



United States Breastfeeding
COMMITTEE
PROTECTING • PROMOTING • SUPPORTING

ASSOCIATE NONPROFIT MEMBERSHIP

Any non-governmental, not-for-profit organization that is based in the United States and works on multi-organizational and/or cross-sector policy/practice change that aligns with the mission of the USBC shall be eligible for voting Associate Nonprofit Membership in the USBC, provided it satisfies the requirements and application processes as specified in the Membership Policies and Procedures, and excepting such organizations whose primary purpose is to market or sell products or services in support of infant formula feeding.

Specifically, the following guidelines shall apply with respect to associate nonprofit members:

- *Non-governmental and not-for-profit (i.e., state registration or federal tax-exempt status).* These are characteristics of an organization, which may be verified in a number of ways, including proof of state registration or an IRS determination letter.
- *Multi-organizational/cross sector.* Examples of multi-organizational/cross sector work include, but are not limited to partnerships between organizations from two or more different “fields” that commit to aggregating their resources to solve a specific problem or work on a specific project.
- *Based in the United States.* The organization's headquarters are located within the United States or its territories.
- *Supportive of the mission of the USBC.* The organization must be able to demonstrate that it supports the USBC's mission “To drive collaborative efforts for policy and practices that create a landscape of breastfeeding support across the United States.”
- *Not an organization whose primary purpose is to market or sell products or services in support of infant formula feeding.* Organizations whose primary purpose is to market or sell products or services in support of infant formula feeding are deemed to be operating in conflict with the USBC's mission, and therefore are not eligible for USBC membership.

The term of membership shall be for a period of five (5) years unless terminated earlier pursuant to Section 2.2.3 of the USBC Bylaws. Members who demonstrate their continued commitment to the mission of the USBC may renew their membership.

****Associate Nonprofit Members are voting members of the USBC****

Application Requirements and Processes

Please see the *Associate/Affiliate Nonprofit Member Initial Application* to review the application requirements. The Application Submission and Review Processes are outlined below:

1. Each applicant will submit a completed application package to the USBC Office, including the application form, any required attachments, and the required non-refundable application-processing fee.
 - a. All applicants should review USBC's Membership Guidelines and the Membership Fee Schedule prior to submitting an application. The applicant may choose to submit a fee adjustment request form as part of their application package to appeal for a reduced membership fee, should their application be accepted.
 - b. There is a \$100 Application processing fee (non-refundable) that must be received in order for your application to be considered complete.
2. The USBC office will notify the applicant that the application package has been received.
3. If the Executive Director and/or Membership Relations staff deem that the application package is complete and the information provided demonstrates that the applicant clearly and objectively meets eligibility criteria, the application will be determined as accepted. USBC office personnel will send the applicant a letter of acceptance and invoice for non-refundable membership fees. The applicant will have 60 days from the date of notification and receipt of invoice to submit membership fee payment. Should an applicant fail to submit payment within the specified period of time, the application will be considered void.
 - a. Should USBC determine at any time that the application package is incomplete or that additional documentation is necessary to verify information provided in the application, USBC will send a written request to the applicant for the missing or additional information or documentation. The request will indicate that the applicant has 60 days from the date of the request to submit the information or documentation. Should an applicant fail to supply the requested information or documentation within the specified time period, the application will be considered void.
 - b. If the Executive Director and/or Membership Relations staff deems that, despite receipt of a completed application package, an objective determination of eligibility remains unclear, the application packages will be forward to the Membership Engagement Committee with a request for the MC's recommendation.
 - i. The MC's recommendation will be presented to the USBC Board of Directors.
 - ii. The USBC's Board of Directors will make the final determination regarding disposition of an application

Voting Member Duties, Rights, and Responsibilities

Meetings of the USBC membership are typically scheduled to occur virtually in January and in-person in concurrence with the National Breastfeeding Conference & Convening each June. Meetings are held in the Washington DC area in odd-numbered years and around the country in even-numbered years.

It shall be the duty of all members to support the purposes of the USBC and to abide by the provisions of the USBC Bylaws and all USBC policies and procedures established by the Board of Directors. Each associate nonprofit member shall have the following additional duties, rights, and responsibilities as voting members of the USBC:

Affiliate/Associate nonprofit Members are voting members of the USBC

A. Representatives & Voting

1. Each voting nonprofit member shall name at least one (1) and no more than four (4) individual representatives to the USBC. It is desirable that at least one (1) member representative hold a leadership position, and be authorized to represent the decision making power of the member organization, in order to serve as an effective conduit between the organization and USBC.
2. If more than one representative of the same member organization is present at a meeting, there shall be only one vote between them.
3. An individual may represent only one voting member at a USBC membership meeting and may cast votes only on behalf of that organization.
4. Substitutions for representatives will be accepted if the USBC Office is notified in writing (letter or email from the CEO or an officer of the organization's Board of Directors) that all representatives are unable to attend a meeting. The substitution will only remain in effect for the duration of the membership meeting, unless an official notification of change in representation is filed with the USBC Office.
5. Member organizations may change their representatives by sending a letter or e-mail from the CEO or an officer of the organization's Board of Directors, notifying USBC of the change and providing contact information for the new representative(s).

B. Funding

1. USBC is not responsible for the cost of travel, lodging, or per diem for voting member representatives to attend membership meetings or conferences.

C. Participation

1. Member organizations are expected to send at least one representative to attend the general session portions of every membership meeting. Additional representatives are encouraged to attend as often as possible.
2. Each member organization is expected to report on its organizational activities related

to breastfeeding via its Group Profile in the USBC website. Updates can be made at any time; reminders will be sent at least once a year.

3. Affiliate/associate nonprofit members are expected to participate in USBC activities according to their engagement levels on specific topic areas, and member organization representatives may serve on USBC committees, according to the guidelines in the Committees Policy.
4. Representatives shall disclose individual or organizational conflicts of interest in USBC business according to the USBC Conflict of Interest Policy.

**USBC ASSOCIATE NONPROFIT MEMBER
INITIAL APPLICATION REVIEW CHECKLIST**

All applications for associate nonprofit membership will be measured against the criteria below:

Is applicant based in the U.S. (see HQ address)? Yes No

Is applicant non-governmental? Yes No

Is applicant not-for-profit (see proof of state reg or Tax Exempt letter)? Yes No

Does applicant work on multi-organizational and/or cross-sector policy/practice change that aligns with the mission of the USBC? Yes No

Responses and attachments provided show that the applicant supports the mission of USBC:

Disagree Somewhat disagree Neutral Somewhat agree Agree

Does the applicant market or sell products or services in support of infant formula feeding? Yes No

Has applicant designated at least one representative? Yes No

Has applicant committed to participating in USBC activities and sending representatives to meetings? Yes No