

Affiliate Societies

The International Urogynecological Association (IUGA) is recognized as the premier society focusing on disorders of pelvic floor dysfunction in women. An affiliate society member will benefit from a greater physician network, access to IUGA-sponsored educational and research activities, and access to IUGA members only web content, with information on all activities and educational conferences sponsored by IUGA.

Any nationally recognized gynecologic, urologic, urogynecologic or continence society is eligible to apply for affiliate society membership. For applicant organizations, 10% of the affiliating members must be new IUGA members. The organization must also have a governing body, stated mission and goals, accomplishments over the past 2-3 years and stated plans for the future. A society representing a low or lower-middle-income economy may apply for exception to this minimal number requirement. The most recent, updated list of low or lower-middle-income economies can be found at <http://data.worldbank.org/region/LDC>. Societies composed of members from several countries in a region may also apply for affiliate society membership, but must meet the minimum 10% new member criteria.

How to Apply

To apply for affiliate society status, please send a completed affiliate society application along with a letter which includes the following information signed by the society's President, to membership@iuga.org:

- The society's mission statement and/or goals
- Major accomplishments over the past 2-3 years
- Expected accomplishments in the next 2-3 years
- A list of the society's Executive Board members

Applications will be reviewed by the IUGA Board and a decision provided to the applicant society within 60 days. Once the society is approved, the society's contact person will be responsible for collecting and sending the member data to IUGA.

Rules of Membership and Payment- PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- Membership year:** For societies that joined IUGA prior to June 1, 2015 the affiliate society membership year starts on March 1 and ends February 28. For societies that joined IUGA after June 1, 2015, the affiliate society membership year starts on June 15 and ends on June 14. If an affiliate member list is not received **before the end of the affiliate society year**, those existing affiliate members will be reverted back to regular IUGA members, subject to the regular membership dues payment of \$150 to renew for that year. The deadline for payment by an affiliate society may be extended with prior notice and approval.

- ii) **Invoicing and payments:** Affiliate societies will be invoiced for their members at the beginning of the affiliate society year. All payments are due within 30 days of the invoice issue date. Members of a society may be removed from the IUGA database if the society is more than 60 days past due on their payment.

Societies are responsible for paying for their members; individual payments from society members are not accepted. The relationship between IUGA and a candidate (or established) affiliate society is intended to be at the level of the secretariat of each society for membership dues and registration. We understand the difficulty in obtaining confirmation and payment from affiliate members; however in order to remain fair to all paying IUGA affiliate and regular members, these rules will be strictly enforced.

- iii) **Reduced registration fee for annual meeting:** All members of an IUGA Affiliate Society will enjoy the benefit of reduced registration fees for the annual meeting and regional symposia, 50% off of online store items and access to the members' only pages of the IUGA website (www.iuga.org).
- iv) **Membership fees:** Available payment schedule options include:
- **\$130**-IUGA Membership plus annual hard copy subscription to IUJ with electronic access at no additional charge
 - **\$100**-IUGA Membership with open electronic access only to the IUJ
 - **\$50**-IUGA Membership with neither hard copy nor electronic subscription to IUJ included (IUGA web only access)
- v) **Regular members switching to affiliate society members:** Any member of an affiliate society who is switching from an IUGA regular member to an affiliate society member, in most cases, will be subject to the dues of the affiliate society, depending on their expiration date.
- vi) **Additional membership lists throughout the year:** Affiliate societies are encouraged to submit additional members throughout the year, using the affiliate society data collection template in excel. For lists received by the 5th day of the month, IUGA membership services/benefits will be available to affiliate society members by the 15th of that same month. However, delivery of the first hardcopy of the IUJ can take up to 8 weeks. IUGA will bill affiliate societies quarterly for additional membership lists, unless other arrangements are made.

International Urogynecology Journal Affiliate Society Policy

If an Affiliate Society would like to make the IUJ its official journal, the following policies will apply:

- 75% of membership electing either hard copy or electronic version of the IUJ.
- Affiliate society annual scientific meeting abstracts may be published in the IUJ once per year. The IUJ will publish up to 10 pages (40 abstracts) free of charge annually. For pages above the 10, the rate per page would be \$150, excluding any additional copies.

Please contact the IUGA Executive Office directly for more information if you would like to adopt the IUJ as your society's official journal.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to your participation in IUGA and its educational activities. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate the IUGA Executive Office at membership@iuga.org.