



## **Australian Acoustical Society**

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A.C.N. 000 712 658

**AUSTRALIAN ACOUSTICAL SOCIETY  
A.B.N. 28 000 712 658**

### **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

The Australian Acoustical Society has as its aims the promotion and advancement of the science and practice of acoustics in all its branches and the exchange of ideas in relation thereto.

#### **Activities**

The principal activities of the Society are technical meetings held by each State Division, annual conferences which are held by the State Division in rotation, and the publication of a journal.

In each State technical meetings are held approximately every month according to the availability of speakers and places of interest. These meetings normally consist of a lecture given by an invited guest speaker on some subject related to acoustics. Other technical meetings consist of workshops, visits to factories, laboratories, auditoria or other places of interest to the members of the Society.

The annual conferences usually last for two days, and are attended by Society members and visitors from all over Australia and from overseas.

The Society's journal "Acoustics Australia" is published three times a year and includes technical articles and general information regarding the Society and acoustics.

#### **Membership Grades and Qualifications**

Admission to the Society is open to all people interested in acoustics and companies and other organisations who may wish to support the Society. Members come from a wide range of occupations working in all fields of acoustics, such as bioacoustics, electro-acoustics, auditorium acoustics, physical acoustics, musical acoustics, speech communication, ultrasonics, noise control, vibration, etc.

There are eight grades of membership that cater for people and organisations; Honorary, Fellow, Member, Graduate, Associate, Student, Subscriber and Sustaining members. A person may be awarded the distinction of Honorary member in recognition of the contribution made to acoustics or to the Society. The grade of Fellow is conferred by Council in recognition of exemplary achievements by Members of the Society. The grade Member is awarded to qualified and experienced acousticians while Graduates are recently qualified members lacking practical experience working in acoustics. Associates are members working as technicians in the field of acoustics while students studying tertiary courses related to acoustics may be awarded the grade of Student. The grade of Subscriber is open to people without appropriate qualifications or experience but who are interested in acoustics. Finally, companies and organisations who make a contribution to assist the Society may become Sustaining members.

Of the eight grades of membership of the Society, Fellows and Members have corporate membership with full voting rights. Graduates have the same voting rights as members and can stand on a Divisional Committee. However, Graduates cannot become Chairman or Vice Chairman of a Divisional Committee and cannot stand for Council. Associates, Subscribers and Students have limited membership privileges and have the right to elect up to two representatives to their relevant Division Committee. Sustaining Members and Honorary Members have no voting rights. The grade of Fellow is not open to individuals as it is conferred by Council.

Note that in this, as in all other documents of the Society, member with the lower case 'm' means all members of the Society in all grades; and Member with the upper case 'M' means those members of the Society in the grade Member.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRADE MEMBER**

The By-Laws of the Society provide for a variety of gates for admission to Membership. The fundamental requirement is an understanding and working experience in some branch of acoustics as assessed by the Society independent of any recognition or non-recognition by the applicant's employer or other bodies.

The applicant's application form with attachments and any written testimony of the applicant's proposers should be aimed at conveying to the Membership Sub-Committee the information necessary for it to assess the applicant's understanding and working experience in acoustics.

Regardless through which gate Members are admitted, the admission requirement is the same, the successful applicants should all be assessed as having the understanding and ability to work in, and follow developments in their field of acoustics at an adequate level of competence.

In the details below the following interpretations should be made:-

- (i) Actively engaged in the science or practice of acoustics means working in acoustics at what can be assessed by the Membership Sub-Committee as at an adequate professional level.

One criterion which could be used is to judge whether the employer of the applicant would need to advertise for the services of a person eligible for admission to the grade of Member if the applicant left.

Applicants should show that they are keeping abreast of their field of acoustics by:-

- (a) attendance at technical meetings of the Society; and/or
- (b) subscribing to and reading acoustical journals and periodicals; and/or
- (c) doing research or development in their chosen field; and/or
- (d) attending symposia and conferences on acoustics; and/or
- (e) working in a field where the work itself provides a source of information feed back.

- (ii) The length of time engaged in acoustics means the length of work experience directly involved in acoustics. In assessing this time, work of a non-acoustical nature should be discounted. For example, applicants who have spent 50% of their time on acoustics over a period of 4 years would be assessed as being engaged on acoustics for 2 years.

Time spent in postgraduate studies in acoustics may be assessed for the equivalent time in the same way as other work experience.

- (iii) Recognised educational qualifications means:-

- (a) a degree or diploma (comprising the equivalent of at least 3 years full time study) appropriate to the field of work of the applicant.
- (b) a postgraduate qualification relevant to acoustics and recognised by the Australian Acoustical Society.

Applicants must submit evidence of all degrees or diplomas claimed.

