

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Program Summary:

The Family Membership Program encourages families to volunteer together by offering a special dues structure programs to include children and adolescents in club activities. Family-friendly clubs and the Cub Program add new energy and enthusiasm to clubs, ignites the tradition of volunteerism and life-long affiliation with Lions and prompts new club development.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the dues structure for the Family Membership Program?

The first family member (head of household) pays full international dues (US\$43), and up to four additional family members pay only half the international dues (US\$21.50). All family members pay the one-time entrance (US\$25) or charter (US\$30) fee.

The family membership dues structure only applies to international dues. Clubs, districts and multiple districts are encouraged to adopt their own family dues structure at the local level.

Who qualifies for the family membership dues structure?

The Family Membership Program applies to family members who are (1) eligible for Lions membership, (2) currently in or joining the same club, and (3) living in the same household and related by birth, marriage or other legal relationship. Common household family members include parents, children, spouses, aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents, in-laws and legal dependents. For family members under age 26, residency in the same household is not required if pursuing higher education or serving in their country's military service.

What if you are unsure if a proposed family unit qualifies for the family membership dues structure?

Based on the definition, club secretaries must determine which Lions in their club meet the qualifications for the family membership dues rate. The club secretary must indicate on the certification form or MyLCI what documentation they used to verify the relationship and address and are subject to audit.

How do families get certified as a family unit?

New clubs and existing clubs can certify the family members online via MyLCI. New clubs not using MyLCI, may certify family members on the Report of Charter Members (TK21-A). Existing clubs not using MyLCI, can submit the [Family Unit Certification Form](#) (TK-30) with the MMR. Recertification is only necessary when there is a change of address or membership status.

How do club secretaries determine the head of household (HH)?

Any one person from the family unit may be designated as the head of household. All family unit information is then based on the subsequent family members' relationship to the head of household.

Are membership requirements and benefits different for family members?

No. Family members must meet all requirements for Lions membership and receive all rights and privileges associated with active Lions membership.

Materials Available:

- [Family Membership Brochure](#) (MPFM-8)
- [Family Friendly Lions Club Concept "How to Guide"](#)
- [Family Unit Certification Form](#) (TK-30)
- [Lions Family Cub Program and Activity Guide](#) (MPFM-33)
- [Lions Family Cub Program Activities](#) (MPFM-34)
- [Cub Program Brochure](#) (MPFM-37)
- [Family and Women Symposium Program Grant Planning](#) Guide (MP-101)

LCI Contact:

Questions regarding the Family Membership Program contact:
Membership Operations
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Questions related to certifying family members online contact:
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Questions regarding the Family Unit Certification Form processing or submission contact:
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WOMEN'S MEMBERSHIP INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Program Summary:

The Women's Membership Initiative was started in 2003 as a way to boost women's membership in Lions. The initiative has been very successful, as the association has seen the number of women Lions continue to grow. In 2008, the Women's Membership Initiative was coupled with the Family Membership Program.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What sort of initiatives is Lions Club International sponsoring to encourage women's membership?

1. Family and women membership development specialists, appointed for a three-year terms by the DG Team, in consultation with the GMT multiple district coordinator and the GMT district coordinator, oversee the recruitment and participation of family and women Lions within their district and multiple district.
2. Family and women's symposium grants are available to exchange ideas and identify projects, new members and opportunities for new club development.
3. Regional Women's Workshop Grants are available to explore factors surrounding the recruitment and retention of women, devise strategies for increasing the number of women in Lions clubs and create an action plan.

How much has women's membership grown?

Women's membership grew from 13.7% of total membership in fiscal year 2002-2003 to 27% in fiscal year 2014-2015.

Materials Available:

- [I Am a Lion](#) (ME-37)
- [Symposium Grant Planning Guide](#) (MP-101)
- [Regional Women's Workshop Planning Guide](#) (MP-102)

LCI Contact:

Membership Development

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STUDENT MEMBER PROGRAM

Program Summary:

The Student Member Program offers a special dues discount to encourage student participation in campus clubs and traditional Lions clubs and ensure the dynamism of student involvement in Lions. This program expands our recruiting efforts and gives more students the opportunity to join the association.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What are the Student Member Program components?

