



## Developing NAMI on Campus Clubs

NAMI on Campus (NOC) clubs are led by college and university students in collaboration with NAMI State Organizations (NSO) and NAMI Affiliates (NA). The purpose of NAMI on Campus clubs is to bring mental health awareness, support and education to the campus community. To do this, it's critical that NSOs and NAs form a strong partnership with any NOC clubs in their communities.

### **What does the process to start a NAMI on Campus club look like?**

Any students interested in starting a NOC club must contact their NSO and/or NA to begin the process. The designated NOC contact at the NSO and NA then works with students, using resources on the NOC extranet, to complete the necessary paperwork required by their college or university to be officially designated as a student club on campus. Once the club is recognized by the college or university, the NSO/NA must send the completed Contact Notification Form to [namioncampus@nami.org](mailto:namioncampus@nami.org). The group will then be considered an official NAMI on Campus club and can begin working with their NSO and NA.

### **How is this process different than before?**

Prior to 2019, NOC clubs had to submit a packet of information to the national NAMI office. The NAMI office would then review the packet and notify the NOC student leadership if it had been accepted or not. They then would be recognized as an official campus club, with the approval from their school as well. The former process did not require active engagement between the NOC club, the NSO and the NA.

As of 2019, to be recognized as a NOC club, students must work closely and be in routine contact (at least 1x monthly) with a local NAMI office, whether it's with the NSO, NA or both. The process to be recognized by their campus as a club will be handled by the student leadership and the NSO/NA. Once the college/university approves the club's status, the NSO/NA will complete the Contact Notification Form and send it to [namioncampusclub@nami.org](mailto:namioncampusclub@nami.org) as the final step. Once the form is received, they're an official NOC club and may begin acting as such, in collaboration with their NSO/NA.

### **Why should my NSO and NA be interested in NAMI on Campus clubs?**

Working with students to bring the mission of NAMI to local campuses helps bring mental health awareness and support to a large and diverse group of young adults. When the NSO/NA partners with a student club to share resources, offer support, advocate for mental health and bring general knowledge about mental health conditions to the college population, we're providing awareness, early intervention and support to a high-risk population. NOC clubs also help cultivate future NAMI leaders and constituents to expand our mission.

### **How should our NSO and NA prepare for working with NAMI on Campus clubs?**

If your NSO/NA is interested in starting and partnering with NOC clubs, your NAMI office will need to assign an individual (staff or volunteer) who will be a direct point of contact for club leaders. This person will review all NOC documents and resources on NAMINet and plan for implementation of what NOC clubs will look like for your NAMI organization. It will be up to each NSO/NA to determine whether they have the capacity to build a NOC club based on these expectations.

### **What if a student club doesn't want to work with the NSO/NA?**

If this happens, we will be referring student leaders to Active Minds, a free-standing organization that supports mental health awareness clubs on campuses. The Active Minds clubs may still choose to promote NAMI activities and events but will not be considered a NAMI on Campus club.

## Process to Be Recognized as A NAMI on Campus (NOC) Club

