

How to Join EPF?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Organisations wishing to apply for Full or Associate membership shall apply in writing to EPF giving the following information:

- A letter stating that the organisation wants to join EPF;
- A letter stating that the organisation accepts the constitution and the internal rules of EPF;
- Legal status with a registered copy of the Constitution;
- Permanent address of the organisation with telephone, fax and e-mail and any other important contact details (e.g. foreign languages spoken, office hours);
- Estimated number of members or member organisations per EU member country registered in the organisation;
- A copy of the latest audited accounts if turnover exceeds 50,000€ or copy of the accounts certified by the Treasurer of the organisation;

The Board will take a decision about the membership of the applying organisation on a provisional basis, subject to ratification by the next meeting of the Council.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

The following fee structure was proposed, on the basis of members' gross turnover. Four levels of membership fees were proposed on the basis of the members' turnover:

- Below 100 000€ = 100€
- Between 100 001 – 250 000€ = 250€
- Between 250 000 – 500 000€ = 500€
- Over 500 001€ = 1 000 €

MEMBERSHIP (ART. 4)

EPF has three categories of membership: Full Membership, Provisional Membership and Associate Membership. The European Patients' Forum aims to be as **transparent, democratic and inclusive** as possible.

FULL MEMBERSHIP

Full Membership shall consist of pan-European disease-specific patient groups and of national coalitions.

In furtherance of those aims, full membership of the European Patients' Forum shall require the following criteria to be observed:

Legitimacy: EPF member organisations should have registered in one of the member states of the European Union. If the applicant organisation is not registered in an EU Member State, additional information needs to be provided demonstrating EU focus and activities.

Representation:

- For pan-European disease-specific organisations: EPF member organisations should have members of their own in more than half of the member states of the EU.
- For National networks of patient organisations: national coalitions should represent at least ten (10) different diseases groups to be accepted as Full Members.

Democracy: EPF member organisations should have governing bodies, which are elected by their members, who shall be patients, their carers, or their elected representatives.

Accountability and Consultation: Statements and opinions of EPF member organisations should reflect the views and opinions of their memberships, and consultation procedures with those memberships should be put in place.

Transparency: EPF member organisations should generally disclose their sources of funding and generally make available their audited financial accounts.

Pan-European Patient Groups, which fulfil the above five criteria, may become full members of EPF.

PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

This level of membership is a transitional status for organisations who do not meet the five Full Membership criteria but intend to do so in the foreseeable future.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

All other interested organisations operating on a European level, who meet neither the Full nor Provisional membership criteria, will be Associate members. These organisations must have an interest in European health and patient issues and share and uphold the views and objectives of EPF. EPF respects the individuality of its member organisations. It recognises and appreciates the variety of viewpoints among its members.

YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

Contact EPF's Secretariat: info@eu-patient.eu

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