

February 2019



AMED Proposed Membership Fees 2019

AMED Council have been reviewing membership fees as a way of making AMED even more accessible to a wider and more diverse membership. Amongst other options, we had considered adopting a 'free' membership arrangement that would rely only on income from events. However, this would mean raising prices for events or risk running out of cash by 2021. Moreover, events are an important part of the way that AMED demonstrates its charitable work, and we are determined to maintain our principle of 'low cost, high value' events.

Council have therefore developed the following proposal and will take a decision after consideration at the AGM. We would like to consult with you, our members, on this proposal. The following FAQ's provide more detail of how we think this would work.

It is proposed to adopt two forms of Membership:

Associate Members, by voluntary contribution

Anyone who chooses to subscribe to our website by registering a brief profile (currently known as a Networker) is automatically recognised as an 'Associate'. We invite Associates to make *voluntary* contribution to support our charitable work, say £10 or £20. This arrangement would apply also to our Overseas Members.

Full Members, by £60 annual subscription

Anyone who is willing to sign up to our Code of Ethics / expected standards of behaviour would be accepted into / continue in full 'Membership' for an annual fee of £60 (currently £70). This entitles UK members a vote in the running of the AMED community and to the [further benefit](#) of access to discounted Professional Indemnity Insurance. They may also advertise appropriate events and initiatives of the AMED Events page if they offer full AMED Members a discount of at least 10%.

We will continue to offer a concessionary rate so that Students/Researchers can benefit from full AMED Membership privileges at a discounted rate of £20 a year. This rate applies specifically to anyone currently enrolled on a course of 'appropriate' study / research programme at a recognised UK University.

We hope this proposal appeals to you and we thank you for your commitment to AMED by continuing or initiating your membership on this basis.

Some FAQs

Why is AMED tabling this proposal? This proposal provides access to the AMED community for independent practitioners who have limited funds, including students, researchers and part-time workers. It also aims to widen AMED's appeal to those who do not yet 'know' AMED, and who might thus be prompted to 'join to see'.

Increased membership would enable greater income generation through member events and activities. We would continue to run all our events on the principles of low cost and high value.

Is there a risk that such 'open access' to AMED will attract unwelcome attention? Council routinely monitors applications to join the website. Applicants who provide limited detail or

spurious contact details are generally refused. (Very few to date). Similarly, website activity that does not reflect acceptable AMED standards of behaviour is discouraged and deleted, or the person responsible for such postings may be barred from Membership.

How are subscription rates set? AMED Trustees draw up an annual budget, based on current and predicted levels of membership, aiming to cover operating costs and planned projects by subscription revenue. We make cost savings where possible. Over several years now we have held the subscription rates unchanged.

When would the proposed new fees take effect? The proposal will be voted on at our AGM on 4th April 2019, at Roots and Shoots, London. If you are unable to attend, you can always vote on the proposal by returning the AMED AGM Proxy Form (please see separate document).

If the proposal is accepted and approved, then the new fees will come into effect from 4th April and back dated to 1st January 2019.

Will I receive a refund for membership already paid? For changes to membership fees across the board, we adjust membership renewal dates to make allowance for any 'over/under payment'.

In general, making individual refunds is administratively expensive. Clearly where errors have been made and we are notified of the error promptly (within 2 months), a refund is possible. Some members in the past have waived refunds, thus making a voluntary donation to AMED.

Do I need to change my Standing Order? Subject to the outcome of the vote at the AGM, you will be notified (by email) of your revised renewal date and provided with a proforma for changing your standing order.

Other Associations allow members to use 'designatory letters' – does AMED? AMED is unlike most other professional membership organisations. The AMED ethos is not about setting qualifications and grades of membership. Rather, AMED is a community of open-minded professionals who are passionate about personal, management and organisational development.

However, Associates (formerly 'Networkers') who wish to demonstrate their link with the AMED community may use the designatory letters 'AMED Associate' (AMED:A), for example on business cards. Full members may recognise their greater commitment to our charitable work by using the letters 'AMED Member'(AMED:M).

Will the current Networkers have a say? Although Networkers are not full Members and have no vote at the AGM, their views and participation are welcomed and encouraged as an important contribution to our community. We will seek their views and comments by posting this proposal on our website, and we invite you to share this message with any who you know.

Do we need to join AMED officially to be able to attend events? No. *Anyone* who shares our interests and principles is welcome at any of our events.

Who do I contact if I have any queries? Please contact Linda Williams, our Membership Administrator. Email is preferred amedoffice@amed.org.uk or phone on 0300 365 1247. You are also welcome to contact any current Council Member/Trustee.