

MAPA Membership Requirements:

MEMBERSHIP: There shall be four categories of membership: active voting members, student members, associate members, and sustaining members. Only those persons that qualify for membership according to the provision of these Standing Rules shall be eligible for membership.

Active Members must be at least 18 years of age, live or work in Dane County, Wisconsin, and meet at least one of these qualifications:

1. Any individual who has successfully completed the Certified Legal Assistant (CLA) examination of NALA and is employed as a paralegal/legal assistant as attested to by their attorney-employer.
2. Any individual who has completed a formal course of study for paralegals/legal assistants and has submitted satisfactory evidence thereof and whose attorney-employer attests that such person is qualified as a paralegal/legal assistant.
3. Any individual who has a minimum of 3 years of law related experience under the supervision of an attorney including at least 1 year of in-house training as a paralegal/legal assistant, whose attorney-employer attests that such person is qualified as a paralegal/legal assistant.

Active members may retain Active status though not employed as set forth above, provided they have been active members of MAPA for at least one year and shall continue to pay dues. Said members retain all the privileges of active membership, except the right to hold office as an officer or director. Only Active members may vote and hold office in MAPA.

Student Members must be at least 18 years old and currently enrolled in a formal course of study for paralegals/legal assistants.

Associate Members must be at least 18 years old and interested in supporting the paralegal/legal assistant profession and who does not otherwise qualify for Active or Student membership.

Sustaining Members are those individuals, law firms, corporations and paralegal/legal assistant program representatives who endorse the paralegal/legal assistant concept or are involved in the promotion of the paralegal/legal assistant profession who contribute dues as set forth in the Standing Rules.

Application for Membership shall be made on forms approved by the Executive Committee and submitted to any MAPA officer for review and approval by the Second Vice President. If an application is not complete or if there is some question regarding the applicant's eligibility, the application shall be forwarded to the President for review. Upon acceptance and payment of dues, the application will be promptly notified. If the applicant is not approved for membership for failure to meet requirements, he or she will be notified and permitted to reapply upon fulfillment of the membership requirements.

DUES AND ASSESSMENT: Annual dues for each category of membership shall be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the beginning of each year. Dues are payable on or before September 1 each year.

1. Annual dues for Active Members shall be \$70.00. (Annual dues for Government Employees shall be \$30.00.)
2. Annual dues for Associate Membership shall be \$35.00
3. Annual dues for Student Membership shall be \$25.00
4. Annual dues for Sustaining Membership shall be \$50.00 or any amount in excess thereof.

Dues shall be delinquent if not paid by October 1 each year. Failure to pay dues by October 1 will result in suspension of membership privileges. Members whose dues are unpaid by January 1 of the next year must reapply and comply with Rule III.F. of the Standing Rules and pay a \$15 reinstatement fee.

Annual dues are payable to the "Madison Area Paralegal Association" on or before September 1 of each year. Dues for new members may be prorated if the application is made within three months prior to September 1 at the discretion of either the Membership Chairperson and/or the Treasurer.