### **Gate MA**

Requirements for Admission to the grade Member:

- (i) Applicants must show they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants must show that they have recognised educational qualifications.
- (iii) Applicants must show that they have been actively engaged in the science or practice of acoustics at a professional level for not less than 2 years full time equivalent.

### **Gate MB**

Requirements for Admission to the grade Member:

- (i) Applicants must show they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants shall submit for examination a thesis on a topic agreed to by the Divisional Committee. The thesis should be of a final year undergraduate standard.
- (iii) Applicants must show that they have been actively engaged in the science or practice of acoustics at a professional level for not less than 4 years full time equivalent.

### **Gate MC**

Requirements for Admission to the grade Member:

- (i) Applicants must show they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants must show that, notwithstanding their lack of recognised educational qualifications, they are suitable for election as a Member by reason of their verified practical or theoretical experience in the field of acoustics.
- (iii) Applicants must show that they have been actively engaged in the science or practice of acoustics at a professional level for not less than 10 years full time equivalent.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRADE GRADUATE**

### **Gate GA**

- (i) Applicants must show they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants must show that they have recognised educational qualifications.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRADE ASSOCIATE**

This grade is awarded in recognition of the proficiency of technicians working in acoustics. It is open to all people who make routine acoustical measurements, calibration and testing of equipment, etc. For example, technicians working in the field of audiometry.

### **Gate AA**

Requirement for Admission as an Associate:

- (i) Applicants must show that they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants must show evidence of satisfactory completion of an appropriate certificate course or other appropriate post secondary qualification.

- (iii) Applicants must show they are engaged in the science or practice of acoustics at technician level and have been for not less than 2 years full time equivalent.

#### **Gate AB**

Requirement for Admission as an Associate:

- (i) Applicants must show that they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants must show they are engaged in the science or practice of acoustics at technician level and have been for not less than 5 years full time equivalent.

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRADE SUBSCRIBER**

##### **Gate SU**

There are no particular educational or experience requirements.

Applicants must show that are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRADE STUDENT**

##### **Gate ST**

This grade is allocated to students in post-secondary educational establishments. Student members are annually expected to show they meet admission requirements.

Requirements for admission as a Student:

- (i) Applicants must show that they are interested in the objects and activities of the Society.
- (ii) Applicants must show they are enrolled in a full-time course at a post-secondary educational institution and are receiving instruction or training in some course pertaining to acoustics.
- (iii) Applicants must show they are not employed for more than 20 hours per week.

#### **SUSTAINING MEMBERS**

Sustaining membership is conferred in recognition of the contribution made to the Society or towards its objects or activities.

The essentials are:

- (i) The contribution precedes the conferring of Sustaining Membership.
- (ii) The contribution may be financial or otherwise.
- (iii) The contribution may be to the Society, or towards its objects or activities.
- (iv) Sustaining Membership is conferred for a time determined by the Council which may typically be for a year.
- (v) Sustaining members may be companies, partnerships, organisations, societies, corporations or persons. If a person they shall not otherwise be a member of the Society.

Companies or organisations who would like to apply for Sustaining membership should contact the General Secretary for more information.

## **Joining the Society**

Applications to join the Society must be made on the official Application Form (see below). Application forms must be signed by the applicant and, for admission to Member, Graduate and Associate grades, endorsed by two proposers having a detailed knowledge of the applicant. When admission to Associate or Member grade is requested proposers should have good personal knowledge of the applicant's competence and experience in the science and practice of acoustics.

At least one of the two proposers must hold the grade of Fellow or Member of the Society. The final decision as to grade of membership offered to an applicant is made by the Federal Council of the Society.

## **Application Fee**

Applicants for membership must pay a non-refundable application fee of \$25.00 (including GST) before their applications will be considered by the Society. Upon admission being made the application fee will be credited as the subscription for the current subscription year. In the case of a Student, the Application Fee also covers the first full-year of membership.

## **Change of Membership Grade**

A member who wishes to change his grade of membership in the Society should complete a new application on an Application Form, stating the additional qualifications and/or experience he/she has acquired. The application must be supported by two proposers in the usual way. An application fee is not required for members applying to change their grade of membership.

## **Submission of Application**

Please check that the Application Form has been correctly completed and certified copies of qualifications, etc have been attached (*see Guidelines for Completing Membership Application Form*).

On completion, the Application Form (with the check list) and Application Fee should be sent to the General Secretary, PO Box 903, Castlemaine, Victoria 3450, AUSTRALIA.

## **Membership Certificates**

Membership certificates are issued to Fellows, Graduates, Members and Associates, and on an annual basis to Sustaining Members.

## **Annual Subscriptions (including GST)**

Membership subscriptions become due on 1 April each year and are currently as follows:

Fellow and Member:	\$110.00
Graduate, Associate and Subscriber:	\$85.00
Student:	\$25.00