South African Disability Alliance

309-163 NPO | www.sada.org.za | Office: 083 320 2267 | E-mail: secretariat@sada.org.za

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AS PER CONSTITUTION (2024)

Membership categories

SADA recognises two membership categories:

1. Full members will be all signatories to the Constitution dated July 2022, excluding any organisations that formally resigned from SADA and all organisations recognised by SADA as full members in terms of the membership criteria described in clause 3 (b, d and e) of the Constitution.
2. Associate members will be all organisations recognised by SADA as such in terms of the membership criteria described in clause 3 (c) of the Constitution.

Membership criteria

3. The following criteria must be met for full membership to be conferred on an organisation:
    a. Membership is limited to organisations and excludes individuals.
    b. As SADA is a national forum, full membership will be restricted to organisations operational in at least 5 of South Africa's provinces or has a national footprint.
    c. The core focus and function of all full members must be in the field of disability.
    d. Full members must be registered as non-profit organisations with the NPO Directorate of the National Department of Social Development or registered as a non-profit company with the Registrar of Companies at the Department of Trade and Industry.
    e. Members must be apolitical and not aligned to any particular political party.
4. Organisations failing to meet the criteria described in clause 3 (b) may apply for associate membership, provided that the following criteria are met:
    a. The organisation must have a direct interest in the field of disability beyond commercial interest.
    b. Membership is limited to organisation and excludes individuals.
    c. The organisation must be registered either as a non-profit organisation with the NPO Directorate of the National Department of Social Development or as a professional body.

5. **Application process**

a. Any organisation wishing to become a member of SADA shall submit an application in writing to the Executive Committee indicating whether the application is for full or associate membership.

b. All applications will consist of an organisational profile, the constitution, proof of registration and a letter of motivation for membership.

c. The Executive Committee will review all membership applications and make recommendations to the membership of SADA for confirmation.

d. Decisions regarding membership of SADA may be taken at a meeting of the members or via an electronic vote by members.

6. **Membership fees**

a. Each full member organisation will pay an agreed annual membership contribution to the Secretariat on presentation of an invoice to maintain membership while associate members will pay 75% of the full membership fee. The term "annual" refers to the financial year of SADA, i.e., 1 April to 31 March. Late and/or non-payment of membership contributions are deemed unacceptable and could result in suspension and/or termination of membership. Membership attained during the course of the financial year will be paid on a pro-rata basis, i.e., the number of months remaining in that financial year.

b. The termination by an organisation of its SADA membership does not relieve it of any financial or other obligations accruing to it by virtue of participation except in instances where the organisation has been relieved of such obligation by decision of SADA.

c. Full membership fee is currently R4410 p/a.

d. Associate membership fee is currently R3307.50 p/a.

e. Fee increases must be adopted at a member meeting or AGM.

7. **Membership responsibilities**

a. Member organisations will fund their own participation costs including reasonable accommodation, provided that the location of meetings will be equitable and accessible.

b. Member organisations undertake to respond to all communication from the EXCO or Secretariat within required timeframes as defined by the author and stipulated in the communication. Failure to do so may result in the termination of membership.

8. **Cessation/termination of membership**

An organisation ceases to be a member of SADA if the member organisation:

a. Fails to pay its annual membership contribution for that financial year within 60 days of the invoice date

b. Fails to respond to communication from the EXCO or Secretariat within required timeframes as prescribed in the communication; or

c. Resigns by giving written notice to the Chairperson at least 60 (sixty) days prior to a scheduled SADA meeting furnishing reasons for such resignation which will take effect on the date ratified by the Executive Committee.

9. The EXCO may suspend or terminate the membership of any member organisation if the organisation:

   a. Willfully refuses or neglects to comply with any provision of the Constitution

   b. Is guilty of conduct which, in the opinion of the EXCO, is prejudicial to the interests of SADA or contravenes the values and principles enshrined in the Constitution;

   c. Fails to pay its annual membership contribution for that financial year within 60 days of the invoice date

   d. Fails to respond to communication from the EXCO or Secretariat within required timeframes as prescribed in the communication

10. The EXCO may suspend or terminate membership provided that:

   a. Sufficient written warnings to the member organisation inviting them to explain themselves and/or rectify the fault, together with deadlines within which to do so.

   b. A formal meeting at which the member organisation is given a final opportunity to explain the reasons for their defaulting or defend themselves against an allegation of wrongdoing, and to present written or oral reasons why their membership should not be terminated.

   c. EXCO resolving unanimously to terminate the membership of the defaulting member organisation, which resolution shall be ratified by all member organisations either at a meeting convened for this purpose or by electronic round-robin communication, as deemed appropriate by EXCO under the circumstances.

   d. EXCO must notify the member organisation in writing of SADA's decision with reasons for termination.

   e. There must be provision for an appeal or reconsideration of the decision, by bringing the matter to the Grievance and Disciplinary Ad-Hoc Committee followed by an appeal to full EXCO.