- **Active Membership:** Qualifying students are active members and entitled to all rights and privileges, including full voting rights and subject to all obligations which membership in a Lions club confers or implies.
- **Student Member Dues Rate:** Eligible students receive a charter/entrance fee waiver and pay only half international dues. It is further recommended that districts and multiple districts consider exempting or lowering their dues for student members as deemed appropriate. **IMPORTANT:** Students of new Campus Lions clubs, or clubs with a majority of student members, are required to prepay one year of international dues at the student member rate and submit with the charter application.

Who qualifies for the student member dues rate?

The eligibility definition of “student” is as follows: A student is an individual enrolled in an educational institution and between the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction in which they reside and through the age of 30. Student members are required to provide documentation verifying school enrollment and age.

In the case of a newly chartered campus club, or a club with a majority of student members, each charter member who qualifies for the Student Member Program is required to prepay one year international dues at the student member rate. Such dues must be submitted with the club charter application. Once the club is established, prepayment of dues is not required.

Do current students in Campus Lions clubs qualify?

Yes. Campus club students qualify for the student member dues rate.

Does the reduced dues rate apply to traditional clubs?

Yes. All students involved in traditional clubs are eligible to receive the student member dues rate.

Materials Available:

- [Student Member Certification Form](#) (STU-5)
- [Young Adult Recruiting Guide](#) (EX-800)
- [Young Adult Recruiting Guide PowerPoint](#)
- [Be Part of Something that Matters Brochure](#) (EX-801)
- [Become Involved Become a Lion Video](#)

LCI Contact:

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MyLCI Support Center

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Questions regarding the Family Unit Certification Form processing or submission contact:

Member Service Center

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LEO TO LION PROGRAM

Program Summary:

To position Lions as a leading humanitarian force among young emerging leaders, Lions Clubs International updated the Leo to Lion Program by offering an added dues concession to qualifying former Leos and young adults. The Leo to Lion Program encourages graduating Leos to join Lions clubs and recruit other like-minded young adults, thus advancing young adult participation in Lions and paving the way for future Lion leadership.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What are the Leo to Lion Program Components?

- Active Membership: Individuals who qualify as a former Leo or a young adult are active members and entitled to all rights and privileges, including full voting rights and subject to all obligations which membership in a Lions club confers or implies.
- Leo to Lion Dues Rate: Former Leos and qualifying young adults receive a charter/entrance fee waiver and those through age 30 pay only half international dues.

Who qualifies for the Leo to Lion Dues Rate?

- Former Leos - Current and former Leos between the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction in which they reside and through the age of 30. Certification is required to verify age and Leo club participation. Leos also have the opportunity to charter a new Lions club and recruit their peers.
- Qualifying Young Adults - Young adults between the age of legal majority in jurisdiction in which they reside and through the age of 30 also qualify as long as at least 10 new club charter members meet the qualifications above as a former Leo and have been a Leo for at least a year and a day. Qualifying young adults are required to provide documentation verifying age.

Does the reduced dues rate apply to traditional clubs?

Yes. All qualifying former Leos involved in traditional clubs are eligible to receive the Leo to Lion dues rate. However, young adults only qualify when they join a club chartered by 10 or more former Leos who have been a Leo for at least a year and a day.

What other benefits are available to graduating Leos joining Lions?

- Credit for years of service: Former Leos can report their Leo years of service on the [Leo to Lion Certification and Years of Service Transfer Form](#) (LL-2) to receive credit for their Leo years of service in their Lions club membership history. The Lions club secretary submits the form to Membership Operations at International Headquarters.
- Credit for offices held as a Leo: If a Leo held a leadership position in a Leo organization, they may be eligible to receive one year's credit toward the requirements needed for certain leadership positions in their Lions district as determined by the district, with the exception of the vice district governor and the district governor qualifications which are governed by the Lions Clubs International by-laws.

