

# **Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM)**

## **Board Nominations & Election Guidelines**

The Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM) is a national representative body comprising over 250 grassroots, mainstream Muslim organisations from every state and territory in Australia.

AAM's mission is to serve Islam, preserve Islamic identity, and advocate for the interests of the Muslim community, while seeking the pleasure of Allah and following the path of His Messenger Muhammad (peace be upon him).

The AAM Summit and its elected Board play a vital role in uniting the Muslim community, fostering collaboration and leadership, and providing strong, coordinated representation at the local, state, and national levels.

### **AAM's Core Objectives**

The work of the AAM Board will be guided by three central pillars:

#### **1. Unity, Leadership, and Community Building**

- Unite and network the leadership of Muslim organisations, Imams, youth, women, and new Muslims.
- Promote collaboration across diverse schools of thought and community groups.
- Build capacity through structured training, organisational development, and strategic support.
- Preserve and promote the authentic, mainstream understanding of Islam while strengthening shared values and common interests.
- Empower underrepresented voices, including youth and women, and improve governance across Muslim organisations.

#### **2. Political Engagement and Advocacy**

- Engage with all levels of government in an apolitical and professional manner to protect civil rights, religious freedoms, and the welfare of the Muslim community.
- Advocate on behalf of the community through meetings, submissions, and legislative representation.

- Build relationships with other faith groups, multicultural organisations, and First Nations communities to address shared challenges and promote justice.
- Educate the community about political participation, advocacy and civic responsibility.

### **3. Media Engagement and Public Representation**

- Provide accurate, professional, and dignified representation of Islam and Muslims in public discourse.
- Respond to misrepresentation and misinformation in the media.
- Highlight positive contributions of the Australian Muslim community.
- Develop and train a new generation of confident, well-articulated Muslim spokespeople.
- Address and reduce Islamophobia and negative media bias through strategic engagement.

*These objectives underline the importance of electing a skilled, dedicated, and representative Board to lead AAM into the future.*

### **Election of the New AAM Board**

At the **8th AAM Summit on 2 November 2025**, a new AAM Board will be elected. This Board will be responsible for managing and overseeing AAM's activities for the next three years, ensuring that the organisation continues to grow and serve the community effectively.

All AAM member organisations — whether national or state-based — have equal voting and nomination rights.

#### **1. Board Structure**

The Board will consist of **18 positions**:

- **15 State Representatives**
  - **NSW** – 4 members
  - **VIC** – 3 members
  - **QLD** – 2 members
  - **WA** – 2 members
  - **SA** – 1 member



- **NT** – 1 member
- **TAS** – 1 member
- **ACT** – 1 member
- **3 General Board Members**
  - Elected nationally and not tied to a specific state.

## **2. Eligibility and Nomination Process**

### • **Eligibility Requirements**

1. To be eligible for nomination as a Director (Board member), a candidate must:
  - a. Be a **member of an AAM member organisation** or a **representative of a member organisation**.
  - b. Be **nominated by two members** or representatives entitled to vote.
  - c. Not be legally ineligible to serve as a Director under the **Corporations Act 2001** or the **ACNC Act 2012**.  
(*Constitution Clauses 45 & 47*)

## **3. Encouraging Diversity**

- AAM strongly encourages the nomination of female candidates to ensure inclusive representation.
- Nominees should demonstrate:
  - Leadership and community service experience.
  - Knowledge of Islamic values and AAM's mission.
  - Ability to represent diverse community voices.

## **4. Nomination Steps**

- **Complete the online nomination form:** [LINK](#)
- Deadline for nominations: **22 October 2025, 5:00 PM AEST**
- Each nomination must include:
  - Candidate details.
  - Endorsement by two eligible members.
  - Signed consent to act as a Director.
- The complete list of nominees will be circulated to all members **seven days before the Summit**.



## **5. Election Process**

- The election will occur during the **AAM Summit** in a manner consistent with the constitution and democratic principles.
- **Steps on Election Day**
  1. Ballot Preparation
  2. The Secretary will prepare ballot papers listing all nominees per state and for the three general positions.
  3. **State Meetings:** After lunch and prayer, state members will gather to discuss the background and suitability of nominees for their state.

### **4. Voting Procedure**

- a. One vote per member organisation.
- b. Each voter determines the number of positions allocated to their state.
- c. For general positions, voting is open to all members nationwide.
- d. Voting is by secret ballot.

### **5. Counting and Verification**

- a. State members appoint a Returning Officer or committee to oversee counting.
- b. Candidates with the highest votes are elected.
- c. In case of a tie, a run-off vote will be conducted until it is resolved.

### **6. Proxy Voting**

- a. **Proxies are not permitted** for this election process, ensuring direct participation.

### **7. Results**

- a. Announced at the Summit and confirmed by the Interim Secretary.  
(*Constitution Clauses 23–41, 45–48*)

## **6. Term of Office**

- Each elected Board member serves a three-year term, beginning at the close of the Summit. 2025 to 2028



- A Director must retire at least once every three years, after which they may be nominated again.  
(*Constitution Clause 47*)

## **7. Roles and Responsibilities of the Board**

- Following the election, the new Board will:
  - Elect from among themselves the following officeholders:
    - Chairperson
    - Vice-Chairperson
    - Secretary
    - Vice-Secretary
    - Treasurer
  - Oversee AAM's activities and ensure alignment with its constitutional objectives.
  - Fill vacancies on the Operations Committee, as needed.  
(*Constitution Clause 45.5*)

## **8. Post-Election Steps**

### **1. Announcement of Results**

- Public announcement at the Summit and via AAM's website, email, and social media.

### **2. Orientation Session**

- Newly elected Board members will attend an induction covering:
  - AAM's mission and constitution.
  - Legal obligations under the Corporations Act and ACNC Act.
  - Strategic priorities for the next three years.

### **3. Strategic Planning**

- The Board will conduct a planning session to align with AAM's three core pillars:
  - Unity and community building.
  - Political engagement and advocacy.
  - Media engagement and public representation.