The group will familiarize itself with the Oregon Area Handbook.
 - v. The Group Representative or other Officer of the transferring group will attend an informational meeting prior to the transfer.
- b. Procedure for the Oregon Area for Groups Transferring In

- i. The Delegate is notified by the WSO of the request for transfer and informs the AGRC and District Representative (DR).
- ii. The AGRC and the DR will hold an informational meeting with a representative of the transferring group as noted in 3.a.v. The meeting includes an introduction to the Oregon Area Handbook. The AGRC and the DR notify the Delegate after this meeting.
- iii. The Leadership Team, together with the AGRC, will discuss the request. The Leadership Team votes to approve or not approve if there is concern that the transfer would harm the District or the Area.
- iv. The Delegate notifies the WSO of the transfer vote, approved or not approved.

4. Electronic Groups Transferring Out of the Oregon Area

- a. Procedure for Groups Transferring Out
 - i. The group has held a group conscience to request the transfer.
 - ii. The group submits the on-line transfer request form through the WSO. The group follows the OA transfer procedure for leaving the OA.
 - iii. The group agrees to give up participation in the OA.
 - iv. The GR or another group Officer attends an exit meeting with the DR and/or the AGRC.
- b. Procedure for the OA for Groups Transferring Out
 - i. The Delegate is notified by the WSO of the transfer.
 - ii. The Delegate notifies the DR, AGRC, and the Leadership Team.
 - iii. The DR and/or the AGRC schedule an exit meeting with the GR or a representative of the group transferring out as noted in 4.a.iv.
 - iv. The Delegate is notified upon completion of this meeting, and then notifies the WSO of the transfer.

5. Electronic Group Service Position Considerations

- a. "Membership entitles a person to vote and to hold office." 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, p. 86
- b. When electing members to service positions, electronic groups should consider the member's ability to follow the links of service at the District and/or Area level.
- c. All members of OA AFGs can serve at the group, district, or area levels. Members standing for a position must meet the qualifications outlined in the OAH, Section II. The only exception pertains to members of Al-Anon who are also members of AA. See 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual pp. 59, 86-87.
- d. The OA has committed to hybrid meetings for the AWSC and Assemblies. The OA does not require that all Districts commit to hybrid meetings.

6. Terms and Support of this Policy and Procedure

- a. The Task Force on Accepting Electronic Meetings into the Oregon Area recommends this policy and procedure be approved by the OA Assembly for a two-year trial period. The Task Force recommends at the end of two years, the Assembly reviews the policy, makes any appropriate changes, and determines if it becomes permanent.