How do former Leos and young adults get certified?

The [Leo to Lion Certification and Years of Service Transfer Form](#) (LL-2) is used to obtain service credit for Leo service and obtain the discounted fees for Former Leos and Young Adults. Clubs using MyLCI will add the member and then send a LL-2 form for each Former Leo to Membership Operations. Clubs not using MyLCI will send a LL-2 forms to headquarters as follows:

- New clubs send along with the Report of Charter Members forms to Membership Operations.
- Existing clubs send with MMR form to Member Service Center.

Materials Available:

- [Leo to Lion Certification and Years of Service Transfer Form](#) (LL-2)
- [Special Opportunity for Graduating Leos Flyer](#) (LL-1)

LCI Contact:

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MyLCI Support Center

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Questions regarding Leo to Lion Certification and Years of Service Transfer Form processing or submission contact:

Member Service Center

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CLUB MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

Every Lions club should have a club membership chairperson. Club membership chairpersons assist their clubs with membership growth. Growth is achieved through new member recruitment and membership satisfaction, which results in members staying and serving longer with their club.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How does the membership chairperson get started?

The membership chairperson should start by reading the [Membership Chairperson Guide](#) (ME-44). This guide explains the position responsibilities, provides tips and introduces available resources. The guide also helps membership chairpersons create a membership satisfaction and membership growth plan.

What are the responsibilities of the club membership chairperson?

General responsibilities include forming a membership committee, coordinating with other club committees, submitting the *Membership Chairperson Recruiting Report* and the *Club Membership Satisfaction Report*, and serving on the club's board of directors.

Responsibilities regarding membership satisfaction include creating a plan for membership satisfaction, assess your current membership satisfaction and develop action plans and conducting an exit questionnaire with members who leave the club.

Responsibilities regarding membership recruitment include creating a plan for club membership growth, understanding the different membership types and programs offered by LCI, encouraging the recruitment of new members and ensuring new members receive New Member Orientation and participate in the Lions Mentoring Program.

What support does a membership chairperson receive?

Membership chairpersons should work closely with their membership committee and District GMT Team. The membership committee should be structured in the way that best fits the club's needs; however, LCI recommends including last year's membership chairperson, next year's potential membership chairperson and any club members interested in new member recruitment or member satisfaction. This recommended structure helps clubs make membership satisfaction and growth a priority by putting a unified team together to lead the club's efforts.

Materials

- [Membership Chairperson Guide](#) (ME-44)
- [Membership Application](#) (ME-6B)
- [Mission Statement & Code of Ethics Pocket Folder](#) (ME-33)
- [Lions Make A Difference](#) (ME-40)
- [Just Ask! Guide](#) (ME-300)
- [Membership Satisfaction Guide](#) (ME-301)

LCI Contact:

GMT Department

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LIONS WORLDWIDE INDUCTION DAY PROGRAM

Program Summary:

Lions Worldwide Induction Day is an event that welcomes new members and gives Lions the opportunity to stimulate membership growth and increase public awareness. Each year, over one hundred districts tribute this day to the strength and importance of Lions.

Frequently Asked Questions:

When does Lions Worldwide Induction Day take place?

Lions Worldwide Induction Day takes place in April, as selected by Lions Clubs International. While a specific date is designated for this event each year, most induction ceremonies occur during district and multiple district conventions, whenever they may fall. Some areas also choose to organize a special event specific to recognizing members recruited throughout the year.

Do new members honored during Lions Worldwide Induction Day receive a memento?

Yes. Special commemorative certificates signed by the international president are available from Lions Clubs International and are available for download online.

How can districts and clubs make the most of Lions Worldwide Induction Day?

