

Membership Policies of the Recycling Alliance of Texas DBA State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR)

Any individual, educator, student, professional, organization or business interested in advancing and supporting environmental sustainability and recycling statewide or at a community level shall be eligible for membership.

The Recycling Alliance of Texas does not discriminate against any individual or group based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, disability or any other protected status. The Recycling Alliance of Texas has a zero tolerance policy on discrimination and will not knowingly support or patronize any individual or group which discriminates.

Membership includes the benefits associated with the class of membership for which dues are current as indicated in membership documents or as outlined in authorized Recycling Alliance of Texas publications.

Annual dues are charged for a term of one year, beginning with the date of membership made, renewed with the annual billing of dues on the membership anniversary date. Membership dues are non-refundable.

Memberships due for renewal will have a 30-day grace period from the anniversary date before they are removed from the membership list.

The Recycling Alliance of Texas currently has the following classes of membership (as of May, 2004):

- Large Business (*20 or more FT/PT employees*)
- Small Business (*less than 19 FT/PT employees*)
- Federal, State, and Local Government entities
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Individuals
- Students

Each membership category also allows membership with one of the current Affiliated Councils on the membership form. Affiliated Council membership may only be changed upon annual membership renewal. Additional councils may be joined for an annual fee of \$50.

Transfer of memberships is only allowed for Individual and Student memberships. The newly designated individual must complete and submit a membership application along with a \$35 processing fee.

Individuals will be designated as the voting member for membership classes whose dues are paid by institutions (Large and Small Business, Government, Non-Profit). If an individual so designated leaves the institution, the membership remains with the institution and a new individual may be designated as their representative, unless the Recycling Alliance is otherwise instructed by the institution. The newly designated representative must complete and submit a membership application along with a \$35 processing fee.

It is the responsibility of each member to contact the Recycling Alliance of Texas with any changes to membership information.

Members shall be entitled to participate in all Recycling Alliance of Texas programs according to their membership class.

Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments or other charges theretofore accrued and unpaid, and written notification must be received by the Recycling Alliance of Texas at: P.O. Box 2359, Austin, Texas 78768-2359, along with any membership cards.

The Board of Directors, by affirmative vote of three-fifths of all the members of the Board, may suspend or terminate a member with or without cause at a meeting whose notice shall include such proposed suspension or termination. See Article II, Section 4 of the Bylaws

Further, the Recycling Alliance of Texas reserves the right to remove any listings, advertisements in either online form and/or printed form, cancel any event or function reservations, and withhold any membership benefits or privileges for failure to pay dues. Reinstatement of these benefits or privileges can be obtained by bringing dues to a current and in full status, but does not guarantee a re-instatement in a Recycling Alliance of Texas function.

Membership does not guarantee entry in Recycling Alliance of Texas functions or events that require an admission or submission application process. Applications are taken in date and time order, and are processed on a first-come, first serve basis until full, after reserved right of full jury process.

Certain classes of membership do offer discounts on function or event-related fees, and the mailing of the application to all current members first.

Recycling Alliance of Texas fully supports free speech and freedom of creative expression, but reserves the right not to display any illegal, discriminatory, hateful or offensive material in any advertisements, printed material, or online material. In the case of dispute over this issue, the matter may be put to a vote by Board members. The Board of Directors may be appealed to on the matter and their decision is final on any appeal.

Membership is made when your application and full payment of your first year annual dues is received.

Any increase in dues is subject to review and determination by the Board of Directors, and all members will be duly notified if an increase is deemed applicable and appropriate.

Upon acceptance of membership, announcement of membership will be made and membership benefits for each class will be made available within time-frames that are reasonable for the particular benefit.