

MEMBERSHIP REGULATIONS

By Article IV of the Constitution of the International Society of Hypertension (the '**Society**') (as amended from time to time in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution) the Council has determined to make the following rules and regulations for membership of the Society (the '**Membership Regulations**').

These Membership Regulations shall replace all previous Membership Regulations and shall take effect on 23 September 2018.



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Signed for and on behalf of the Council by Professor Alta Schutte, President (authorised signatory)

PART I: CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

1. PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

1.1 Eligibility

Professional membership shall be open to individuals who have accomplished meritorious original investigation in the field of hypertension or related topics and / or those who have made demonstrable contributions to hypertension through clinical involvement and who are interested in promoting the Objects of the Society.

1.2 Application and Approval Process

1.2.1 Applications for Professional Membership shall be made via the online application submission system on the ISH website.

1.2.2 Each application must be accompanied by:

(a) the applicant's CV including

i. a list of the applicant's academic degrees and qualifications,

ii. details of professional position/s and current employer

iii. a list of publications related to hypertension or allied fields. Clinician applicants are not required to submit a list of publications.

iv. details of scientific activities

v. a list of awards achieved, if relevant

- vi. a list of membership of any related societies – if relevant

Letters of application from clinician applicants should show examples of clinically-related contribution and commitment in the field of hypertension, which may include:

- Leadership of clinical hypertension services in hospitals or similar institutions
- Key involvement in the development of hypertension guidelines
- Office bearer for hypertension or related professional societies
- Senior teaching (undergraduate, graduate and specialist) responsibilities in the hypertension field in universities or in hospitals (with an honorary university title)
- Senior consultancy role for hypertension with governmental committees, including drug advisory boards, regulatory committees and policy development groups
- Committee level involvement in national and/or international hypertension and related societies
- Contribution through involvement as an investigator in local, national or international clinical trials in hypertension

1.2.3 The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of the applicants and if necessary ask for supporting statements as to their character from referees.

1.2.4 The names of the applicants recommended by the Membership Committee shall be submitted to the Council, through the Executive Committee, for approval.

1.3 Subscriptions

1.3.1 A Professional Member shall pay annual dues in the amount and within the time period determined by the Executive Committee. Membership subscriptions run from January to December each year.

1.3.2 Professional Members who permanently reside and work in South Africa and certain developing countries, as defined by the WHO HINARI programme, and approved by the Executive Committee, may be entitled to a reduction in membership fees. A limited number of applications for membership (including a complimentary online subscription to the Journal of Hypertension) may be made to "accomplished, meritorious and original investigators" in the field of hypertension from countries with economic hardship. Applications for membership under this clause shall be made in writing to the Membership Committee Chair and shall require the same documentation and be subjected to the same process as Professional Members under clause 1.2.1 above. These reductions will be reviewed annually by the Membership Committee Chair.

2. EMERGING LEADERS

2.1 Eligibility

2.1.1 Membership as an Emerging Leader is designed to accommodate early to mid-career research and clinical scientists (junior faculty members) who have completed their doctoral degree (or other qualifying degree) and are in the process of establishing themselves as scientists or hypertension experts.

2.1.2 Tenure of this membership category is limited to three years.

2.2 Application and Approval Process

2.2.1 Applications for Emerging Leaders Membership shall be made via the online application submission system on the ISH website.

Each application must be accompanied by

- a) the applicant's CV including
 - i. a list of the applicant's academic degrees and qualifications,
 - ii. details of professional position/s and current employer
 - iii. a list of publications related to hypertension or allied fields. Clinician applicants are not required to submit a list of publications.
 - iv. details of scientific activities
 - v. a list of awards achieved, if relevant
 - vi. a list of membership of any related societies – if relevant

2.2.2 The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of the applicants and if necessary ask for supporting statements as to their character from referees.

2.2.3 The names of the applicants recommended by the Membership Committee shall be submitted to the Council, through the Executive Committee, for approval.

2.3 Subscriptions

2.3.1 An Emerging Leader Member shall pay annual dues in the amount and within the time period determined by the Executive Committee. Membership subscriptions run from January to December each year.

2.3.2 The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of the applicants and if necessary ask for supporting statement as to their character from referees.

2.3.3 The names of the applicants recommended by the Membership Committee shall be submitted to the Council, through the Executive Committee, for approval and election to membership.

2.4 Subscriptions

2.4.1 Reduced membership fees are available for Emerging Leaders, although they will enjoy similar benefits to Professional Members.

2.4.2 An Emerging Leader shall pay annual dues in the amount and within the time period determined by the Executive Committee.

3. RESEARCH FELLOWS

3.1 Eligibility

- 3.1.1 Research Fellowships are designed for graduate students and postdoctoral research fellows. This is a special opportunity for any new researcher or clinical scientist undertaking a higher degree to enhance their CV.
- 3.1.2 Tenure of this category is limited to three years.
- 3.1.3 Research Fellows are required to confirm their status annually.
- 3.1.4 Eligible members may be entitled to apply for a further 3 year term, with tenure not exceeding a maximum of 6 years. Once a Research Fellow has completed his or her doctoral degree, postdoctoral fellowship or other qualifying research degree and wishes to become an Emerging Leader, he or she is required to provide an up-to-date CV and to apply to the Membership Committee for election to the category of Emerging Leader.
- 3.1.5 A Research Fellow who is coming to the end of their tenure, and wishes to transition to become an Emerging Leader member, should submit an updated CV for review by the Membership Committee.

