



**I F L A**

# Membership

## **WHY JOIN IFLA?**

*IFLA offers a professional home for library associations, libraries and information centres, and information professionals whatever their type of expertise. The Federation is dedicated to informing its members of current research and development in all the fields of library activity. By keeping members up to date on the latest trends in the field and future expectations, IFLA provides its membership with a basis for professional growth.*

*IFLA's professional network makes the Federation an international hub of expertise and experience. Participation in IFLA's global network provides members with the opportunity to directly contact colleagues and experts, exchange experiences and expand views. Improvement of LIS skills through workshops, seminars and poster sessions,*

*participation in study and exchange programmes, and promotion of products and services are but a few of the benefits open to IFLA members.*

*The objectives and professional activities of IFLA aim at universal application and comprehensive-ness. Various types of library and information service are covered by six Core Activities and a series of professional groups: eight Divisions divided into 45 Sections as well as Discussion Groups. The professional programme fosters the international outlook which is essential to the work of information professionals. The structure of IFLA's professional programme enables members to pursue their particular field of interest. Participation in the work of the Sections gives members and affiliates the benefit of sharing specialised expertise.*

## **IFLA Membership gives you the opportunity to:**

- Link up to IFLA's worldwide network of library and information professionals
- Participate in the activities of one or more IFLA professional groups specializing in various areas of library activity and information service
- Obtain a free subscription to the newsletter of the Sections for which you have registered
- Share your views, concerns and expertise with other LIS professionals and organizations working in the field and, in turn, learn from their experiences
- Enjoy substantial discounts on over 150 IFLA publications
- Receive a member discount on the registration fee for the annual IFLA World Library and Information Congress

## **WHAT BENEFITS DO YOU RECEIVE AS AN IFLA MEMBER?**

### **Publications**

When you join IFLA, you will be sent a number of publications free of charge. These include:

- IFLA Directory (biennial) which lists members of the Governing Board and its committees, officers representing IFLA's Core Activities, Divisions, and Sections, an overview of the IFLA Publications, and IFLA's Statutes and Rules of Procedure
- IFLA Journal (4 issues per annum) which features articles from library and information science professionals of international standing, and IFLA News and Reports
- IFLA Annual Report which provides reports on resolutions, projects and meetings, and summaries about IFLA's conferences, finances, membership objectives and activities of its professional groups

IFLA members may subscribe to the IFLA/Saur Publication Series for a substantial discount.

This series issues six titles each year, and subscribers pay less than 50% of the cost of buying the titles separately. Discounts for members are also available on the IFLA Professional Reports Series and the IFLA Series on Bibliographic Control.

### **Voting Rights**

Since IFLA is run by and for its membership, its structure is based on democratic principles. The highest forum within the Federation is the General Council of Members, the supreme governing body consisting of delegates of members. IFLA Association members and Institutional members have voting rights in Council and by postal ballot. They are entitled to nominate and elect candidates for the post of IFLA President-Elect and for the Governing Board, as well as for members of the Section Standing Committees.

### **Section Registrations**

All IFLA members and affiliates are entitled to participate in the programmes of the professional groups specialising in various areas of library activity and information service. Different free Section registration entitlements apply to the various membership categories. Members and affiliates will receive the newsletter of the Sections for which they are registered.

### **Conference Discount**

All members and affiliates are entitled to a discount on the registration fees for the annual IFLA World Library and Information Congress. The reduction applies to both early and late registration fees. The amount of the reduction will vary from year to year, depending on the fees set for each year's conference. For Associations and Institutions, the discount applies to any of your members or employees who will be attending the conference.

## CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

### Association Membership

**Association Members** may include associations of libraries, librarians and library schools, associations of bibliographical and research institutes primarily concerned with the implementation of the purposes of IFLA. There are three types of Association membership:

**National Association** members are defined as associations whose membership is national in scope (people from anywhere in the country are eligible to join) and whose mandate is also national in scope (supports the profession throughout the country). This category includes subject-specialist associations which operate nationally.

