

Affiliate Toolkit Resource: Membership FAQ

1. Why did NAEYC change from multiple tiers to a single-tier membership model?

The single membership type ensures equal access to benefits and support for all members. The old model created unintended barriers with varying levels and costs. The new model is fairer, simpler, and offers consistent, high-quality benefits for everyone.

2. When will the new membership model officially launch?

Monday, March 3, 2025, at 11:00 AM EST

3. What were the main factors driving this change (e.g., member feedback, sustainability, equity concerns)?

The old model had challenges like difficult-to-use resources, high costs, and unequal benefit distribution. Feedback showed that the system wasn't meeting members' needs, and it wasn't financially sustainable. The new model addresses these issues by simplifying access, improving equity, lowering barriers, and ensuring long-term organizational stability.

4. What is the cost of the new single-tier membership?

The new membership costs \$72. To help with the transition, current Entry-level members will receive a 50% discount on their first renewal under the new model.

5. How does this single-tier approach address member feedback?

The single-tier model ensures equity and accessibility by offering the same benefits to all members. Improved systems and an enhanced member portal make navigation easier. Benefits include digital resources, professional development, and advocacy support, fostering a stronger, more inclusive community of early childhood professionals.

6. Are there flexible payment plans or other discounts available?

Currently, payment plans are not available, but NAEYC is working to offer this option in the future. The organization is also exploring special pricing and partnerships with

organizations to provide discounts, ensuring membership is affordable and valuable.

7. How will members be billed or renewed under the new model?

Members will renew annually through the new, easy to navigate portal under the “My Membership” section on the homepage. This section allows you to edit your payment method and update your auto-renewal settings whenever you want.

8. What’s the last date I can sign up under the old model?

The last day that you can purchase NAEYC membership online before the new system launches on March 3, is on **Thursday, February 20**.

9. Why is the new price set where it is, and how does it compare to peer organizations?

The \$72 annual fee is competitive and reflects the value of NAEYC membership, which offers more benefits at a lower cost compared to similar organizations. Membership supports high-quality resources, professional development, advocacy, and continued investment in the needs of members and the profession.

10. What benefits are included in the single-tier membership?

- **Community:** HELLO online community, interest forums, networking opportunities with thousands of members, and affiliate membership
- **Advocacy:** Policy Q&A webinars with NAEYC staff, HELLO policy discussions, policy insights from national policy leaders, and early registration access for the Public Policy Forum
- **Resources:** Newsletter, member-only digital magazine, toolkits & guides, and a digital welcome basket of resources in the member profile
- **Events:** Conference discounts, regular webinars & workshops, and interviews with ECE thought leaders and luminaries
- **Support:** Professional development with CEUs, leadership pathways & volunteer opportunities, mentorship & scholarships opportunities, insurance, tuition & retail discounts, and member-only sales on books and professional development

11. How does the CARES framework (Community, Advocacy, Resources, Events, Support) translate to actual offerings?

The CARES framework represents the core pillars of your NAEYC membership. It's more than just a list of benefits; it's about joining a passionate community of educators dedicated to improving the lives of young children. Here's how CARES translates into tangible offerings:

- **Community:**
 - Connect with a nationwide network of early childhood professionals through our Hello online community.
 - Maximize your affiliate membership by attending local events and accessing valuable resources.
 - Join topic-specific interest forums to deepen your expertise and connect with peers.
- **Advocacy:**
 - Advocate for early childhood education by participating in policy discussions on Hello.
 - Gain insights from national leaders and access exclusive policy Q&A webinars.
 - Amplify your voice by joining our Public Policy Forum with early registration access.
- **Resources:**
 - Discover *Educating Young Children*, our member-only digital magazine.
 - Explore exclusive digital content, including newsletters, articles, ebooks, and courses tailored to your interests.
 - Find helpful toolkits and best-practice guides.
- **Events:**
 - Attend our Annual Conference at a discounted rate to network, learn, and grow with peers.
 - Expand your knowledge with access to regular, expert-led webinars and workshops.
 - Engage in interactive learning experiences with ECE thought leaders and luminaries.
- **Support:**
 - Advance your career with annual professional growth opportunities and CEUs.
 - Connect and give back through mentorship, scholarships, leadership pathways, and volunteer opportunities.
 - Unlock valuable discounts on books, courses, insurance, tuition, and other essential services.

