

NACE Membership Categories

Adopted: May 24, 2023

Background

Article 3.3.2 of NACE Bylaws, as adopted by the National Board on March 22, 2023, grants the NACE Board of Directors “the authority to establish, modify, and remove membership categories and qualifications.” Membership categories, previously defined by Bylaws, are now governed by board policy making.

Categories of Members with Voting Privileges

The National Board establishes that the following categories shall be available as Members with Voting Privileges, as defined in Article 3.3.1.1 of NACE Bylaws:

- **Professional Membership** shall be the standard NACE membership for individuals in or adjacent to the catering, events and hospitality industries, who do not qualify for any other Members with Voting Privileges category
- **Corporate Membership**, which is limited to employees of companies who supply the catering, events, hospitality, or adjacent industry and have three or more Professional Members at the same business address
- **Young Professional Membership**, which is limited to those individuals aged eighteen (18) to twenty-six (26) years of age
- **Non-Profit Membership**, which is limited to individuals employed by non-profit organizations with 501(c)3, (c)4, (c)5, and (c)6 status from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
- **Legacy Membership**, which is limited to those individuals more than sixty (60) years of age who have been Members of NACE for fifteen (15) years or longer (consecutive or cumulative)
- **Partner Membership**, which is limited to employees of businesses that are a currently part of the NACE National Business Partner program (as defined by the Board of Directors)
- **Lifetime Membership**, which is an honorary class of membership conferred by the Board of Directors upon members whom the Board of Directors wishes to honor for a lifetime of service and support to NACE. This honorary membership may only be conferred according to policies and procedures established by the Board of Directors.

Categories of Members without Voting Privileges

The National Board establishes that the following categories shall be available as Members without Voting Privileges, as defined in Article 3.3.1.2 of NACE Bylaws:

- **Student Membership**, which is limited to those individuals enrolled as a full-time or part-time student in a post-secondary educational program who intend to begin a career in the catering and events industry. Student Members must provide proof of full-time or part-time enrollment. Student Members enrolled in a part-time program must submit employment history to be considered for Student membership.

Student Members may serve on committees, but they may only vote in Student chapter elections, and hold Student Chapter offices. They are not eligible to serve on the National Board of Directors. This membership is available for no more than five (5) years in a post-secondary education program. Student Members in good standing may renew as a Student Member for no more than one (1) year following their date of graduation.

- **Retired Membership**, which is limited to individuals who are fully retired. To be eligible for this category, members must:
 - Have been a member of NACE for 15+ years and previously or currently hold a Legacy Membership
 - Be a fully retired industry professional who has been a member of NACE for 15+ years, and no longer receiving any income from full time, part time or consulting work in the catering and events field.

Retired members are not eligible to serve on the board of directors at a chapter or national level. Retired members are not eligible to serve as a delegate, nor be included in chapter counts to determine chapter size for awards/delegates etc.

- **Honorary Membership**, is a complimentary class of membership limited to non-members of NACE that is conferred by the Board of Directors according to procedures determined by the Board. Honorary Members shall have no voting rights and may not run for office; however, they may be appointed to committees. Honorary members shall not be assessed any membership fees or dues but will be eligible to receive member discounts or benefits.