In order to determine the appropriate fee, National Associations must provide details of their total operating expenses, in their local currency, for each of the three most recent complete financial years.

There are 12 bands for the fees, from a minimum of EUR 205 to a maximum of EUR 20300. Each of the 12 fee bands has corresponding voting rights and section allocations. All National Association members automatically receive free registration in the Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS). If they are based in Africa, Asia & Oceania, or Latin America & the Caribbean, they will also have free registration in the appropriate regional section.

**International Association** members must function within the framework of multinational or international library and information services.

International Association membership fees are divided into 3 bands, dependent on the country of residence of the majority of members of the association.

International Association members may register free of charge for 4 professional Sections, in addition to automatic registration in the Management of Library Associations Section. For those in Africa, Asia & Oceania, and Latin America & the Caribbean, participation in the appropriate Section for Regional Activities will automatically be included in the membership benefits. They are entitled to exercise 5 votes.

**Other Association** members include any associations which do not fit either the International Associations or National Associations category. It is mainly intended to allow sub-national (ie. provincial/state) associations to join IFLA.

The fees for this category are banded into 3 levels, using the same banding divisions as currently exist for International Association and Institutional members.

Other Associations are entitled to 2 votes. They may join 2 sections free of charge, in addition to automatic registration in the Management of Library Associations Section. For those in Africa, Asia & Oceania, and Latin America & the Caribbean, participation in the appropriate Section for Regional Activities will automatically be included in the membership benefits.

### Institutional Membership

**Institutional Members** include library and information centres, library schools, bibliographic and research institutes, and other institutions or bodies that would like to contribute professionally to the activities of the Federation.

Institutional Members are subject to a system of differentiated fees, with three bands based on the country in which the institution is located.

All Institutional Members are entitled to one vote. Institutional Members are entitled to register for two Sections free of charge. For those in

Africa, Asia & Oceania, and Latin America & the Caribbean, participation in the appropriate Section for Regional Activities will automatically be included in the membership benefits.

The following three categories are considered sub-categories of Institutional membership. Members in these categories may register free of charge for 1 Section. They have no voting rights, except in the election of Standing Committee members for the Sections in which they are registered. The membership fee is divided into three bands based on the country in which the institution is located, and is about half the rate of Institutional Membership.

**Institutional Sub-unit** membership is intended for libraries in faculties and departments of universities. The university (usually via its main library) must be a full Institutional member of IFLA to enable other campus libraries to join sub-unit membership.

**One-person resource centre** membership is limited to those libraries or information centres with no more than one full-time equivalent (FTE) staff member. Members in this category must provide a signed statement that this is the case in their centre.

**School library** membership is open to libraries within primary and secondary level schools (or their equivalents). There is no limit to the number of staff.

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## Personal Affiliates and Student Affiliates

Individuals who wish to mark their interest in and support for the purposes and professional activities of IFLA may join as Affiliates. Student Affiliates must provide evidence that they are registered in an academic programme. Personal and Student Affiliates are entitled to register free of charge for one Section. For those in Africa, Asia & Oceania, and Latin America & the Caribbean, participation in the appropriate Section for Regional Activities will automatically

be included in the membership benefits. Affiliates have no voting rights, though Personal Affiliates may nominate individuals for the positions of President-elect and Governing Board member.

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## APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership forms for all categories can be found on IFLANET: [www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org)  
Memberships are valid for a calendar year.

National Associations should contact IFLA Headquarters before submitting their application. They must provide details of their annual operating expenses in order to determine the appropriate band for the fee, voting rights, and free section allocation.

International Associations, Other Associations, and Institutions may complete the appropriate application form and submit it to IFLA Headquarters. The appropriate band for the fee can be found on the Country List link on the application form.

Personal and Student Affiliates may submit completed application forms to IFLA Headquarters. The fees for these categories are indicated on the application.

Memberships are registered only when the completed application form, section registration form, and appropriate fee have been received.

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## Contact

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