Membership FAQs

We know you have questions! We may have some answers for you…

Q: Do you have to be a Crime Laboratory Director to be a member of ASCLD?

A: No! ASCLD membership is open to all individuals whose major duties include management or direction within a crime laboratory, a branch crime laboratory, or crime laboratory system. This can include section managers, technical leaders, supervisors, quality management, program managers, etc.

Q. What does a membership for ASCLD get me?

A. Membership provides a multitude of benefits including:
   - Access to resources through the "Members Only" portal on the ASCLD website which includes a plethora of management/leadership materials.
   - Opportunities to network with colleagues worldwide to discuss best practices, policies, procedures, and many other organizational topics.
   - Discounted registration fee for the ASCLD Symposium
   - Discounted fees for publishing in FSI: Synergy
   - Contribute content to the Crime Lab Minute
   - Receipt of the Crime Lab Minute the same day it is published (rather than waiting for it to post which can take a few weeks).

Q. How much does it cost to apply for membership and what are the yearly dues?

A. The application for membership is $150 for Regular members, $75 for Retired members and $125 for Academic members. This fee will also cover the membership dues for the current year if the candidate is voted into membership. That fee amount is the same as the yearly dues as well.

Q. I have submitted my application and payment. Now what?
A. Your completed membership application will go to the Membership Committee for a thorough review and approval. If accepted, your name will be added to the new member list which is sent out to the membership 30 days prior to the ASCLD Annual Symposium. It is at the ASCLD Annual Symposium where prospective New Members are made official.

Q. When are new members voted on?

A. The New Member list is sent out to the membership 30 days prior to the ASCLD Annual Symposium. The Board of Directors votes on new members during their annual meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Symposium. Members have an opportunity to notify ASCLD of any concerns before the New Members are made official at the ASCLD Annual Symposium.

Q. How can I transition from Regular member to Retiree?

A. A Regular or Academic member is eligible for Retired Membership if they are in good standing and they are no longer eligible for Regular or Academic Affiliate Membership. Reasons for this ineligibility may include changes in your current job such as: change in responsibility, retirement, promotion, and lapse in membership.

Q. Help! I am looking to transition from an Academic member to Regular member...do I need the sponsorship forms?

A. If you were an academic member in good standing, the sponsorship forms can be waived as these forms are meant to be for applicants new to the organization.

Q. How does ASCLD define "good standing"?

A. A regular member in good standing is defined as someone who is current in their dues payment, without a break in annual payments, and has no outstanding ethical violations against them.