By joining NAEYC, you become part of a powerful community of educators whose collective voice can transform the early childhood landscape. The CARES framework provides the foundation for your professional growth, advocacy efforts, and connection to a network of passionate individuals dedicated to improving the lives of young children.

12. How do I access these benefits (e.g., logging into the portal, joining forums, signing up for PD)?

Access all benefits through the updated NAEYC member portal. Use it to connect with others via the HELLO community, join discussions, take online courses and webinars, register for events, or manage program accreditation. The portal features improved

navigation, reminders, and a personalized dashboard for tracking your benefits and activities.

13. What is happening to my magazine subscriptions?

Teaching Young Children (TYC) is retiring, but its practical, practitioner-focused spirit lives on in our new member-exclusive magazine, Educating Young Children (EYC). EYC expands on TYC's foundation, showcasing stories of success, shared learning, and innovation across the wider early learning professional community in an interactive digital format. The first issue will debut in early April.

Young Children, our award-winning, peer-reviewed journal, will also get a digital transformation. As a valued member, you'll receive access to Young Children archives and two free issues with your welcome basket. So, you can look forward to the Spring 2025 and Summer 2025 issues as they are published. After this trial period, members will have the opportunity to subscribe at a special discounted rate.

Members will have one year of access to the digital archive of NAEYC's peer-reviewed journal Young Children, which includes access to issues dating back to 1945 through JSTOR (a digital library of academic resources).

14. Will I still receive my print materials, books, journal, and membership cards?

The new model focuses on digital resources for easier access and sustainability. Printed books and journals will no longer be included, but you can purchase books through the eStore. Membership cards will now be digital and downloadable from your NAEYC profile.

15. Do current members need to do anything specific before the official launch?

No, Members will automatically be transitioned into the new membership in March. Once the new system launches, members will receive an email with instructions to reset passwords for access to their new member portal.

16. Will the member portal change or require new login steps?

Yes, new login steps will be introduced and communicated via email.

17. Is there any expected downtime or partial disruption in member services during the transition?

Yes, there will be downtime from **February 20 at 11:00 PM EST to March 2** as the new

system is implemented. The new portal will launch on **March 3**, during which time members can visit the website for updates.

18. Will current premium members be getting a refund? Or my full premium benefits (5 4 print books and 1 eBooks)?

Premium members will automatically transition to the new, expanded membership at no extra cost in Spring 2025. They will receive all the new membership benefits along with a digital welcome basket of NAEYC resources in their updated member portal.

19. I'm already a member—how will this shift affect my current membership?

Current members will transition automatically to the new structure with expanded benefits and portal access.

20. I'm thinking of joining for the first time—what's different for new members now?

We've made membership simpler and more rewarding!

- a. **One all-inclusive membership** – Everyone gets the same great benefits.
- b. **More perks** – Access digital resources, professional development, advocacy support, and exclusive discounts.
- c. **Easier onboarding** – Our upgraded portal makes joining and connecting effortless.

NAEYC membership is a valuable investment in your growth and a great way to connect with fellow educators!

21. How can I offer feedback or suggest improvements to the new model?

We are committed to listening, learning, and growing alongside our members. If you have suggestions, concerns, or simply want to share your appreciation for this transition, please call our Customer Care Team at 800-424-2460 or email us at info@naeyc.org.

22. What if I have a concern about affordability that's not addressed in the FAQ?

Please call our Customer Care Team at 800-424-2460 or email us at info@naeyc.org.

23. How can affiliates help communicate these changes locally?

Affiliates will receive training and resources to be able to effectively host local, in-person gatherings to present information, open discussion, and answer questions about recent changes across NAEYC.

24. Who can I contact at the association if I have unresolved questions or concerns?

Please call our Customer Care Team at 800-424-2460 or email us at info@naeyc.org.

25. Is there a new way to submit an affiliate batch membership order?

Send all membership orders and questions to info@NAEYC.org for an invoice creation, membership data entry, payment application to individual membership orders, or any questions related to membership.

26. At what point in the one-year membership term can a renewal be processed?

The Salesforce system does not have the same limitation as the former system of renewals only happening within 60 days of the membership's renewal date. If a membership is purchased for a current membership, then another one-year term will start once the current membership renewal date arrives. Please note that batch orders should be compared to the affiliate member's term dates prior to avoid unintended multiple term purchases.

27. Will a former entry-level member need to request or do anything special to renew at the \$36 membership price?

No, the former entry level member does not need to request the discount renewal price. The member's renewal statement found in their portal will show as \$36 when the current year membership renewal date arrives.