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## Forming an AIHA Local Section

Local section is the term used by AIHA to designate regional chapters. Sections are organized to bring together professionals who care about the health of workers and to share the common concerns of a regional area. There are over 68 AIHA affiliated local sections throughout the United States and Canada.

### How to Form an AIHA Local Section

1. Fifteen AIHA national members (excluding student members) in the same geographical area must sign a [petition](#) to form a local section.
2. The [petition](#) will need to be sent to the [AIHA Local Sections Staff Liaison](#). The petition must include:
  - A list of the counties or other geographical areas that will define the area of the proposed new section;
  - A map highlighting the area;
  - A [form releasing](#) any portion of the new section's territory that falls within an existing section's jurisdiction;
  - Proposed bylaws (see [model local section bylaws](#)).
3. The AIHA Local Sections Staff Liaison will review and forward the [petition](#) to the AIHA Board of Directors for approval. Once approval has been granted, the new section must submit a [list of temporary section officers](#).
4. If formation of a new section requires a [release of territory](#) from an existing section, the release will require a vote by the membership of the existing section. If the results of the vote are in favor of the release, the existing section will need to change their bylaws to reflect the release.