

# THE COLUMBUS BAR ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP RULES

## I. Membership Categories.

**A. Classes of Membership (Voting).** Those eligible for and admitted to the following categories of membership shall be entitled to vote as provided in the CBA Code of Regulations, Article III, Section 2:

1. **Attorney.** Any attorney who is not under disciplinary suspension from the bar of any jurisdiction and who is: a) currently registered as active and in good standing with the Supreme Court of Ohio [under Gov. Bar R. VI, Section 1]; b) currently registered as an attorney not admitted in Ohio [under Gov. Bar R. VI, Section 4] c) currently licensed to practice law in any other state or the District of Columbia shall be eligible for voting membership in the Association or, d) is a full-time instructor, professor, or dean of an accredited law school.
2. **Judge.** Any state or local judge and any retired judge eligible to sit by assignment in the courts of Ohio, and any federal judge shall be eligible for voting membership in the Association.

**B. Classes of Membership (Non-Voting).** Those eligible for and admitted to the following categories of membership shall be considered members of the Columbus Bar Association but shall not be eligible to vote as provided in the CBA Code of Regulations, Article III, Section 2:

1. **Inactive or Retired Attorney.** Any attorney who is registered and in good standing with the Supreme Court of Ohio as inactive or retired [under Gov. Bar R. VI, Sections 2 and 3] shall be eligible for non-voting membership in the Association. This provision, however, shall not apply to a Federal Judge who is registered as "inactive" by virtue of his/her position.
2. **Non-Attorney Associate.** Any person who has never been admitted to the Bar of any U.S. jurisdiction but who is: a) a law student or law school graduate; b) a paralegal, legal assistant, court reporter, court bailiff or law librarian or, c) actively engaged in a profession or pursuit closely allied with the practice of law or the administration of justice, may apply to the Board of Governors for acceptance as an associate member of the Association. Each such applicant must be sponsored initially by a voting member of the Association. Associate members shall not be eligible to vote or to hold office in the Association.
3. **Honorary Member.** The Board of Governors may from time to time, at its discretion, appoint honorary members of the Association. Unless a person so appointed is or becomes otherwise properly qualified as a voting member, the honorary member shall not vote or hold office in the Association.
4. **Non-Resident Member.** Any attorney who does not reside in, or have an office in, the State of Ohio.

**C. Sustaining Membership.** Any person who is otherwise eligible to be a member of the Association may also become a sustaining member upon payment of dues prescribed for a sustaining member. Sustaining members shall continue to be entitled to all the rights of membership of the category of membership to which they belong and may be accorded special recognition for their contribution to the Association.

## II. Dues

**A. Dues for Membership Categories.** The following annual dues shall be required for membership in the membership categories of the Association as designated in Section 1 of these Rules:

### Category:

Voting Members (dues based on year of first admission to any Bar, i.e. calendar year of admission not number of years in practice.)

Admitted 0-5 years	\$200.00
Admitted 6 years or more	\$300.00
Government members 0-5 years	\$150.00
Government members 6 years or more	\$250.00
Inactive or Retired Attorney	\$125.00
Associate Membership	\$125.00
Sustaining Member	\$150.00 (in addition to the dues required based on first year of admission)

Group-rate dues for entire law school full-time faculty (not including Adjuncts)

Law Schools = \$4,000/yr.

Government lawyers eligible for a CBA membership discount include any attorney employed full-time by a local, state, or federal government agency, full-time instructor, professor or dean of an accredited law school and excludes anyone serving in an elected capacity.\*

\*Judges, federal magistrates, elected officials or persons appointed to elective office are not eligible for this category.

**B. Non-Payment of Dues or Obligations:** Any member may be suspended from membership by the Board of Governors if such member has failed to pay all or any part of a financial obligation to the CBA or any of its affiliated entities. Such obligation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. CBA dues;
2. CBS Placement Service fees;
3. CBA Lawyer Referral dues and referral fees;
4. Fees pertaining to CBA publications.

Upon such suspension, all membership benefits applicable to the former members category of membership shall be withdrawn.

**C. No Reimbursement of Dues.** Dues paid to the association will not be reimbursed except upon approval of the Board of Governors for good cause shown.

## III. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

**A. Termination of Attorney Members.** Any attorney whose license to practice law has been suspended or revoked, or who has resigned from the Bar, shall immediately, upon such suspension, revocation or resignation, cease to be eligible for membership in the Association.

**B. Reinstatement of Attorney Members.** Any person removed from membership in the Association under the foregoing provision may apply to the Board of Governors for readmission when and if such members license to practice law is fully restored, and such person may be reinstated as a member upon the approval of the Board and payment of all applicable dues.

**C. Termination of Non-Attorney Association Members.** Any non-attorney member of the Association shall be subject to removal from membership by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Governors at any regularly scheduled meeting for good cause shown. The decision of the Board to remove such a member shall be final.

## IV. MISCELLANEOUS

**A. Membership Logo.** The CBA may devise and publish a special membership logo for the use of its attorney members subject to the following terms and restrictions:

1. Any attorney who is a current, voting member of the Association and meets all other qualifications enumerated herein may use the membership logo on letterhead, advertisements, signs, websites, or similar materials related to that attorney's practice of law.
2. No person is authorized to use the membership logo at any time or in any manner which might reasonably be interpreted to imply that the user is a duly-licensed, active, currently-registered attorney in the State of Ohio when such is not the case.
3. No person otherwise eligible to use the membership logo shall do so in such a way that might reasonably be interpreted to constitute an endorsement, evaluation, certification, or recommendation by the CBA of that person.
4. By granting permission for the use of the member logo, the CBA does not intend to authorize the use by any person or entity of any of its other logos, trade marks, trade names, copyrights or other identifying materials or to empower any person to act as an agent for the CBA or its affiliates.