Districts and clubs can use this event as an opportunity to:

- Celebrate new members and recognize their commitment
- Join Lions worldwide, and together induct thousands of new members
- Demonstrate the importance Lions clubs have in helping and serving the less fortunate
- Launch a membership campaign and reward membership recruitment
- Strengthen member retention
- Initiate a public relations campaign to raise awareness

Materials Available:

- [Lions Worldwide Induction Day Club and District Planning Guide](#) (MK-61)
- [Worldwide Induction Day Certificate of Membership](#) (MK-63)

LCI Contact:

Membership Development

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CLUB QUALITY INITIATIVE (CEP)

Program Summary

The [Club Quality Initiative](#) (CEP) is a program dedicated to club improvement. CEP is a comprehensive process to improve club health, enhance the membership experience and improve service to their local communities.

Clubs can choose between two versions:

- **Pro** is a facilitator-led workshop. It's designed for clubs that would like to have a trained Lion facilitator come in and guide members through the workshop.
- **Lite** is a self-guided workshop. It's designed for clubs that would prefer to have a member of their club lead the workshop.

During a workshop, clubs gauge the success of their club by looking at the needs within their communities, determine strategies for improving club health, and develop goals and action plans for the continuous improvement of their club. Each step of the process takes approximately one hour to complete.

STEP 1

Why Are We Here?
(45-60 minutes)

- Recognize what your Lions have accomplished
- Discuss what your club could accomplish in the future
- Identify unmet needs in the community
- Plan to conduct a [Community Needs Assessment](#)

STEP 2

What Makes an Excellent Club?
(75-90 minutes)

- Complete the [How Are Your Ratings?](#) survey
- Determine the characteristics of an excellent club
- Identify obstacles to achieving club excellence
- Analyze ways to improve club effectiveness

STEP 3

How Can We Determine Our Needs?
(45-60 minutes)

- Review the *Community Needs Assessment*
- Review the *How Are Your Ratings?* survey results
- Identify club and LCI resources for achieving excellence

STEP 4

What Can We Do Next?
(45-60 minutes)

- Set goals for the future
- Create action plans to achieve your goals

Frequently Asked Questions:

Who is CEP targeted towards?

CEP is not just for weak clubs or clubs that are struggling. CEP is for all clubs that want to do better; to reevaluate their clubs service projects, reenergize club members and grow membership.

How can clubs participate in CEP?

Clubs interested in participating in CEP can access the materials on the LCI [website](#).

Where can a club hold a CEP workshop?

Clubs can conduct a CEP workshop during regular meetings, a retreat or other club gathering. The workshop can be delivered in one to four sessions.

What will clubs accomplish in a CEP workshop?

Each Lion attending a CEP workshop will complete a [Community Needs Assessment](#) and the [How are Your Ratings?](#) survey. After reviewing the results of these assignments, the club will create goals and develop action plans in order to build the success of the club.

What is the role of the GMT/GLT Coordinator?

District GLT coordinators should identify and train Lions in their district to become CEP Pro facilitators.

It is important that the district GMT and GLT coordinators obtain copies of the goals and action plans of participating clubs once they have completed their CEP workshop. This will allow the district GMT and GLT coordinators to follow up with the club(s) on a regular basis to ensure that they are on track to accomplish their goals.

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LIONS FAMILY AND WOMEN SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

Program Summary:

As the emphasis on family-friendly Lions clubs and women's membership continues, it is important for clubs to identify relevant service opportunities that will spark the interest of families and women. An excellent avenue for pinpointing these needs is to hold a symposium through the Lions Family and Women Symposium Program.

A symposium is a gathering at which there is a free interchange of ideas, or a formal meeting at which several experts deliver short addresses on a topic or related topics. The purpose of a Lions Family and Women Symposium is four-fold:

1. Identify new community projects that are of interest to women and families.
2. Identify potential members.
3. Promote Lions clubs within the community.
4. Charter a new club/club branch to develop the new community project that has been identified.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What components are necessary to complete the funding application?

