



Membership Application

General Requirements:

Article V Membership (Appalachian Athletic Conference Constitution & Bylaws)

1. The membership shall be limited to NAIA Division II member colleges of senior rank accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, or one of the five other regional accrediting bodies.
2. Associate membership status may be given to an institution that has been granted candidacy status by a regional accrediting body. Associate members would be prohibited from advancing to a national tournament. Associate members would become full members upon obtaining full accreditation. Associate members would have three years from the time of their entry into membership to obtain full regional accreditation. If full accreditation was not achieved within three years, that institution would be removed from membership in the Conference.
3. Associate member status (single sport) may also be granted to an institution that is currently a member of another NAIA affiliated conference or a member of the Association of Independent Institutions and intends to compete in the sport of football, only. Associate members must comply with all applicable Conference and NAIA rules and regulations applicable to that sport. Associate members have voice and vote on matters pertaining to that sport.
4. At a minimum, applicants must have the following athletic staff to support their intercollegiate athletic program: athletics director, faculty athletic representative, sports information director and certified athletic trainer.
5. The Chief Executive Officer of qualified institutions may make application for membership in writing to the Commissioner no later than November 1, if the desired effective date of membership is to be the beginning of the academic year following application. Applications for membership received later than November 1, if approved, will be effective one year from the start of the next academic year. Applicants who are not already NAIA members are to include a copy of their completed Application for NAIA Membership along with the additional requirements contained herein.
6. The Executive Committee shall schedule a visit to the applicant consisting of representatives from member institutions to evaluate staffing, budgeting, facilities and programs.
7. If the visiting team gives its approval, the applicant will be invited to make a presentation at the Council of Presidents Meeting.
8. The recommendation for membership of the visiting committee shall be presented at the meeting along with the applicant's presentation.
9. Election shall be by three-fourths of the members in good standing at the Council of Presidents Meeting.

10. Upon payment of annual dues, the new member shall have full privileges and requirements of membership.

Additional Requirements:

1. A short history of the institution and its athletic program.
2. A report of total institutional enrollment and athletic participation numbers for the current year and past two years.
3. A statement of the institution's philosophy toward collegiate athletics and its importance and role on campus.
4. Briefly describe how you implement, or would implement, character development within your athletic department (staff, coaches, student-athletes).
5. A report of the grade point average of student-athletes versus the general student population over the past three years.
6. A statement answering the question, "Why are we interested in joining the AAC?"
7. What collegiate athletic association(s) is the institution currently a member of or has been a member of in the past?
8. A list of the number of sports currently sponsored at the varsity, junior varsity and club level for both men and women.
9. Projections for adding additional sports along with perspective dates.
10. A list of the personnel currently assigned responsibilities for the institution's athletic programs including reporting and oversight.
11. A report of the current year and the last two years operating budgets for the athletic department and each sponsored sport including salaries for coaches, travel and recruiting, athletic trainers and administrative support personnel.
12. A report of financial aid awarded to student athletes for the past three years.
13. An application fee of \$5,000. The fee will be used toward expenses incurred in conducting due diligence.

The completed application is to be sent to the Conference office, along with the application fee, at least two weeks prior to the scheduled site visit.