



Membership

What does it mean to be a member of the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association Ltd (the Company)?

- Members of the Company own the Company, but the Company has a separate legal entity and it owns its assets.
- A person may become a member of the Company if they:
 - are nominated on the application form as a member of the Company on its registration; or
 - become a member of the Company after its registration in accordance with the "Application and acceptance of Members" procedures set out in the Company's constitution (**Constitution**) and their name is entered on the register of members kept by the Company.
- By becoming a member of the company, the member will be subject to AIDA's Constitution, which can be found at www.aida.org.au. The members must abide by the Constitution.
- All members may attend the Company's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and enjoy reduced registration fees for AIDA events. However, other specific rights and responsibilities of a member, including any voting rights, will depend on the class of membership held by that member. Please refer to the Constitution for further details regarding those rights and responsibilities.
- A member is not personally liable (in their capacity as a member) for the Company's debts, except up to the amount of the guarantee of \$25 if the Company is wound up, and is unable to pay its outstanding debts from the assets of the Company realised during the liquidation.
- In addition to the requirements of the Constitution, a member of the company has rights as prescribed by the *Corporations Act 2001* (Commonwealth), including:
 - the right to attend general meetings of the Company (and vote at those meetings if it is a member of a voting class);
 - receipt of company information (including annual returns and annual accounts of the Company);
 - rights to take action in certain circumstances to enforce compliance by the directors with the Company's Constitution; and
 - protection against unfairly prejudicial conduct of the Company against the member.

Please note: The above information is only an outline of some of the principal rights and obligations of a member, and all members should become familiar with the Constitution. If you are in doubt about your rights or obligations as a member, you should seek advice from the Company Secretary, or from a legal adviser.

What makes you eligible to become a member of the Company?

To be eligible for membership of the AIDA Company, an individual or an organisation is required to be nominated by a current Indigenous Medical Graduate or Indigenous Medical Student Member of the AIDA Company and fall within one of three categories:

1. **Indigenous Medical Graduate** Member; or
2. **Indigenous Medical Student** Member; or
3. **Associate Member**
 - o **Students** (Indigenous or non-Indigenous students who are not enrolled in a medical degree. This includes students who are enrolled in Health Science degrees and school students)
 - o **Other** (Individuals or organisations)

Associate Members are individuals and organisations who are deemed by the Company to be supportive of the aims and objectives of the Company and include non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations.

Cost of membership is currently:

- Indigenous Medical Graduates \$33
- Indigenous Medical Students \$11
- Associate Members:
 1. Students \$11
 2. Other \$33

Why should I become a member of AIDA?

- ◆ Regional collegiate activities including dinners, working groups, practical assistance and other social events
- ◆ Voting and speaking rights at the AGM (Indigenous Medical (Graduate and Student) Members only)
- ◆ Access to members-only section on the AIDA website
- ◆ Access to AIDA resources and support from the AIDA Secretariat and Representatives
- ◆ Quarterly BLACKCHAT Newsletter
- ◆ Weekly electronic Newsletter – Friday Flyer
- ◆ Free registration for AIDA Symposium (Indigenous Medical (Graduate and Student) Members only)
- ◆ Reduced registration for AIDA Symposium (Associate Members only)
- ◆ Opportunities for students to apply for financial assistance (scholarships) to attend AIDA Symposium and AGM;
- ◆ Medical school entry and support information for Indigenous medical students across all Australian universities;
- ◆ Collegiate and professional links with medical schools and university Indigenous [health] support units across Australia;
- ◆ Input into AIDA representation at local/State/Territory and Commonwealth levels on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, education and workforce issues;
- ◆ Mentoring, networking and career development opportunities;
- ◆ Formal membership certification
- ◆ Membership promotional pack
- ◆ Links with international Indigenous Doctors associations including Te ORA (Maori Physicians Association), A ha Hui o na Kauka (Native Hawaiian Physicians Association), Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada (IPAC) and the AAIP (Association of America Indian Physicians).

Membership benefit entitlements are only available to financial members of the Company. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Company Secretariat on 1800 190 498.

Endorsed by Board: May 2008, reviewed: March 2009, reviewed December 2009

Signed by President:



Date: December 2009

Associate Professor Peter O'Mara

Leadership, Partnership, Scholarship