

(ARTICLE I) SECTION IV - MEMBERSHIP

2. **Associate Members:** Associate membership shall consist of city officials, company officers and members of fire departments interested in the protection of life and property from fire, and officers of recognized fire prevention organizations, Alabama State Fire Marshal and Deputies, Commissioners from the Alabama Firefighters Personnel Standards and Education Commission, and the Executive Director of the Alabama Fire College and Firefighters Personnel Standards and Education Commission. Associate Memberships also apply to any Fire Chief associated through County Association Memberships as defined in the AAFC By-Laws, Section 1. Associate members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Association except to hold elected office, or to serve as a member of the Executive Committee. Associate members have the right to vote except for an Active Membership Only Vote Call.

BY-LAWS SECTION I – MEMBERSHIP DUES/DISCOUNTS

The annual dues for active and associate members of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs shall be \$75.00. For departments with more than three (3) members of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs, the annual dues shall be \$50.00 per member starting with the fourth (4th) member. The reduced dues will be conditional in the receipt of a single payment for the entire membership of said department. This sum is due and payable on October 1 and delinquent after December 31. All reduced membership fees and some benefits may be forfeited after December 31. First time applicants shall pay \$50 if they apply for membership at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Volunteer and (Predominantly Volunteer) Combination Departments:

Membership dues will be \$25.00 annually for a Chief Officer of a Volunteer Department or a (Predominantly Volunteer) Combination Department. Volunteer/ Combination Department must meet the definition as defined by the Alabama State Forestry Commission.

County Association Memberships: County Fire Department Associations may provide memberships for the Fire Chiefs of Volunteer Departments represented in each Alabama County VFD Association. These memberships apply only to the Fire Chief of Volunteer or Combination Departments in the County Association and are considered Associate Members as defined in the AAFC Constitution, Section IV, 2. In order to be included in a County Association Membership, the Department must be considered a Volunteer Department and the Fire Chief must be included in the VFF Tag list, both as identified by the Alabama Forestry Commission.

The rate for County Association Memberships is \$300 annually per County Association. County Associations shall complete and update a membership roster as approved by the Board of Directors annually.

Corporate Memberships:

Non-voting memberships are available to individuals or organizations other than Fire Department personnel because many of these people and groups support the Association

financially throughout the year and at conferences, the rates are \$25 per individual, \$75 per organization.

Member discounts to attend the Mid-Winter and Annual Conference:

Reducing member rates to conferences would be a tangible benefit to being a member. A reduction of \$20 for members (excluding Corporate Members) for each conference can itself nearly justify the membership rate to a council or manager, and will most likely help to increase both annual memberships and conference attendances.

Honorary and Life Members shall not pay dues upon approval by the Board of Directors. To be eligible for this category of membership, the individual shall submit a request to a member of the Board of Directors.

Membership dues shall be established by recommendation of the Board of Directors and confirmed by a vote of the members in accordance to Article VIII Section I and Section II.