SOCIETY POLICY
INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP STATUS

I. PREFACE

By-Law B3.1.6 states: “All procedures relating to admissions to and promotions in membership, except Honorary Member and Fellow membership grades, shall be administered by the Membership staff in accordance with the policy set by the Board of Governors.”

II. PURPOSE

A. To establish the conditions under which a member may be granted inactive membership.

B. To provide the policies and procedures related to inactive membership status for members of all grades, including Student Members qualified for Member grade.

III. DEFINITION

Activities which qualify a member for inactive membership status include enrollment in the following:

1. Armed Service
2. Peace Corps
3. Full-time Graduate Study

IV. POLICY

A. Dues suspension for members of all grades.

1. Enrollment in qualifying activities is required for suspension of dues and the granting of inactive membership status.

2. During the period of inactive membership status, the member will not receive the usual Society publications or other services, except as under IV.A.3.

3. The member may subscribe to any publications or other services at member rates.
4. The member will retain his/her original date of election.

5. Student Members qualified for Member grade will retain their date of promotion.

6. The inactive years will not be included in the ultimate determination of dues-exempt status.

7. Within six months following termination of the qualifying activity the member may request restoration to active membership status.

8. If no request is received within six months following termination of the qualifying activity the member will be dropped.

V. PROCEDURE

A. Dues suspension

1. The member may apply to the Executive Director, via the Membership Staff, for suspension of dues for the period the member is involved in a qualifying activity.

2. The Student Member qualified for Member grade and enrolled in a qualifying activity must make the request for promotion when applying to the Executive Director, via the Membership Staff, for suspension of dues for the period of enrollment in the qualifying activity.

3. The member will receive a special membership card and will be carried on an inactive membership roster for a period not to exceed three years.

4. At the end of the three-year period if an extension of inactive membership is not requested or restoration to active membership is not requested the member shall be dropped.

B. Restoration to active membership status

1. A member who has been on inactive membership status must apply to the Executive Director, via the Membership Staff, for restoration to active membership status within six months of the member's termination of the qualifying activity.

2. A member who has been enrolled in a qualifying activity but did not request inactive membership status and was dropped may apply to the Executive Director, via the Membership Staff, to have such action rescinded. This request must be made during the time of the qualifying activity or within six months following termination of the qualifying activity.
3. Upon payment of prorated dues from the date of application until the next September 30 the member will be transferred to the active membership status and receive the usual Society publications and services.

4. A member who has been on inactive membership status and does not apply for restoration to active membership status prior to six months following termination of the qualifying activity must seek reinstatement by the procedure contained in Society Policy P-14.4.

Responsibility: 

Board of Governors

Reassigned from Knowledge and Community Board 9/19/14

Reassigned from Council on Member Affairs/Board on Member Interests and Development 6/12/05

Adopted: 

October 26, 1951

Reaffirmed: 

November 21, 1980

January 26, 1996

Revised: 

November 6, 1964

June 14, 1965

June 18, 1975

June 10, 1983 (editorial changes 9/88)

(editorial changes 4/89)

(editorial changes 1/96)

(editorial changes 11/01)

(editorial changes 6/02)

June 12, 2005 (editorial changes 7/12)

(editorial changes 1/20/15)