

Membership and Subscription Policy

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REVISION STATUS								
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1 Introduction

The Constitution sets out the overarching requirements for membership of the Transport Professionals Association (TPA), for a range of aspects in consultation with the members, but at the sole discretion of the TPA Board to determine from time to time.

The Board has developed and endorsed this Membership and Subscription Policy to provide clarity around the various membership classes, membership grades and criteria for membership to guide and assist our staff and Branch Committees with all matters related to the eligibility for membership of TPA.

2 Membership Classes

The membership classes, as determined by the Constitution are:

- Full Members
- Associate Members
- Non-Voting members

Within each class there are various grades of members.

3 Membership Grades

3.1 Overview

The membership grades within the Full Members class are:

- Member
- Fellow
- Life Member

The membership grades within the Associate Members class are:

- Associate First Year
- Associate Second Year
- Associate

The categories within the Non-Voting members class are:

- Student
- Affiliate
- Corporate Subscription
- Government Subscription

3.2 TPA Related Professional Experience

The grades of membership each have varying requirements for interest or experience.

The following are considered TPA related fields:

- Planning
- Engineering
- Social and Behavioural Sciences
- Law enforcement and emergency services

- Mathematics
- Computer Sciences
- Economics
- Environmental Sciences
- Education
- Insurance
- Administration.

Within these fields, relevant fields of transport include, but are not limited to:

- Transport Planning
- Traffic Engineering
- Transport and Land Use Modelling
- Active Transport and Micromobility
- Travel Behaviour Change
- Travel Demand Management
- Transport Policy
- Road Safety
- Traffic/Transport Research
- Intelligent Transport Systems
- Road Design

3.3 Full Members Grade

3.3.1 Member

Member grade is open to practitioners who have had appropriate professional experience for a period of at least three years in the field of transport, including research, gained through a recognised organisation, and are actively practicing in the field of transport.

Demonstration of experience and suitability for membership is required to be provided for this grade in the form of the submission of a resume and two referees from the industry (it is recommended that one referee is a TPA member).

3.3.2 Fellow

The grade of Fellow is an invitational grade of membership available upon upgrade from the grade of Member.

To be eligible for transfer to the grade of Fellow, an applicant shall:

- a. be nominated (and seconded) by a Fellow or Life Member; and
- b. have had ten (10) years of active practice in the transport field; and
- c. have had five (5) years in responsible charge of transport work and/or teams; or, in lieu of b),
- d. have had a combined ten (10) years in responsible charge of important scientific, educational or managerial activities related to the transport field of a calibre equivalent to that required in b); and
- e. have held the grade of Member of the TPA for at least five (5) years, subject to exception at the discretion of a majority vote of the Board of Directors; and
- f. have served on a Branch Committee for at least one (1) term; or, in lieu of f),
- g. have made an equivalent contribution to the betterment of the Transport Professionals Association, as recognised by the Board; and
- h. be prepared to be interviewed to establish suitability.

3.3.3 Life Member

The grade of Life Member is a grade of membership that is bestowed upon an existing member who has undertaken an extended high level of service at Branch and / or National level.

To be considered for Life Membership a nominee must have demonstrated:

- a. Extraordinary personal efforts in a range of TPA activities well above that expected of the roles elected to. The nominee would be recognised for their involvement at a National Level; and/or
- b. Extraordinary efforts over an extended period in promoting and supporting TPA. Contributions have led to a recognised and sustained increase in the profile and respect of TPA Nationally; and/or
- c. Extraordinary efforts over an extended period in promoting and supporting the development of the industry, or other activities which have made a sustained improvement to TPA's areas of involvement.

Nominations for Life Membership will be assessed by a panel of existing Life Members.

3.4 Associate Members

3.4.1 Associate First year

Associate First Year membership is open to practitioners who have less than one year of experience in a TPA-related field.

Demonstration of experience and suitability for membership is required to be provided for this grade in the form of the submission of a resume.

Associate First Year Members will be automatically rolled up to Associate Second Year Member status on the 1 April each year and invoiced accordingly, regardless of the date of joining. Associate First Year Members who are eligible to remain at their current level for another year will need to submit evidence of eligibility to retain the Associate First Year grade.

3.4.2 Associate Second year

Associate Second Year membership is open to practitioners who have at least one year of experience in a TPA related field.

Demonstration of experience and suitability for membership is required to be provided for this grade in the form of the submission of a resume.

Associate Second Year Members will be automatically rolled up to Associate Member status on the 1 April each year and invoiced accordingly, regardless of the date of joining. Associate Second Year Members who are eligible to remain at their current level for another year will need to submit evidence of eligibility to retain the Associate Second Year grade.

3.4.3 Associate

Associate membership is open to practitioners who:

- a. have had at least two years of experience in a TPA related field. OR
- b. have had less than three years in appropriate professional experience in the field of transport, including research, gained through a recognised organisation, and are actively practicing in the field of transport.

Demonstration of experience and suitability for membership is required to be provided for this grade in the form of the submission of a resume.

3.5 Non-Voting categories

3.5.1 Students

Student membership is open to individuals undertaking study in related fields.

