

## MEMBERSHIP DESCRIPTIONS AND FEES

**DUES** Membership dues are as follows:

<u>Application Date</u>	<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Initial Dues</u>	<u>Renewal Dues*</u>
January 1 — June 30	Voting	\$60.00 (\$50.00 + \$10.00 initiation fee)	\$50.00
	Associate	\$40.00 (\$30.00 + \$10.00 initiation fee)	\$30.00
	Emeritus/Lifetime	\$40.00 (\$30.00 + \$10.00 initiation fee)	N/A
July 1 — October 31	Voting	\$35.00 (\$25.00 + \$10.00 initiation fee)	
	Associate	\$25.00 (\$15.00 + \$10.00 initiation fee)	
	Emeritus	\$25.00 (\$15.00 + \$10.00 initiation fee)	

(\*Payment for renewals must be received no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>)

November 1-December 31: Applicants for INITIAL membership pay the full annual dues shown above plus the initiation fee for membership through December 31 of the **following** year.

### VOTING MEMBERSHIP

To qualify for Voting Membership, the applicant must (i) be currently employed as a paralegal/legal assistant<sup>1</sup> or working at least 30 hours per week as a freelance paralegal/legal assistant and (ii) meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) have received a four-year degree;
- 2) have completed a paralegal program;
- 3) have five (5) years of paralegal experience; OR
- 4) have received NALA, NFPA, or TBLS certification.

All Voting Membership applicants are required to complete the Verification Form on page 3 and provide the following additional documentation:

- 1) signed Attorney Verification form on page 3 (all applicants);
- 2) a copy of the transcript or signed, notarized statement from registrar (categories 1 and 2); and/or
- 3) a copy of the certificate (category 4).

Please note: Supporting documentation is required for INITIAL or LAPSED application only.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

To qualify for the Associate Membership, the applicant must meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) must be employed as a paralegal/legal assistant but not yet satisfied requirements for Voting Membership;
- 2) must be presently employed as a coordinator of the paralegal program in a law firm, governmental agency, or corporate legal department;
- 3) is not currently employed as a paralegal but has completed a paralegal training program;
- 4) has previously been employed as a paralegal but is not employed at the time of application; OR
- 5) does not reside or work in the Austin metropolitan area.

All Associate Membership applicants are required to complete the Verification Form on page 4.

### EMERITUS MEMBERSHIP

To qualify for the Emeritus Membership, the applicant:

- 1) must be a former active voting member of the Association;
- 2) must have served either as an officer/director, or as a Committee Chair of the Association;
- 3) must be retired from the profession;
- 4) is not currently employed as a paralegal;
- 5) is in good standing with the Association; AND
- 6) shall not have the right to vote, hold any office, or serve as officer/director.

An emeritus member may re-apply for voting membership (if he/she returns to the paralegal profession) at such time that he/she satisfies the criteria for voting membership by completing and submitting the then-current voting membership application.

<sup>1</sup> The person must meet the definition of a paralegal as adopted by the National Association of Legal Assistants ("**NALA**"), which reads as follows: "Legal assistants, also known as paralegals, are a distinguishable group of persons who assist attorneys in the delivery of legal services. Through formal education, training and experience, legal assistants have knowledge and expertise regarding the legal system and substantive and procedural law which qualify them to do work of a legal nature under the supervision of an attorney. However, it is not the intent of CAPA to exclude any member of the legal profession whose job duties fit the definition of paralegal but whose job title remains "legal assistant" or some other similar title. Additionally, the term "substantive" shall mean work requiring recognition, evaluation, organization, analysis, and communication of relevant facts and legal concepts."

VERIFICATION OF FULFILLMENT OF MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ . I hereby attest that I meet the requirements for Associate Membership as set forth below (please check one) and hereby certify that:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. I am employed as a paralegal but have not satisfied requirements 1-4 of Voting Membership;
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. I am presently employed as a coordinator of a paralegal program within a law firm, governmental agency or corporate legal department;
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. I am not currently employed as a paralegal, but have completed a paralegal training program; or
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. I have previously been employed as a paralegal, but am not employed at the time of application.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. I do not live or work in the Austin metropolitan area.

I hereby apply for membership in the Capital Area Paralegal Association as an Associate Member. I swear that the above information is correct. I understand that any and all information provided on this application may be verified by any member of the Board of Directors and/or any member of the Membership Committee. I further understand that I may be subject to a criminal background check. If my membership is accepted, I agree to be bound by the Bylaws and Standing Rules of the Capital Area Paralegal Association, and I have read and agree to be bound by the Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility adopted by the Capital Area Paralegal Association and the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc.

I certify that I have not been convicted of a felony. **(Please check box.)**

APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL THE COMPLETED APPLICATION AND CHECK PAYABLE TO CAPITAL AREA PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION TO:

Joni E. Bures, CAPA Membership Chair  
Powell & Leon, LLP  
115 Wild Basin Road, Suite 106  
Austin, Texas 78746

**IF YOU HAVE A BUSINESS CARD, PLEASE ATTACH ONE.**

TOTAL DUES ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## VERIFICATION OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Renewing **Voting** Members must complete (five) 5 hours of substantive Continuing Legal Education between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for renewal. Renewing **Associate** and **Student** Members must complete two (2) hours of substantive Continuing Legal Education between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for renewal. Substantive continuing legal education completed during any membership year in excess of the minimum hour requirement for such period may not be carried over to the next membership year. Members are allowed no more than one (1) hour of self-study or pro bono service to satisfy the hour requirement. Use the form below to report all appropriate CLE hours obtained during the membership year to CAPA.

Date	Sponsor	Speaker/Topic	Hours
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	

Any amendment or alteration to this form, or failure to sign, will result in disqualification from membership in the Capital Area Paralegal Association at the time the amendment or alteration is discovered. By signing below, you are certifying you have completely and truthfully provided the information on this form.

APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_