

## NBPSA New Fee Structure: FAQs

### 1. Why are NBPSA membership fees changing?

NBPSA membership fees have been the same since 2012 when the Society was established. Since that time, we have expanded member services to support networking and clinical review as well as providing regular events and advocacy on key professional topics.

While the Society remains in a good financial position with sound financial reserves, COVID 19 has significantly reduced revenue for face-to-face events over the last 12 months. The Board has determined that membership fees will increase for all member renewals from 1 July 2021 onwards. The increase will be \$50pa for ordinary members and \$20pa for trainee members.

The Board has also approved reduced fees for those who find themselves in changed financial circumstances. The policy introduced in 2016 that allows members to take a membership break for up to 12 months without penalty, has also been continued.

### 2. What will the NBPSA membership fees be from 1 July 2021?

The following NBPSA membership fees will apply for all member renewals from 1 July 2021:

#### **New Member Application Fee (includes first year subscription)**

Ordinary, International and Associate member \$550 AU +GST\*

Trainee member \$170 AU +GST\*

#### **Annual Subscription Fee**

Ordinary, International and Associate \$300+GST\*

Trainee member \$120 AU+GST\*

*\*GST is only applicable for Australian residents*

### 3. Which members are able to apply for reduced membership fees?

The following members are able to apply for reduced/waived membership fees:

- Members who had a taxable income of <\$50K in the preceding membership year can apply for a fee reduction for the following membership year at renewal.
  - Fees will be reduced to the Trainee rate for membership and conference attendance, consistent with the Reduced Fees Policy
  - Ordinary and Life members retain rights as 'eligible voting members'

*Flossy was on parental leave for seven months in her 2020 membership year. As her taxable income that year was <\$50K, Flossy applied for a reduced rate when she received her 2021 renewal notice. Flossy was approved for a fee reduction for her next membership year and was able to access the trainee rate for the Annual Conference.*

- Members seeking a membership break for up to 12 months
  - Fees waived for up to 12 months (pro rata) without penalty
  - Ordinary members waive their rights as 'eligible voting members' during their break
  - May continue to attend Society events at relevant membership rates
  - Eligible to apply for reduced fees based on taxable income (see Q4)
- Honorary/Life members
  - Do not pay annual fees
  - May apply for Trainee rate for conference attendance based on taxable income (see Q4)
  - Honorary members are not eligible voting members of the Society.

**4. How do I apply for a reduced fee based on my taxable income?**

If you think you are eligible for a reduced membership fee based on your taxable income you will need to complete the NBPSA Annual Subscription Application for Exemption statutory declaration form. The application should be submitted when your membership comes up for renewal. Completed forms should be sent to [admin@nbpsa.org](mailto:admin@nbpsa.org) at least two weeks prior to your renewal date or shortly after you receive your renewal invoice.

**5. Will the Society do any audit to confirm my taxable income?**

No. The statutory declaration provides evidence of eligibility. Members seeking reduced fees for further years will be asked to reconfirm their status at renewal each year.

**6. I am on parental leave; can I apply for reduced membership fees?**

If you are on parental leave you can either apply for a reduced fee based on your taxable income (see Q4) or you can apply for a 12-month membership break. (see Q8).

**7. I am a Trainee can I get access to any fee reduction?**

No. Trainees already pay reduced fees. Trainees can apply for a 12-month membership break. (see Q8).

**8. Am I eligible to put my membership on hold for 12 months?**

All members are able to apply for a membership break for up to 12 months and to restart their membership without the need to submit a new application or pay a joining fee. Requests for a Membership Break may be submitted in writing to the NBPSA Membership Director via [admin@nbpsa.org](mailto:admin@nbpsa.org).

**9. Will I need to reapply for a reduced fee each year?**

Yes. Members accessing a reduced fee based on taxable income will need to reconfirm each year.

**10. I have just joined and am eligible for a reduced fee, can I get a refund?**

No. If your circumstances have changed, you can apply for a reduction at your next renewal.

**11. Who is eligible for Honorary membership?**

Honorary membership can be conferred on those who are not eligible for Ordinary Membership but who are deemed to have made a significant contribution to paediatrics, child health or NDB paediatric practice. Honorary membership is usually conferred for 12 months. For example, a former member who has retired from all forms of clinical and academic practice may be considered for annual Honorary membership while they actively contribute to the Society. Contributions might include mentoring, facilitating an online group or appointment and active participation in an NBPSA committee or working group.

**12. Who is eligible for Life membership?**

Life membership is offered by the Board in recognition of distinguished service to the Society or to Neurodevelopmental and Behavioural paediatrics. Although life members do not pay annual subscription fees, they may apply for a reduced fee based on taxable income to attend NBPSA events at Trainee rates.