Eligibility for Student Membership requires current enrolment for study in undergraduate degrees, postgraduate qualifications, and PhD candidates studying in related fields.

Student Membership is offered for students undertaking study prior to joining the TPA related workforce and is the entry level membership for people new to the field.

Existing practitioners returning to study, particularly part-time study, are to retain their current TPA membership grade while studying (if they are a member), or to join the TPA as an Affiliate member (if not currently a member).

Enrolment may be for full-time study or part-time study, noting that existing practitioners working in this field are generally not eligible for Student Membership.

Students applying for membership are required to provide evidence of current student enrolment status and the anticipated date of completion of their study.

Once Students complete their study, they should apply to upgrade to Associate First Year member.

3.5.2 Affiliate

Affiliate Membership is open to individuals with an interest in the field of transport.

No specific qualifications or experience are required for Affiliate membership.

3.5.3 Corporate Subscription

A Corporate Subscription is open to organisations with an interest in the field of transport. Relevant organisations include associations, companies, and other business entities.

A Corporate Subscription enables representatives of the organisation a specified level of access to TPA services. Subscription is offered at two levels:

- Corporate Subscriber - Small
- Corporate Subscriber - Medium

Corporate Subscriber does not bestow individual membership privileges upon the representatives, rather, it provides access to services such as discounted event attendance. The access to services is specified on the Transport Professionals Association website and may vary from time to time.

The organisation must nominate an individual as the lead contact, to be known as the Subscription Manager. This person will be the key conduit for the distribution of matters related to the Corporate Subscription, including the discount codes to be used to access the events, and invoices for payment.

Organisations seeking to provide staff or representatives with access to the full benefits of individual membership, should instead take up individual memberships. A discount for bulk payment of individual memberships may be offered at management's discretion.

3.5.4 Government Subscription

A Government Subscription is open to all Australian Government entities, including Federal, State/Territory and Local.

A Government Subscription enables staff and representatives of the organisation a specified level of access to TPA services.

Government Subscriber does not bestow individual membership privileges upon the representatives, rather, it provides access to services such as discounted event attendance. The access to services is specified on the Transport Professionals Association website and may vary from time to time.

The organisation must nominate an individual as the lead contact, to be known as the Subscription Manager. This person will be the conduit for the distribution of matters related to the Government Subscription, including invoices for payment.

All interested individuals within the Government subscriber organisation are encouraged to create their own customer profile with TPA to obtain direct access to our online services including access for free and discounted event registration, access to past event recordings, and e-communications.

4 Membership Fees

The Membership period runs from 01 April to 31 March annually, regardless of when in the calendar year a member chooses to join.

Membership fees will be automatically pro-rated in the first year based on the date of application.

An admin fee is payable on the first application, except for Student members. This fee does not apply when moving from one membership category to another.

4.1 Membership Fee Discounts

Discounts can be applied to individual grades of membership in a range of circumstances.

4.1.1 Retired

Members who retire are eligible for a discounted rate of membership upon notification in writing of their retirement.

They retain their grade of membership at the point of retirement.

The discounted rate of membership is determined by the Board.

4.1.2 Overseas members

Individuals residing outside Australia are eligible to join the TPA subject to meeting the requirements of their membership grade.

Existing members who relocate can receive their membership at their current membership grade.

New members joining from overseas must meet the membership requirements for the relevant grade at which they are joining. If they are unable to nominate a referee that is a current member, they may join at the Affiliate grade.

Members who reside overseas are not required to pay the GST portion of their relevant membership fee.

4.1.3 Career break or hardship

Members who are having a career break for reasons including maternity or paternity leave, carers leave, illness, sabbatical or unemployment can be granted a membership discount or membership pause. The member must submit their request for a discount or pause in writing.

A request for a discount can be made annually. Membership discounts do not apply retrospectively, and will not refund membership fees already paid.

A request for a membership pause can be made for a maximum of two years, after which a further request can be made. If a membership pause is applied, the member will retain their current membership status when their membership resumes.

The TPA reserves the right to refuse a request for a discount or pause, however genuine requests will be granted.

The discount rates to be applied in various circumstances are at the discretion of the CEO.

4.2 Returning members

Where a membership has lapsed due to non-payment, resignation, or termination of membership the person may re-join the Transport Professionals Association.

4.2.1 Eligibility for Renewal

- a. If within two (2) years, the applicant may join at the same grade of membership without needing to provide documentation of eligibility for membership or provision of referees if required by the membership grade applicable. OR
- b. If more than two (2) years of continuous membership has elapsed, then either as an Affiliate, or upon provision of the necessary documentation required for a new member joining, as per the membership grade being applied for.

4.2.2 Membership Fees Payable

Membership fees will be automatically pro-rated in the first year based on the date of application.

An admin fee is payable on receipt of an application for renewal.

5 Post-nominals

When letters of affiliation are used to show membership of the Institute, the letters F or M or Assoc. shall be used by members depending on their grade of membership, followed by the letters TPA.

for a Fellow	F. TPA	or	F. T. P. A
for a Member	M. TPA	or	M. T. P. A
for an Associate	Assoc. TPA	or	Assoc. T. P. A

No forms of letters of affiliation are authorised for use by Student, Affiliate or Subscribers.