



SDMFC Membership FAQ

1. Why become a member?

- a. By establishing membership we hope to better coordinate and expand our collective impact. Membership demonstrates our level of engagement from partnered organizations and allows us to have a deeper understanding of all member programs and services. Having strong, committed, consistent partnerships furthers our mission and impact to serve military families in San Diego County.

2. What are some of the criteria for becoming a member?

- a. A clearly demonstrated pattern of engagement in the San Diego Military Family Collaborative (at least six months of consistent participation is required for membership)
- b. Free or significantly reduced cost social services that directly benefit military and veteran families.
- c. Fill out a membership application and have it signed by the highest level of leadership in your organization.

3. What are the benefits to being a member?

- a. Unique recognition on the SDMFC website.
- b. Prioritized recognition and promotion of events, job postings and announcements on SDMFC weekly e-blasts and via social media.
- c. Special member rates and advanced registration options (as applicable) to attend SDMFC trainings and annual conference.
- d. Eligibility for staff to participate in Coordinating Council and other leadership roles.
- e. Eligible to request signed *letters of support* or other partnership support from SDMFC Coordinating Council when seeking grants/funds, advocacy support, etc.
- f. Prioritized participation in SDMFC special events as a member organization.

4. What if I haven't participated for very long, but I want to be a member?

- a. We applaud you! Go ahead and submit your application and we'll contact you after at least three months of consistent engagement to join as a provisional member.

5. What is a provisional member?

- a. A provisional member is in the process of gaining full membership.
- b. The benefits of provisional membership include:
 - i. A preference for e-blast announcements and social media requests.
 - ii. Access to the special member rates for the SDMFC annual conference.
 - iii. Eligibility to participate in SDMFC special events as a provisional member.

6. Wait a second...I thought we were members already. How do I know if we are or not?

- a. Member organizations are receiving special recognition on the website located here: <http://sdmilitaryfamily.org/resource-connection/service-provided/members/>. If you are not on this list, you are not considered a member.



- b. NO ORGANIZATION WAS A FORMAL MEMBER BEFORE JANUARY 31, 2015. All participating organizations are requested to submit a membership application and complete the corresponding steps (upon approval of application) that are outlined here: <http://sdmilitaryfamily.org/join/group/>.

7. What happens if my organization is not a member? Can I still go to meetings?

- a. Yes. If your organization cannot or does not want to become a member you can still participate in all events, submit items for the e-blast, and generally participate in SDMFC activities. However, as a non-member, your organization will not have full access to the benefits listed above and will be included in e-blasts only as space/time allows. If you represent a government agency that has extenuating circumstances preventing official membership in the SDMFC, but would still like access to the benefits listed above, please contact Joe Buehrle at jbuehrle@saysandiego.org or (858) 496-0044 ext. 107.

8. Who needs to sign the membership application?

- a. The answer depends largely on the make-up and type of organization. In short, we are looking for the highest level leadership at your organization or within your program. For some organizations, this is the Chief Executive Officer or Executive Director. For others, it may be an authorized board member or regional lead. If you represent a government entity or have questions/concerns regarding obtaining this signature, please contact the Collaborative Coordinator Joe Buehrle at jbuehrle@saysandiego.org.

9. Are membership dues required?

- a. At this time, membership dues are not required. We understand that some organizations are unable to pay dues for a variety of reasons. However, we hope that if your organization values the benefits of SDMFC membership, it will help to further the mission and sustainability of the SDMFC through payment of a membership fee.



*SDMFC program and staffing support provided by:
www.saysandiego.org*

