

FAQ About Household Membership and Dues Increases Starting July 1, 2017

Overview of New Dues Structure:

- **What are the new dues rates?**
 - \$60 for Household Memberships; \$40 for Individual Memberships; \$5 for Open Door Memberships.
- **What does NAMI consider a “household”? Is this rate for families only?**
 - A household consists of any individuals living at the same address. This could be a family in the “traditional” sense (spouses plus children) or even roommates. The NAMI Board chose “Household” to be more inclusive and to simplify the distribution of benefits. Keep in mind that this is not “Family” membership.
- **What is a Household Membership?**
 - A Household Membership is a membership that is intended to allow all individuals living at the same address to be counted as members in NAMI with the benefits of membership being applied to each member listed as part of the household. The household membership will only receive one copy of the NAMI *Advocate*, but all other member benefits are granted to each listed member. While each member is counted as a member of NAMI, the paid household membership counts as ONE when determining Affiliate vote weight for NAMI Elections.
- **What is an Individual/Regular Membership?**
 - This member is intended for one person to become a member of NAMI. We recognize there are two different names for this membership. NAMI is moving to call this an Individual Membership, but understand there many NAMI members know this as Regular Membership so that transition will happen over the next couple months.
- **What is an Open Door Membership?**
 - Members may become members through an "Open Door" policy that allows for a reduced dues payment. Open Door members are defined by income or economic necessity, at the discretion of the Affiliate member or State Organization. Open Door members shall have all the rights and privileges of members who pay full dues.
- **Are there any differences for the membership benefits between the three different rates?**
 - No, every membership is with the national, state and local levels and includes from the national NAMI office:
 - One copy of the Advocate magazine, mailed twice per year
 - Access to members-only areas of the NAMI.org website
 - Discounts on National Convention registration rates
 - Discounts on items in the NAMI Store
 - Each NAMI Affiliate and NAMI State Organization offers additional membership benefits that vary depending on which group the member is a part of.
- **Can an individual living in a household have their own, separate membership or do they have to be part of a Household membership?**
 - Yes, that person can still have their own Individual or Open Door membership even if they are living in the same household as a group with a Household membership.
- **Is everyone in a household counted as a NAMI member if someone at the household paid for a Household membership?**

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- The person who pays the Household membership will need to list the specific individuals in the household for them to be counted as members. Someone is not considered a member if they were not listed on the Household membership, or does not have a membership of their own.
- **Can a child who is away at college be part of the Household Membership? Can an adult child or elderly family member who is living in a care facility and supported by a parent/caregiver in the household be part of the Household Membership?**
 - Yes, but that member of the household membership will not be assigned a separate address in NAMI 360. NAMI will not send the magazine to additional addresses.
- **Can we add someone else to our Household membership prior to paying our renewal?**
 - Yes, as long as each person is considered living at the same address.
- **The \$60 Household membership costs too much for some families in my area—how can they still become members?**
 - Each individual who wishes to become a NAMI member is welcome to pay the Individual or Open Door rate to have their own membership. That person's membership would not cover anyone else in their household, however. There is not a low-income Household membership rate.
- **How many people can a Household membership cover?**
 - Right now, the system is set up to include up to 10 members in a Household Membership. Contact Member Services at memberservices@nami.org to discuss adding more members than 10. There may be exceptions to this rule.
- **I have decided I want to my own Individual Membership but am currently part of a Household Membership. Is that possible?**
 - Yes. At any time, an individual may purchase an Individual or Open Door membership if they no longer want to be included as a household member but want their own instead.

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