LEAGUE of CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Full membership in the League of California Community Foundations (the "League") involves full fiduciary responsibility for the organization.

Membership in the League does not automatically constitute participation in all League funding initiatives. Funding initiatives are implemented on a case by case basis.

All League members are encouraged to join their national and regional affiliate organizations (e.g., Council on Foundations, Northern California Grantmakers, Southern California Grantmakers).

I. A California community foundation must meet the following criteria to be eligible for full membership in the League:

- 50l(c)(3) tax status
- 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) public charities tax code
- Meets Council on Foundations' definition of community foundation (public support test, broadly representative governing body, operates primarily as a grantmaking institution, defined geographical area, broad grants program, permanent collection of named funds, as described in the Council's Recommended Principles and Practices for Effective Grantmaking)
- Meets or exceeds the *National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations* (Note: League members are committed to confirming their compliance with national standards through the most rigorous process adopted by the community foundation field.)
- Meets compliance with the California Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004
- Minimum of a full-time executive director
- Annual dues are paid at 100% level (see schedule under "Membership Dues")
- Minimum asset level of $5 million of which $1 million is in endowment
- A League member in good standing will be current in dues payment and will conduct business in a way that is consistent with the Statement of Mission, Goals, Principles and Values of the League
- Membership is contingent upon successful completion of the application process, sponsorship by two League members and approval by a majority of League members

II. Membership Dues

Annual dues are payable by January 31 of each year. Checks should be made payable and forwarded to the League of California Community Foundations, P.O. Box 1638 Rohnert Park, California 94927.

Asset Tier[1]	2010 Fee[2]
I ($15M and under)	$2,000 - $3,500
II ($15M – $23M)	$4,500
III ($23M – $50M)	$5,000
IV ($50M – $150M)	$8,000
V ($150M – $1B)	$11,500
VI ($1B and above)	$12,500

1- Based on 2008 assets
2- Due to the recent extraordinary financial distress, the 2010 fees are supplemented through cash reserves and are estimated to increase in the future.

III. A community foundation interested in applying for full membership status with the League should follow the process described below:

- The candidate must provide the information and materials listed in section IV.
- League staff will circulate the announcement of application, including sponsorship along with information from the application materials.
- League members will be given the opportunity to ask questions, and if there are no objections, the Steering Committee will review and accept the application. If there are objections, the Steering Committee will address them; and if they cannot be resolved through fact-finding and discussion, the Steering Committee will take the matter to the full membership for a decision.
- Each new member will receive an orientation to the League, and is required to have the executive director and at least one board representative participate in that orientation.

IV. To apply for full membership, please provide the following materials:

1. A cover letter signed by the board chair requesting consideration for full membership in the League.

2. Verification of 501 (c) (3) and 170 (b) (1) (A) (vi) tax status

3. Verification that your community foundation satisfies the public support test

4. A letter signed by the board chair and CEO stating the community foundation meets or exceeds *National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations*

5. Letters of sponsorship support from at least two League Members

6. A profile of your community foundation, no more than five pages, which includes the following information:

   - your mission statement
   - the year your community foundation was founded
   - current assets of your community foundation
   - brief summary of your community foundation's growth
   - brief report of your permanent named funds
   - description of staffing, including the executive director's resume
   - description of your governing body, including a list of board members
   - your geographic service area
   - brief description of your grantmaking program

If you have questions, contact the League office, 707.586.0277. Send your application materials to the League of California Community Foundations electronically at caron@lccf.org or by mail to P.O. Box 1638, Rohnert Park, CA 94927.