

## Rules Relating to the Induction of Collegiate Members' and Their Dues and Fees

The 2018 convention amended the DKG Constitution to include a new classification of Society members: collegiate members [*Constitution*, Article III.B.4]. Because the *Constitution* determines who is eligible for membership in the Society, state organization bylaws limiting those classifications are now null and void. Chapters can currently induct collegiate members.

Collegiate members must pay international annual dues of \$20.00 [*International Standing Rules* 4.11]. Note, however, that the *Constitution*, Article IV, Section B. 1 & 2 was not amended to require collegiate members to pay either an induction fee or a scholarship fee.

The state organization has the authority to determine the amount of collegiate members' state organization dues; however, the amount "shall be an amount determined in accordance with the state organization bylaws" [*Constitution*, Article IV.A.2]. Thus, collegiate members may not be charged state organization dues unless the bylaws are amended to include a provision for collegiate members' dues.

The chapter has the authority to set the amount of their chapter dues; however the amount shall be "an amount determined in accordance with the rules set by the chapter" [*Constitution*, Article IV.A.3]. Thus, collegiate members may not be charged chapter dues unless the chapter rules are amended to include a provision for collegiate members' dues.

Chapters have the right to levy assessments and to vote to pay more than the amount of their dues and fees for special projects. ISR 4.42 excludes reserve members, but not collegiate members, from the obligation to pay chapter assessments; therefore, since chapters have the full authority to levy assessments, they can determine whether any assessment may apply to collegiate members as well as to active members.

Here are the relevant constitutional and ISR rules. I have highlighted the pertinent wording in blue.

The newly adopted constitutional amendment states:

Article III | Membership

Section B. Classification

4. Collegiate members shall be undergraduate or graduate students who meet the following criteria:

a. Undergraduate student collegiate members shall

- (1) be enrolled in an institution offering an education degree and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education; and
- (2) be enrolled within the last two years of their undergraduate education degree.

b. Graduate student collegiate members shall have graduate standing in an institution offering an education degree and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education.

When a collegiate member starts her career as a paid educator, she will pay active member dues and become an active member. If a collegiate member does not pursue a career as an educator, her membership will expire upon graduation or withdrawal from the education degree program.

The Constitution states:

Article IV

Finance

Section A. Annual Dues

Each active and reserve member shall pay annual dues.

1. International dues shall be an amount recommended by the executive board and approved by the international convention.
2. State organization dues shall be an amount determined in accordance with state organization bylaws.
3. Chapter dues shall be an amount determined in accordance with the rules set by the chapter.

Section B. Fees

1. Induction Fee

An active member shall pay an induction fee at the time of induction

2. Scholarship Fee

Each active and reserve member shall pay a scholarship fee annually

Section D. Financial Assessments

Financial assessments may be levied only by the chapter.

ISR 4.4 states:

4.4 Financial Assessments

4.41 Chapter members may vote to pay an amount in addition to dues and fees for the support of a chapter or state organization project.

4.42 A reserve member shall be exempt from paying chapter financial assessments.

The ISR newly adopted amendment states:

ISR 4.0 | Finance—General

4.1 Dues

4.11 International active dues shall be forty dollars (U.S. \$40), and international reserve and collegiate dues shall be twenty dollars (U.S. \$20). Beginning in 2012 international active and international reserve and collegiate dues may be adjusted each biennium based on the United States of America Social Security Administration's Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) average for the previous two (2) years, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.

There is nothing in the governing documents that prescribes a different method of collecting and processing the dues and fees of collegiate members. They should be processed in the same way as all other dues and fees.

*Helen Popovich, PRP*

International Parliamentarian

8/30/18