

Membership Policy – Individual Membership Categories

Policy Name	Membership Policy – Individual Membership Categories
Policy Category	Business
Policy Number	2018-001
Policy Origination and Review Dates	July, 2018; April, 2020; July, 2020; April, 2021
Requirements	No Legal Requirements
Review Cycle	4 Years
Legal Review Required	No

A. General Policy Statement

It is WEF's policy to accept any individual interested in the advancement of knowledge relating to the mission and critical objectives of WEF as members in the appropriate WEF membership category, subject to terms and conditions specified in this policy.

B. Individual Membership Categories

Category	Definitions/Criteria/Qualifications
1. Professional	Individuals involved in or interested in water quality.
2. E-Global Professional	Individuals living outside of the U.S., U.S. Territories, and Canada who elect to receive publications and benefits in electronic and online formats. This membership category is not eligible for member conference registration discounts.
3. Academic	Instructors/professors interested in subjects related to water quality
4. Student	Students enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours in an accredited college or university. The membership is offered for an initial five years. After the fifth year and each year following, the student must provide written documentation on school letterhead verifying status, signed by an advisor or faculty member.
5. Young Professional	WEF members or former student members who are less than 35 years of age. This package is available for three consecutive years.
6. Professional Operators	Individuals involved in the day-to-day operation of wastewater collection, treatment or laboratory facility. A license number is required to confirm eligibility.
7. Executive	A value package for Professional members offering an expanded suite of WEF products/services

Category	Definitions/Criteria/Qualifications
8. Retired	WEF members who have retired from and no longer gainfully employed within the water profession.
9. Life	Members who reach 65 years of age and have 35 years of consecutive WEF membership.
10. Honorary	Individuals of acknowledged eminence who have made extraordinary contributions to WEF, or to policy, legislative and regulatory development in one or more fields of activity within the scope of the stated WEF objectives. Must be accepted through the nominations process with final approval by WEF Board.

C. Geographic and Economic Considerations

1. Low-Income Country Dues Discount

WEF offers a “Low-Income Country Dues Discount” for Professional members who live in “Low-Income Countries” based on World Bank designation. The discount is offered for Professional Members only and is 60% of the approved dues. Staff will annually update the countries designated to receive this discount based on the World Bank data.

2. Geographic Considerations/Limitations

Only individuals outside the U.S., U.S. Territories and Canada are eligible for E-Global membership.

D. Member Association Membership Requirements

Individual members in the U.S., U.S. Territories and Canada must join/pay dues to a Member Association (MA) if there is an MA in their geographical area; individual members outside the U.S., U.S. Territories and Canada are not required to join an MA.

This requirement applies to all individual memberships, including Retired, Life and Honorary Memberships, unless waived by the MA.

If WEF or an MA suspends or terminates an individual’s membership (per the Member Discipline Policy), they are not eligible to return to membership until they are reinstated per that Member Discipline Policy.

E. Rights, Privileges and WEF Dues

Individual members have the right to join one, or multiple MAs. Members have the right to vote for, or voice their opinion on, the election or appointment of a House of Delegates (HOD) Representative for their chosen MA, subject to MA Bylaws and WEF HOD Policies and Procedures. HOD representatives provide input to the WEF Board as well as review and vote on many critical decisions for WEF, including Bylaw changes.

Each individual WEF member will pay dues to WEF as determined by the Board. Any member of WEF who is delinquent in dues for a period of 30 days from the time WEF dues become due will be notified of the delinquency. If payment is not made within the next succeeding 60 days, the delinquent member will be dropped from the rolls of active members and thereupon forfeit all rights and privileges of membership.

F. Definitions/Criteria/Qualifications/Benefits

All members receive the rights and privileges of Individual Membership as stated in this policy as well as member discounts on publications, subscriptions, educational offerings, WEFTEC and Specialty Conferences registrations and on webinars/webcasts unless specifically noted below in each member category.

1. Professional

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

The Professional membership is for individuals involved in or interested in water quality.

2. E-Global Professional

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

The E-Global membership is for individuals living outside the United States (U.S.), U.S. Territories and Canada.

b. Additional or Excluded Privileges/Benefits

- All included subscriptions are electronic.
- No member registration discounts to WEFTEC or Specialty Conferences.

3. Academic

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

Academic membership is professors and/or educators interested or involved in subjects related to the water quality sector.

b. Additional Privileges/Benefits

- Discounted registration to WEFTEC.

4. Student

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

Student Membership is for individuals enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours in an accredited college or university. It is offered for an initial five-year period. After the fifth year and each year following, the student must provide written documentation on school letterhead verifying status, signed by an advisor or faculty member.

b. Additional Privileges

- Deeply discounted dues.
- Eligible to apply for the Canham Scholarship.
- Complimentary registrations to WEFTEC and Specialty Conferences.

5. Young Professional

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

Young Professional membership is for water quality professionals who are either new to WEF membership or who are making a transition from being a Student member to a Professional member. Individuals (or former Student members) who are less than 35 years of age are eligible for a period of three consecutive years.

b. Additional Privileges/Benefits

Discounted dues.

6. Professional Operators

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

Professional Operator membership is for operators and technicians directly involved in water reuse, wastewater treatment, collection systems, or laboratory operations. Utility managers, engineers, consultants, manufacturer representatives, attorneys, and academics do not qualify for this category.

A valid current Operator license number is required to confirm eligibility for this membership category.

b. Additional Privileges/Benefits

Discounted WEFTEC registration.

7. Executive

a. General Policy Statement/Qualifications

It is the policy of the Water Environment Federation to provide a “Value Package” of benefits to individuals joining as an Executive Member.

b. Additional Privileges/Benefits

Complimentary copies of additional WEF publications.

8. Retired

a. General Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Water Environment Federation to grant Retired Membership to individuals who have retired from and who are no longer gainfully employed in the profession.

b. Additional Privileges/Benefits

Discounted dues.

9. Life

a. General Policy Statement

Individuals who have been a member of WEF and one or more MAs (if applicable) for 35 or more consecutive years are eligible to apply for Life membership when they reach or exceed 65 years of age.

b. Additional Privileges/Benefits

Exempt from payment of WEF dues.

10. Honorary

a. General Policy Statement

Persons nominated for Honorary Membership must be of acknowledged eminence and have made extraordinary contributions to WEF or to policy, legislative and regulatory development in one or more fields of activity within the scope of the stated WEF objectives.

b. Additional Qualifications/Criteria

- WEF Honorary Membership shall not exceed a ratio of one Honorary Member to every 350 Individual members.
- A maximum of three Honorary Members shall be added in any calendar year.
- Nomination for Honorary Membership may be made by any Member Association, member, or by the Nominating Subcommittee of the Board's Governance Committee.

c. Approval

Recommendations for Honorary Membership are submitted by the Nominating Subcommittee to the Board of Trustees for approval.

d. Additional Privileges/Benefits

- Lifetime designation.
- Exempt from payment of WEF dues.