Individual Affiliate Membership Category

The Individual Affiliate Member category is established to recognize professionals who are or were actively engaged in educator preparation or related fields but are not affiliated with an AACTE member institution. Eligibility for Individual Membership requires demonstrated commitment to teacher education and professional development. Individual Members are entitled to participate in association events, access resources, and contribute to the advancement of the organization's mission. Membership is open to those who are not currently eligible to be a member on the basis of their being employed by an AACTE Institutional or Affiliate member. This category could include designations such as Retired, Alumni, and Professional Individual.

Section 3.01.3. ***Individual Affiliate Members.*** Individual affiliate membership in the Association will be open to individuals who do not qualify for regular or affiliate membership through a member institution or membership eligible institution and who meet any other criteria established by the Board of Directors.

i. **Application for Individual Affiliate Membership.** An applicant for individual affiliate membership shall file a formal application for individual affiliate membership that shall include: (1) a statement indicating their demonstrated commitment in the education of teachers and other education professionals, or in the improvement of educator preparation; (2) a completed application that meets the established criteria and confirms the applicant does not otherwise qualify for regular or affiliate membership; and (3) payment of the first year's membership fee.

ii. **Individual Affiliate Membership Decision-making Process.** AACTE staff, as designated by the President/CEO, will review the application and will accept or reject the request for individual affiliate membership based on whether all specified criteria, as determined by the Board, have been met, including confirmation that the applicant does not otherwise qualify for regular or affiliate membership through a member institution or membership eligible institution. The applicant will be notified of acceptance or rejection within 15 business days of AACTE's receipt of the application. AACTE staff will periodically provide to the Board of Directors a list of individuals who have been accepted for individual affiliate membership and those who have been denied individual affiliate membership.

iii. **Membership Term, Renewal, Suspension, and Termination**

Applicants accepted as individual affiliate members shall continue thereafter to be individual affiliate members of the Association but may have their membership automatically terminated for failure to pay annual dues in a timely manner or failure to meet membership criteria as decided in the sole discretion of AACTE. In addition, individual affiliate membership may be terminated or suspended at any time for any other reason in the sole discretion of AACTE. An individual desiring to withdraw from individual affiliate membership may do so at any time, but no withdrawal shall relieve such member from the obligation to pay any dues in arrears.

Section 4.03. Individual ***Affiliate Member Representation Rights.*** Individual Affiliate Members are nonvoting members. Individual Affiliate members may attend all membership meetings and express views on all issues under consideration, but individual affiliate members shall have no right to vote on any issue under consideration. Individual members are not eligible to serve on the Board of Directors or a board related committee.