

## MEMBERSHIP

1.
  - i. Membership shall be open to all persons over the age of sixteen years and all deaf persons under the age of sixteen years who signify their general agreement with the objectives of the Association provided that they are duly proposed and seconded by two members of the Association and approved by the Executive Council. A person applying for membership shall fill in the Association's prescribed application form. Each application form shall contain the name, address, age and occupation of the applicant and shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary.
  - ii. Corporate Membership shall be open to all business organisations registered with the Registrar of Business and Companies, Singapore. Application for membership shall be made on the Association's prescribed application form.
2. There shall be six classes of membership:
  - i. **Ordinary Membership:** This shall be granted to Singapore citizens and permanent residents who are over the age of sixteen years only.
  - ii. **Life Membership:** This shall be granted to Ordinary Members who have been members of the Association for at least five years.
  - iii. **Associate Membership:** This shall be granted to non-Singapore citizens who are over the age of sixteen years.
  - iv. **Junior Membership:** This shall be granted to deaf Singapore citizens and permanent residents who are under the age of sixteen years.
  - v. **Corporate Membership:** This grade of membership is granted to business organisations
  - vi. **Honorary Membership:** Honorary membership shall be conferred on individuals who, in the opinion of the Executive Council, have rendered meritorious service to the Deaf of Singapore. Honorary members shall not be required to fill application forms or to pay any subscriptions.

## 3. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- i. Subscriptions for the various categories of membership shall be as follows:
  - Ordinary Membership: S\$15.00 per annum
  - Life Membership: \$150.00 (one-time)
  - Associate Membership: \$30.00 per annum
  - Junior Membership: \$5.00 per annum
  - Corporate Membership: \$500.00 per annum
  - Honorary Membership: Nil
- ii. The above rate can be changed by the Executive Council and take effect after approval has been granted at the Extraordinary General Meeting or Annual General Meeting

- iii. All subscriptions shall be due on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year, notice of which shall be given by the Honorary Secretary. A Member whose subscription is in arrears for more than one year shall cease to be a Member
- iv. Shall payment of renewal fees not be made, re-application of membership shall only be allowed on payment of the arrears

**4. Right of Membership**

- i. Ordinary and Life Members whose subscriptions are not in arrears shall have the right to vote at all General Meetings of the association and to stand for the election to the Executive Council
  - ii. Only Ordinary and Life Members who are not employed, fully or partially by the Association, or who are not seconded to serve the Association by the Government are eligible to stand for election to the Executive of the Association
  - iii. Junior, Associate and Corporate Members shall have no voting rights and shall not be eligible to stand for election to any office in the Association.
  - iv. Honorary Members shall have no voting rights and shall not be eligible for any office in the Association. An Honorary Member shall not be liable in any way for the debts due and remaining unpaid by the Association
5. Notice of any change of address of any member shall be given in writing immediately to the Association
6. Ordinary Membership

Time Frame	Amount Payable	
	Option 1	Option 2
Year 1	\$15.00	-
Year 1 (join on/after 1 <sup>st</sup> July)	-	\$7.50 (if you choose to pay \$15, you will fall under option 1)
Year 2	\$15.00	\$15.00
Year 3	\$15.00	\$15.00
Year 4	\$15.00	\$15.00
Year 5	\$15.00	\$15.00
Year 6	Eligible for Life Membership	\$15.00 Eligible for Life Membership after the yearly subscription of the 6 year has been fully paid
<b>Total Subscription Paid</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>\$82.50</b>

**7. Membership Privileges:**

	Honorary	Ordinary/Life (Deaf/HOH)	Ordinary/Life (Hearing)	Associate	Junior	Corporate
Free Interpretation / Note-Taking	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Discount on Sign Language Courses	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Discount on Hearing Aids and accessories such as batteries	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Voting Rights for Annual General Meeting	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Free Copies of Signal Newsletter and Annual Report	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Free Annual Hearing Test	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eligible to sign up for exclusive mobile service by Starhub and M1	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Discount on Dental Services from Town Hall Dental Ltd	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

8. **Membership Cancellation:** For Membership Cancellation, **no payment refund** will be allowed

9. **Replacement of membership Card:**

- i. Membership who lose their membership card, can replace it at the following rate:  
 First time replacement: \$2  
 Second time replacement: \$4  
 Third and subsequent replacements: \$8  
 A police report is required

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) SECTION

### 1. When will I get my membership card?

New membership applications can only be approved during SADeaf's Executive Council Meetings held once every two months. So your application may not be processed immediately, depending on when you send it in. We will acknowledge every application via email and also give an estimated date for approval and issue of membership card.

We also reserve the right to reject any application without having to state any reason.

#### Special Note

If you are submitting a new membership application after the last week of September 2015, approval can only be obtained in November 2015. By the time the membership card is issued to you, it would be early December 2015. This does not give you much time to enjoy the benefits. (Be aware that Ordinary, Associate and Junior memberships are valid from January to December of each year, after which you need to renew for the following year.)

So you may want to consider applying for the next year (2016) instead. We will still accept new membership applications after mid-September, but these applications will be deemed to be for the following full year, i.e 2016. (We will also email applicants to remind them and confirm this.)

### 2. How much back payment do I need to pay for my lapsed membership?

SADeaf membership, once granted, can be renewed at \$15 per year.

If your membership has expired more than one year ago, you would need to pay the following additional fees to renew your membership.

For membership which expired 1 to 3 years ago: \$15 per year.

Example: It is 2015 now. Your membership expired in 2012 and you did not renew it after that. Now you want to renew your membership. So you need to pay \$15 (for 2013) + \$15 (for 2014) + \$15 (for current year's payment) for a total of \$45.

For membership which expired more than 3 years ago: \$45 (which is \$15 x 3, ie. capped at maximum of 3 years' back payment)

Example: It is 2015 now. Your membership expired in 2001 – that is, 14 years ago – and you have not renewed it since. Now you want to renew your membership. So you pay \$45 (maximum of 3 years' back payment) + \$15 (current year's payment) for a total of \$60.

### 3. But why do I need to make back payments for the year(s) I did not renew my membership?

SADeaf wishes to encourage our members to subscribe to membership continuously and in consecutive years – and enjoy our membership benefits and rewards at the same time. Being our loyal member also grants you the right to convert to life membership after the 5th consecutive year of being our paying member.

But for those whose memberships have lapsed for many years, we will cap the maximum back payment at three years. That is, even if your membership have lapsed for five or seven or ten years, you do not have to foot five or seven or ten years' worth of back payment. The maximum back payment would be for three years (\$45).