



MEMBERSHIP POLICY

REASONS FOR AND SCOPE OF THE POLICY

1. Central to PABASA's philosophy is excellence in Advocacy and the highest ethical standards. Part of the focus of our School of Advocacy is to produce advocates who have been trained in the best possible manner – who will challenge and break the stereotype that Black and female advocates are not amongst the best in our profession.
2. In order to achieve this outcome, our policy on membership is premised on providing outstanding legal services. This is achieved through:
 - 2.1. An outstanding and innovative pupillage programme;
 - 2.2. Continuing legal education for our members (such as seminars, talks and workshops on legal issues and developments);
 - 2.3. Continuing engagement with our members about the nature of transformation that is required of this profession and conscientizing our members about the need for an organisation such as PABASA and how we hope to transform society;
 - 2.4. Holding our members to the highest ethical and professional standards;
 - 2.5. PABASA's membership is open to Advocates with or without Fidelity Fund Certificates; and
 - 2.6. Affiliate membership may be granted to Legal Academics and to Attorneys.

The following persons are eligible for membership of PABASA subject to the requirements set out below:

ADVOCATES

3. Advocates with or without Fidelity Fund certificates, who are legal practitioners, as defined in terms of the Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014 ("the LPA") and who have completed pupillage under the GCB structures and passed the National Bar Examination, and who do not have any pending disciplinary and/or fees outstanding to the Bars of which they were members.



- 3.1. The NEC retains a discretion to consider and approve applications from applicants who have pending disciplinary proceedings against them, or who owe fees to a Bar of which they are or have been a member.
4. The School Committee retains a discretion to consider any application for exemption from the whole or part of pupillage by admitted legal practitioners.
5. Any person who is not a legal practitioner as defined in the LPA and who has not completed a period of pupillage or passed the National Bar Examination, is required to apply for and if admitted, to undergo pupillage training and assessment under PABASA's School of Advocacy.

ATTORNEYS AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

6. Attorneys and firms of attorneys are entitled to apply for affiliate membership of PABASA. Such membership requires the payment of a subscription by the attorney or firm of attorneys. The subscription will be determined by the Treasurer and Finance Committee after consultation with a sample selection of attorneys which includes both small, medium, and large firms of attorneys and solo practitioners.
 - 6.1. In return for affiliate membership:
 - 6.1.1. Attorney members are entitled to refer to their affiliate membership of PABASA on their letterhead, branding, websites etc.
 - 6.1.2. Attorney members will be entitled to participate in continuing education programmes run by PABASA including:
 - 6.1.2.1. Candidate Attorneys of member firms may apply to attend selected portions of PABASA's pupillage programme in return for the payment of a fee;
 - 6.1.3. Attorneys may attend talks, discussions and workshops held for PABASA members.
7. Attorney members do not have voting rights at an AGM.



ACADEMIC AFFILIATE MEMBERS

8. Legal Academics employed at recognised tertiary institutions, and who hold an LLB degree, or similar law qualification, are entitled to apply for academic affiliate membership of PABASA.
9. Academic Members will be required to pay a subscription to be determined by the Treasurer and Finance Committee after consultation with an appropriate selection of academics from time to time.
10. In return for PABASA Affiliate membership, Academics are entitled:
 - 10.1. to refer to their affiliate membership of PABASA on their letterhead, branding, websites etc;
 - 10.2. to participate in continuing education programmes run by PABASA including:
 - 10.2.1. attend selected portions of PABASA's pupillage programme;
 - 10.2.2. attend talks, discussions and workshops held for PABASA members.
 - 10.3. Academic members may be required, in PABASA's discretion, to teach a component of the PABASA pupillage programme.
11. Academic Members do not have voting rights at an AGM.

EFFECTIVE DATE

12. This Policy was approved by the National Executive Committee and is effective 6 September 2022.