To complete the funding request, applicants must:

- Select a theme to set the tone for the symposium.
- Secure a partner to lend credibility to the event, provide fresh perspectives and information to help identify crucial needs, as well as provide an additional source of resources and funding.
- Set a date, allowing at least three to four months to plan and execute an effective and well-publicized event
- Submit a completed application form with the district governor's signature.

Who should coordinate the symposium event?

Lions district family and women's membership development specialists and district GMT coordinators are to be the main sponsor/organizer of the symposium initially; local clubs may sponsor later as they gain experience with such events.

How much funding is available?

A maximum of US\$2,000 is available for each symposium; however most are approved for between US\$500 and US\$1,000. The program allows for financial assistance of up to US\$4,000, per constitutional area, per fiscal year. The funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis. An applicant may only receive funds once in any two year period, unless funds remain for the applicant's constitutional area on March 1 of the fiscal year. On March 1, any applicant within the constitutional area is eligible to receive the remaining funds.

Materials Available:

- [Lions Family and Women Symposium Program Planning Guide](#) (MP-101)

LCI Contact:

Marketing Team

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BLUEPRINT FOR A STRONGER CLUB

Program Summary

The most effective Lions clubs regularly identify ways to expand their service impact, develop leaders and meet club members' needs and expectations. Like any worthwhile project, it is important to develop and implement a plan, or "blueprint," to guide your actions.

This online tool offers tools to help you develop your club's blueprint, with emphasis on strengthening club operations, service leadership development and membership.

The process outlines three simple steps, which include:

- 1. ASSESS** your club's current status with respect to the four core dimensions (club operations, service, leadership development and membership growth). During this phase club members openly discuss ideas for change. Perhaps the members would like to consider a new format for club meetings or a new project that address a community need. This simple exercise encourages idea formation and positive discussion.
- 2. ESTABLISH GOALS** based on the findings of the assessment the members determine how they want the club to change and establish strategic goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic goals to be achieved during the current year as well as longer term goals. Once you've established your goals, prioritize them in terms of importance, urgency, and potential consequences if the goal is not achieved..
- 3. DEVELOP YOUR *BLUEPRINT FOR A STRONGER CLUB*** to outlining the steps you will take to achieve your goals. To simplify this process, the site offers a simple Planning Process Worksheet for each goal to help to clarify the tasks, possible obstacles and potential solutions, as well as the resources needed. After this has been completed, the Action Plan Worksheet will help develop a plan to achieve each goal by breaking each goal into specific actionable steps. The final plan will outline the goal being pursued (goal statement), how it will be achieved (action steps), when each step will be completed, who will be responsible for the step, and how you can determine each step has been completed.

Materials Available:

- [Blueprint for a Stronger Club Guide](#)
- [Planning Process Worksheet](#)
- [Action Plan Worksheet.](#)

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YOUR CLUB, YOUR WAY

Program Summary

Many club meetings are based on long standing traditions. Some are welcomed, but others limit club advancement and stifle communication and action.

The ***Your Club, Your Way*** guide will help you customize your club meetings to better suit the needs and lifestyles of your club members. It includes a simple, fun exercise to help determine which elements of your meeting to keep and what to change, as well as a process for phasing in change!

Guide Overview

The guide provides a look into club format in the following areas:

Club meeting format – Members can evaluate the benefits of traditional club formats and connected club formats and consider conducting club business in a variety of ways. Clubs may choose to utilize electronic communication to help the club serve the community more effectively.

Meeting frequency – Members may decide to meet more or less often and consider new meeting times.

Meeting format – Does the club need to meet over a meal? What if the club did a service project instead?

Traditions, dress code and protocol – Many clubs open with a song or a pledge, but the club does not have to! Is there a real need for a head table? Some clubs prefer an atmosphere where everyone is equal. Let your club members determine the traditions that should be kept and drop the others.

The guide also offers ideas for phasing in change, increasing attendance and making the meeting worthwhile by offering speakers on meaningful topics that club members will enjoy.

A simple but effective survey is included to help capture the needs of club members so they play an integral role in redefining the club!

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