3.2 Application and Approval Process

- 3.2.1 Applications for Research Fellows shall be made via the online application submission system on the ISH website.

Each application must be accompanied by
 - a) the applicant's CV including
 - I. a written statement by a supporter, who is a member of the ISH, or by the applicant's supervisor, as to the qualifications of the candidate
 - II. a list of the applicant's academic degrees and qualifications, professional positions, and publications related to hypertension or allied fields.
- 3.2.2 The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of the applicants
- 3.2.3 The names of the applicants recommended by the Membership Committee shall be submitted to the Council through the Executive Committee for approval.

3.3 Subscription

Affiliation to the Society comes at no cost for Research Fellows. Fellows in this category will not receive a complimentary subscription to the Journal of Hypertension. Fellowships run from January to December each year.

4. EMERITUS FELLOWS

4.1 Eligibility

A Professional Member who has been a longstanding member of the Society, who is over the age of 65, and who has retired from full-time active work may seek status as an Emeritus Fellow.

4.2 Application and Approval Process

Applications for Membership as an Emeritus Fellow should be submitted to the ISH Secretariat in writing and will be considered by the Membership Committee and Executive Committee for approval. Each application must be accompanied by

- i) a motivational letter and CV
- ii) proof of retirement.

4.3 Subscription

Emeritus Fellows are exempt from paying annual dues, and will not receive a complimentary subscription to the Journal of Hypertension.

5. DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS

5.1 Eligibility

Members who have given outstanding service to the Society and have made unusually distinguished contributions to experimental and clinical research in hypertension may be nominated to be Distinguished Fellows of the Society.

5.2 Nomination and Selection

Nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee, which will limit this distinction to a very select group of individuals.

5.3 Subscription

Distinguished Fellows are exempt from paying annual dues. Members in this category will not receive a complimentary subscription to the Journal of Hypertension.

6. HONORARY FELLOWS

6.1 Eligibility

Individuals who have not been Professional Members of the Society but have made extraordinary contributions to the Society, in providing long and continuous support of research or of the other activities of the Society, may be nominated to be Honorary Fellows.

6.2 Nomination and Selection

Nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee, which will limit this distinction to a very select group of individuals.

6.3 Subscription

Honorary Fellows are exempt from paying annual dues. Members in this category will not receive a complimentary subscription to the Journal of Hypertension.

7. CORPORATE MEMBERS

7.1 Eligibility

Corporate Membership is available to pharmaceutical companies, biomedical or technological companies, and other organisations interested in promoting the Objects of the Society.

7.2 Subscriptions

Corporate Members shall pay annual dues in the amount and within the time period determined by the Society. Membership subscriptions run from January to December each year.

8. EX OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP

8.1 Eligibility

The Editor of the Journal of Hypertension may be granted ex-officio membership of the Society.

9. HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATE

9.1 Eligibility

9.1.1 Health Professional Affiliates are designed for healthcare delivery and allied health professionals, such as nurses, pharmacists and dietitians, or community healthcare workers who are actively working toward the Objects of the Society by delivering services in the field of hypertension and associated cardiovascular diseases.

9.1.2 Applicants should be able to demonstrate a commitment and contribution to working in the field of hypertension.

9.2 Application and Approval Process

9.2.1 Applications for Health Professional Affiliates shall be made via the online application submission system on the ISH website. Each application must be accompanied by

a) a cover letter demonstrating the applicant's commitment and contribution to working in hypertension and cardiovascular disease

b) the applicant's CV, including details of professional position(s) and current employer, and training

c) certificate(s) for courses completed on Blood Pressure Measurement and/or Hypertension Management (optional)

9.2.2 The names of the applicants recommended by the Membership Committee shall be submitted to the Council, through the Executive Committee, for approval.

9.3 Subscription

9.3.1 A Health Professional Affiliate, working in a healthcare delivery profession such as nursing, will pay annual dues in the amount and within the time period determined by the Executive Committee. Membership subscriptions run from January to December each year.

9.3.2 The Affiliation subscription comes at no cost for community health workers.

9.3.3 Health Professional Affiliates will not receive a complimentary subscription to the Journal of Hypertension, but will enjoy similar benefits as other membership categories, including access to the Society Newsletter, e-Bulletins and reduced registration fees to the Biennial ISH Meetings.

PART 2: RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND PENALTIES (APPLICABLE TO ALL MEMBERS)

10. MEMBERS' RIGHTS

10.1 Attendance at meetings

All members may participate in the scientific and business sessions of the Society and attend the General Meetings of the Society.

10.2 Voting rights

10.2.1 All members with the exception of Corporate Members* (who may instead nominate representatives who may vote in accordance with regulation 9.2.2 below) and Research Fellows may vote at General Meetings and in elections of the Society.

10.2.2 Each Corporate Member organisation shall have one vote at General Meetings of the Society.

10.3 Election to the Council

All members with the exception of Corporate Members, Distinguished Fellows, Emeritus Fellows, Health Professional Affiliates, Honorary Fellows and Research Fellows may be eligible for election to the Council.

11. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

11.1 Membership shall cease upon failure to pay the annual subscription fee for two consecutive years. In special circumstances the Executive Committee may recommend to Council that membership be continued.

11.2 The Council may by resolution terminate the membership of any member on the ground that in their reasonable opinion the member's continued membership would be harmful to the Society. The Council may only pass such a resolution after notifying the member in writing and considering the matter in the light of any written representations which the member puts forward within 14 clear days after receiving notice.

* Corporate Members are legal entities, not individuals.