



NAfME State MEA Affiliate Services and Support

As affiliates of NAfME, state Music Education Associations (MEAs) have access to services and support aimed at bolstering institutional stability, promotion of programs and activities, professional development for state leadership, and more. For assistance, contact Elizabeth Lasko at ElizabethL@nafme.org.

Advocacy and Public Policy

- **Advocacy Consulting**—NAfME offers assistance crafting plans of action to strengthen music education advocacy and policy within your MEA, school districts, and/or state. Tailored plans can include guidance on developing an advocacy committee, creating and understanding legislative agendas, grassroots campaigns, utilizing advocacy to address DEIA, and more.
- **Advocacy Training and Presentations**—NAfME staff can provide virtual presentations and training for MEA members covering a variety of music education advocacy topics. The team can provide recorded or live-streamed messages for state conferences or board meetings. Topics include welcome/introduction to advocacy events, trainings/meetings, the importance of music education advocacy, how to engage the whole school community in music education advocacy, federal legislative updates, and more.
- **Legislative Research and Review**—NAfME utilizes a platform called Quorum to monitor state and federal legislative activity. State MEAs can request tracking of specific legislation regarding music education.
- **Advocacy Leadership Force (ALF)**—NAfME convenes this network of state MEAs advocacy leaders monthly to share ideas and help members become more effective advocates in their state. Members discuss issues affecting music education at the state level and learn where to focus advocacy on the federal level. Additionally, the Advocacy Leadership Institute (ALI) in-person convening was designed as a comprehensive training day tailored to meet the needs of state advocacy leaders.
- **Building Advocacy Campaigns**—State MEAs seeking to engage their members and music education advocates to participate in grassroots campaigns or be informed about legislative action can use NAfME's Quorum platform, which sends tailored messages to state and federal legislators on behalf of music education proponents, making advocacy more accessible for all.

Networking and Professional Development

- **Professional Development for State Leadership**—NAfME hosts state leadership engagement with association management/leadership experts, aimed at building capacity for organizational leadership and development.
- **Collaborative Engagement Opportunities**—At annual National Leadership Assembly, Council of State Executives meetings, NAfME Division Meetings, National Executive Board retreats, state MEA board meetings, and with NAfME governance and staff.
- **National Leadership Assembly and Hill Day**—NAfME hosts an annual convening of national and state leaders from across all state MEAs aimed at furthering conversation and collaboration regarding critical issues impacting the music education space and advocating for music education at the federal level.

- **Online Communities**—State MEA presidents, editors, and executives have access to closed communities on the NAFME website for networking, sharing, and problem-solving.
- **NAfME State Contact Team**—NAfME staff members are available for regular check-ins, to discuss important topics of the day, and to collaborate in a range of areas.

Marketing and Communications/Membership Promotion

- **MEA Event Promotion and Celebration**—NAfME posts MEA conferences on our extensively-visited website calendar, and we share event information such as calls for proposals, registration announcements, and conference photos on our social media and in our e-newsletter, NAFME Notes. We can also share MEA anniversaries, special commemorations, obituaries, and more.
- **Membership Recruitment and Retention**—NAfME maintains a regular cadence of emails and direct mail to members approaching and following their renewal dates, as well as lapsed member outreach, all including state MEA information. NAFME also conducts national member (including Collegiate member) and Tri-M chapter recruitment campaigns that benefit state MEAs, and we can consult/advise on state MEA campaign strategy if requested.
- **Support for Programs that Strengthen NAFME, MEAs, and Music Education**—NAfME provides guidance and resources for programs including Music In Our Schools Month, Tri-M Music Honor Society, and NAFME Collegiate that can be important opportunities for MEA leaders' growth and engagement.

State MEA Institutional Resources

- **State MEA Leadership Onboarding**—Prepared resources available to state leadership and orientation sessions with NAFME staff.
- **Copyright Protection**—Institutional copyright protection via NAFME ASCAP and BMI blanket licensing.
- **Legal Consultation**—Available upon request.
- **Accounting and Finance**—Best practices and situational review, upon request.
- **Board Development**—Assistance with strategic planning, consultation on bylaws, policy and procedures, roles and responsibilities.
- **Fundraising and Development**—Available resources and consultation upon request.
- **Directors and Officers (D&O) Insurance**—Discounted rates for state MEA leadership through NAFME.

Technology Infrastructure

- **Membership Data Management**—NAfME provides a state-of-the-art Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for maintaining membership data. A partner portal is available to all state MEA Executives through which executives can view member records and run reports with real-time information. NAFME offers technological support and training on using the CRM.
- **Member Service Support**—NAfME receives and solves more than 20,000 customer services tickets every year, the vast majority of which are from members of NAFME/state MEAs.

Information is current as of February 2025 and is subject to change. Contact ElizabethL@nafme.org for assistance.