

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF HYPERTENSION  
MEMBERSHIP REGULATIONS**

By Article IV of the Constitution of the International Society of Hypertension (the '**Society**') 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 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022.



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

**PART I: CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

**1. PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS**

**1.1 Eligibility**

Professional membership shall be open to individuals who have accomplished 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 to the Membership Committee Chair via the Secretariat.

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

1.2.3 The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of the applicants.

**1.3 Membership Renewals / Fees**

1.3.1 A Professional Member shall pay annual dues for membership that runs from January to December each year.

- 1.3.2 Professional Members who permanently reside and work in certain developing countries, as defined by the WHO Research4Life (formerly known as HINARI) programme, are 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 those from countries with economic hardship.

## **2. EMERGING LEADERS**

### **2.1 Eligibility**

- 2.1.1 Membership as an Emerging Leader is designed to accommodate early research and clinical scientists 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 five years.

### **2.2 Application and Approval Process**

- 2.2.1 Applications for Emerging Leaders Membership shall be made to the Membership Committee Chair via the Secretariat.

Each application must be accompanied by 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.

### **2.3 Membership Renewals / Fees**

- 2.3.1 Reduced membership fees are available for Emerging Leaders, although they will enjoy similar benefits to Professional Members.
- 2.3.2 An Emerging Leader Member shall pay annual dues for membership subscriptions that run from January to December each year.
- 2.3.3 ISH Emerging Leaders who permanently reside and work in certain developing countries, as defined by the WHO Research4Life (formerly known as HINARI) programme, are 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 those from countries with economic hardship.

## **3. TRAINEES**

### **3.1 Eligibility**

- 3.1.1 The Trainee category is designed for those undertaking a higher degree. 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 the period of training.

3.1.3 Once a Trainee has completed their doctoral degree or other qualifying research degree and wishes to become an Emerging Leader, they are required to provide an up-to-date CV and to apply to the Membership Committee for election to the category of Emerging Leader.

### 3.2 Application and Approval Process

3.2.1 Applications for those wishing to become a Trainee member should be made to the Membership Committee Chair via the Secretariat.

a) the applicant's CV

b) a written statement by the applicant's supervisor as to the qualifications of the candidate

### 3.3 Membership Renewals / Fees

3.3.1 Affiliation to the Society comes at no cost for Trainees.

3.3.2 Membership as a Trainee runs from January to December each year.

## 4. ISH FELLOWS

### 4.1 Eligibility

4.1.1 International Society of Hypertension Fellow (ISHF) is a symbol of excellence. The designation as an ISHF recognises and honours members of the Society (physicians, scientists, and other healthcare professionals) who have a major and productive interest in hypertension and have distinguished themselves through excellence in clinical practice or research in this field.

4.1.2 ISHF status represents recognition by the ISH of a member's scientific and professional accomplishments in the field of hypertension. The designation of ISFH is an honour and shall remain valid for the duration of active ISH membership.

4.1.3 Applicants must be active members at the time the application is submitted, with up-to-date membership dues (where applicable).

4.1.4 This category is designed primarily for Professional Members. Members in other ISH categories (such as Health Professional Affiliates) may be eligible to become an ISHF in exceptional circumstances.

### 4.2 Application and Approval Process

4.2.1 Applications for ISHF should be made to the Membership Committee Chair via the Secretariat and must be accompanied by the following.

a) An up-to-date CV with complete bibliography

b) A cover letter that clearly articulates how the applicant meets the ISHF criteria, on business letterhead, and be signed by the applicant; an electronic signature is acceptable.

c) Proof that the candidate meets at least 3 of the 6 following criteria:

- Show outstanding contributions in basic, clinical or epidemiological hypertension research

- Demonstrated ISH or National Society Service: Active, voluntary participation on ISH or National committees, boards and task forces
- Independent Grant Support/Funding: Serve as Principal Investigator of peer-reviewed extramural research support from a nationally recognised agency (i.e., NIH, NMHRC, MRC, Wellcome Trust, BHF)
- Publications: Demonstration of consistent scholarly production in the form of journal articles and/or book chapters
- Administration: Serve in a leadership position in academia, industry, or government
- Public Service/Advocacy: Provide unpaid service in hypertension to the community (i.e., research grant peer review panel, abstract grading, May Measurement Month Country Leader, ISH Regional Advisory Group activities, teaching seminars, etc.)
- Mentorship: Demonstrated history of mentoring

d) Head and shoulder photograph (high resolution) that may be used to recognise newly elected ISHFs in Society communication and in the ISHF section of the Society website.

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

4.2.3 ISHF applications are reviewed by the Membership Committee and a slate containing the names of candidates that meet the criteria is presented to the Council quarterly. Elected Fellows will be acknowledged at the ISH General Meeting and Awards Ceremony held during the Biennial Scientific Meeting.

#### 4.3 Membership Renewals / Fees

4.3.1 An ISH Fellow shall pay annual dues for membership that runs from January to December each year.

4.3.2 ISH Fellows who permanently reside and work in certain developing countries, as defined by the WHO Research4Life (formerly known as HINARI) programme, are 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 those from countries with economic hardship.

### 5. EMERITUS FELLOWS

#### 5.1 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.

#### 5.2 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 for approval.

#### 5.3 Membership Renewals / Fees

Emeritus Fellows are exempt from paying annual dues.

## **DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS**

### **5.4 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.

### **5.5 Nomination and Selection**

Nominations will be considered by the Awards Committee, which will limit this distinction to a very select group of individuals. Members will be awarded as Distinguished Fellows at the time of the Biennial Scientific Meeting of the Society.

### **5.6 Membership Renewals / Fees**

Distinguished Fellows are exempt from paying annual dues.

## **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. Members will be awarded as Honorary Fellows at the time of the Biennial Scientific Meeting of the Society.

### **6.3 Membership Renewals / Fees**

Honorary Fellows are exempt from paying annual dues.

## **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 Membership Renewals / Fees**

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. HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES**

### **8.1 Eligibility**

8.1.1 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.

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

## 8.2 Application and Approval Process

8.2.1 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)

## 8.3 Membership Renewals / Fees

8.3.1 Membership as a Health Professional Affiliate comes at no cost.

8.3.2 Health Professional Affiliates 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)**

### **9. MEMBERS' RIGHTS**

#### 9.1 Attendance at meetings

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

#### 9.2 Voting rights

9.2.1 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 Trainees may vote at General Meetings and in elections of the Society.

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

#### 9.3 Election to the Council

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

## **10. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

10.1 Membership shall cease upon failure to pay the annual subscription.

10.2 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.