

CHAPTER II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility.

All health care professionals in good standing and licensed to practice medicine in any country, and involved in the care of patients with diabetes and endocrine disorders shall be eligible for membership in the Association subject to the below rules and regulations.

Section 2. Classes of Members.

The formation of, or membership in any category of the Association shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, color, creed, race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin, or sexual orientation, or for any other reason unrelated to character or competence. Nor shall membership in any category of the Association be denied to any person who meets the requirements for membership as set forth in these bylaws. In considering applicants for membership, information as to the character, ethics, professional status and professional activities of the individual may be considered. The qualifications for membership in the respective classes are:

a) Active Membership. The qualifications for admission to active membership in the association shall require that the applicant be a physician (MD, DO, or foreign equivalent) who has an active, unencumbered license to practice medicine in any of the six Gulf Countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates) and is engaged, at least 50 percent (50%) of his/ her work time, in the treatment of patients with diabetes and endocrine diseases, or involved in research or educational activities related to Endocrinology and Diabetes. Each active member shall have the right to hold office, vote on common Association matters, and serve in committees. To hold office, the candidate should be a licensed endocrinologist in good standing and serve in the board of directors for two years before becoming an officer. The annual fee for this membership class shall be 250 DHS or equivalent.

b) Associate Membership. The qualifications for admission to associate membership in the Association shall require that a physician be certified endocrinologist practicing outside GCC countries / enrolled in a postgraduate training program in Endocrinology/ Diabetes. Certified/ registered allied health care professional in fields related to Endocrinology/ Diabetes/ Metabolic Disorders and is engaged in the treatment or investigation of patient's endocrine diseases. Health care practitioners satisfying the above criteria and working in and out of the above-stated GCC Countries are eligible for this category of membership. Associate members may not vote on common Association matters, function in the office or be a director. Associate members can be members of committees. The annual fee for this membership class shall be 100 DHS or equivalent.

a) Affiliate Membership: The qualifications for admission to affiliate membership in the Association shall require that a physician be enrolled in a postgraduate residency training program in Internal Medicine or Pediatrics or be enrolled as a student in an accredited medical school. Affiliate members may not vote, hold office, be directors, or serve on committees. The annual fee for this membership class shall be 150 DHS or equivalent.

b) Honorary Membership. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Board of Directors upon such persons who have provided distinguished service to the Association or to the endocrinology community. Honorary members shall not be required to pay any dues or assessments and shall not have the right to vote, to hold office or be a director, but may serve on committees.