

Fact Sheet about APA's Student and New Member Programs June 2017

Student Membership

The Basics:

As of July 11, APA student membership is open to any student who is actively matriculated in any college or university degree program, planning or non-planning, regardless of age or part-time/full time-status, for the duration of his or her studies. Student members enjoy free APA and chapter memberships and up to five free division memberships. After completing their studies, students can transition into a two-year program of low-cost, introductory dues. This new membership structure replaces the Early Career Membership Program.

Joining Details:

- A student member can join APA in one of two ways:
 - Via the program administrator at his or her university/college (see the [list](#) of participating programs), or
 - By independently signing up online at planning.org/membership.
- Verification of eligibility will be based on the honor system and APA leaves it to each university and college to define "active" matriculation or enrollment status.
- There is no limit on the number of years a degree-seeking student may take advantage of free membership.
- Any current or former member may apply for student membership.

A Student Member:

- Pays no national, chapter, or AICP dues.
- Pays no division dues but may belong to no more than five divisions at one time. Additional divisions may not be purchased.
- In addition to other member benefits, receives free digital editions of *Planning*, the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, and *Zoning Practice*. Print editions cannot be purchased.
- Is assigned to an annual membership cycle that runs October thru September (with a September Paid-Thru-Date).
- Will be auto-renewed as a student member for two consecutive cycles, during which time the member will not be prompted to renew but will receive automatic emails confirming renewal. A student member may opt out either by requesting to drop membership or by informing APA that student status has ended and requesting a membership type change to a discounted new member and being billed accordingly.
- Will be prompted to renew at the third cycle and every cycle after that.
- Will notify APA when student status has ended by contacting studentmembership@planning.org (see below).
- Who does not maintain student membership has a year from his or her Paid-Thru Date to qualify for the reduced rates. Otherwise, salary-based dues will apply if the former student member applies for APA membership.

Discounted/Introductory Rates for New Members and Transitioning Students

The Basics:

As of July 11, student members who complete their studies and first-time regular members can enjoy reduced dues of \$95/year (\$75 APA/\$20 chapter) for two consecutive years. In addition to receiving all benefits of APA membership, discounted members enjoy important savings, including

- \$70 AICP membership
- \$10 per division membership
- Discounts on APA's publications like *Zoning Practice* and the *Journal of the American Planning Association*.

Other Details:

The discounted/introductory rates apply to first-time individual members and students transitioning out of student status. It *excludes* international and group membership programs like the Group Academic Membership Program and Group Planning Board Membership Program. After the two-year introductory period, members will pay salary based dues.

Implications for Early Career Membership Program Participants

Individuals who joined the Early Career Membership Program on October 1, 2012 or later will be able to take advantage of the new membership structure according to their membership type in the following ways:

- Individuals with an *active* student membership will be renewed as student members and their dues will be waived.
- Individuals with an *active* New Professional membership will be billed as a discounted new member.
- Individuals with a *lapsed* membership will be invited to renew, as either a student member or a discounted new member. Renewing into the discounted new member is an offer that will only last until June 30, 2018, after which the discounted rates will no longer be available.
- APA will discontinue the New Professional membership category.

Questions?

Visit planning.org/membership or contact studentmembership@planning.org or membership@planning.org or 312-431-3100.