

# ASCLD MEMBERSHIP

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

### Regular Membership

Regular membership in ASCLD is open to all individuals whose major duties include the management or direction of a crime laboratory, a branch crime laboratory, or a crime laboratory system.

A "crime laboratory" is defined as a laboratory which employs one or more full-time scientists whose principal function is the examination of physical evidence for law enforcement agencies in criminal matters and who provide testimony with respect to such physical evidence to the criminal justice system. A "crime laboratory system" is defined as a business, corporation, agency or division thereof with overall responsibility to manage and/or administer a group of two or more crime laboratories serving geographical subdivisions of a service area.

Application for Regular membership requires submission of the application form, an organizational chart with applicant's position indicated, two letters of recommendation from existing members of ASCLD, and a non-refundable application fee. The application fee is the same amount as the annual dues assessment and will be applied to the current year's dues if membership is conferred.

### Retired Membership

Retired membership to ASCLD may be conferred *upon application* by individuals who have been regular members in good standing and who are no longer eligible for Regular membership for reasons such as retirement, change in responsibilities, or promotion. Retired Members have all rights and privileges of Regular members, except voting.

Application for Retired membership requires submission of the appropriate application form and a non-refundable application fee. The application fee is the same amount as the annual dues assessment for Retired members and will be applied to the current year's dues if membership is conferred.

### Academic Affiliate Membership

Academic Affiliate Memberships are open to individuals who are Educators and/or Instructors of Forensic Science currently employed by an Institution of Higher Learning or Public Law Enforcement Training Academy and whose membership will promote the accomplishment of the ASCLD mission. Academic Affiliate Members shall have all rights and privileges of Regular members, except voting.

Application for Academic Affiliate membership requires submission of the appropriate application form, written recommendations from two sponsors who are current members of ASCLD, and a non-refundable application fee. The application fee is the same amount

as the annual dues assessment and will be applied to the current year's dues if membership is conferred.

### **Emeritus Membership**

Emeritus membership may be conferred upon previous members who no longer meet the criteria for Regular membership and have rendered distinguished service to ASCLD. A nomination letter describing the nominee's contributions plus two letters of recommendation from current ASCLD members are required. Emeritus members have all rights and privileges of Regular members except voting and have no dues obligations.

If the status of an Emeritus member changes such that s/he meets the requirements for Regular membership, voting rights may be restored by action of the Board of Directors. Emeritus members for whom voting rights have been restored shall still enjoy all rights and privileges of Emeritus status.

### **Honorary Membership**

Honorary membership may be conferred upon persons in recognition of distinguished meritorious service to Forensic Science. A nomination letter describing the nominee's contributions plus two letters of recommendation from current ASCLD members are required. Honorary members shall have all rights and privileges of Regular members except voting and shall have no dues obligations.

### **PROCESSING SCHEDULES:**

#### **Applications**

All year	Receipt of applications
July 1	Deadline for applications to be considered at next annual meeting
August 1	Applicant list published on ASCLD website
Annual Meeting	Voting by Board

#### **Regular, Retired, Academic Affiliate Dues**

April 1	Deadline for current dues payment
After April 1	late penalty added to dues amount

### **RESIGNATION:**

Any member may resign from membership in ASCLD by giving written notice to either the Board of Directors, the President, or the Secretary. Regular and Academic Affiliate Members must affirm as requested on the annual dues notice that he/she remains eligible for membership; failure to do so will be considered a resignation from ASCLD.

### **REMOVAL OF MEMBERS:**

- The Board of Directors may remove any person from membership for failure to pay the annual dues assessment within that calendar year. Any member so removed may petition the Board of Directors for reinstatement to membership upon payment of all delinquent dues.
- A member may be removed from membership for cause by action of the Board of Directors. Such member may appeal the action of the Board to the membership at the next annual meeting of ASCLD. The membership may overrule the action of the Board by a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting.
- A member may be removed by action of the Board of Directors whenever the member fails to meet the eligibility requirements.

## **VOTING**

Each regular member shall have one vote. A member may designate for any particular meeting function, or time period, any member of his crime laboratory organization to serve in his place by letter delivered to the presiding officer. Each such representative is given only one vote regardless of the number of members s/he represents.

If you have questions regarding membership, contact [irma.rios@cityofhouston.net](mailto:irma.rios@cityofhouston.net); ph. (713)-308-2600.