

THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
MEMBERSHIP POLICY
Approved March 2010

A. Member Classification*

1. Individual - a person who has been admitted to membership.
2. Joint – two persons residing at the same address and receiving one mailing.
3. Business – a business entity that has been admitted to membership.
4. Student – a person enrolled in a school or internship program, whose application is supported by a photo ID or letter of verification.
5. International – a person with a mailing address outside the United States of America or its territories.
6. Honorary – a person who has been recognized for outstanding dedication and service to The Society.
7. Life – a person within the United States of America or its territories who pays a one-time membership fee (as stated in B.2.a.) directly to headquarters. Life membership may be paid in three annual installments. Life membership may be upgraded to Benefactor at any time. Life membership is 100% tax deductible and requires written confirmation to the donor from headquarters.
8. Benefactor – a person who pays a one-time membership fee (as stated in B.2.b.) directly to headquarters that included a substantial contribution to The Society. Benefactor membership may be paid in three annual installments. Benefactor membership is 100 % tax deductible and requires written confirmation to the donor from headquarters.

B. Membership dues are payable in U.S. currency. Dues are non- refundable. The board of directors will be responsible for setting the dues of The Society.

1. Annual Membership Dues

| | |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| a) Individual | \$ 55.00 |
| b) Joint..... | \$ 80.00 |
| c) Business..... | \$ 90.00 |
| d) Student | \$ 35.00 |
| e) International..... | \$115.00 |
| f) Honorary (dues paid by sponsor).... | \$ 55.00 |

2. Life and Benefactor Membership Dues

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| a) Life membership (Individual)..... | \$2,000.00* |
| (Joint)..... | \$3,000.00* |
| b) Benefactor (Individual)..... | \$4,000.00 |
| (Joint) | \$6,000.00 |

*For members in the United States of America or its

3. Lapsed Members

A lapsed member is one who has lost membership privileges through failure to pay the annual membership dues.

C. Qualifications for Membership

1. An interest in herbs.
2. Payment of membership dues.
3. Support of the mission of The Society:

“The Herb Society of America is dedicated to promoting the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community.”

D. Guidelines for Membership

1. While many members of The Society are interested in the ethnobotany, history, and use of medicinal plants, The Society does not advise, recommend, or prescribe herbs for medicinal use.
2. Members may use The Society’s name in the member’s list of affiliations.
3. The primary purpose of membership in The Herb Society of America is to support the mission and vision of The Society.
4. No member may publish any material in the name of The Society without the written permission of the board of directors.
5. Each member of The Society will have access to a membership directory. This is for member use only and may not be sold or used for commercial purposes.
6. Misuse of membership in The Society may result in loss of membership by action of the board of directors.

7. Dues are paid annually either on the anniversary of joining or for members in units, per their unit schedule.

E. Guidelines for Units

1. Groups of members may form units of The Herb Society of America.
2. New units are approved by the board of directors.
3. All members of a unit must be members of The Society, and as such, will abide by the membership policies.
4. Units are autonomous in their activities and may charge additional dues.
5. Units are provided with The Society logo for use on stationery and other printed publications. All units are encouraged to include both The Herb Society of America and the unit name on publications. Units may use their logo. When using The Herb Society of America logo in publications, publicity or letterhead, the individual unit name should be printed below the logo.
6. As new groups form units, in order to standardize the naming procedure, the new unit should become The Herb Society of America, XYZ Unit. In cases where units have joined The Society prior to the adoption of this policy, they may keep their established name whether or not it complies. However, it is preferred that they consider changing their name to the above format.
7. National dues for new members in units are pro-rated according to the unit's reporting schedule.
8. Following board approval, a new unit will receive a complimentary copy of *The Herb Society of America 1933-1993* by Dorothy G. Spencer.

F. Guidelines for Districts

1. A membership delegate who sits on the board of directors represents all district members.
2. Representatives from each unit and from the members at large will assist the delegate in the operation of the district, and the development of annual district symposia/gatherings. All symposia are subject to the policies set forth by the board of directors.

3. The membership delegates make up the nominating committee, which is chaired by the immediate past president of The Society.
4. The geographical boundaries of the districts are subject to change.