



Childhood Arthritis & Rheumatology Research Alliance

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

A. Membership Benefits

The Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance (CARRA) is a professional organization of physicians, scientists and health professionals devoted to the study, research and treatment of the pediatric rheumatic diseases. Members are eligible for participation in CARRA-sponsored activities, access to state-of-the-art education, access to services that facilitate research, research data, biological samples, and practice resources in pediatric rheumatology.

Membership benefits depend on the category of CARRA Membership with details provided in Section B.

A1. Education Opportunities

Members may attend the CARRA Annual Meetings that provide networking, research promotion, education, mentoring and training. The registration fee for this meeting is waived for all members in good standing. Additionally, depending on membership category, a subsidy toward travel expenses may also be available.

A2. Access to Network Research and Resources

Members have access to research resources and to study-specific websites (in which members participate) in the “members-only” section of the CARRA website.

Members in good standing can participate in CARRA-sponsored studies which are intended to advance the care of patients with pediatric rheumatic disease.

Moreover, member benefits include preferred access to research tools, including but not limited to

- E-survey tools
- Data and/or biological samples from the CARRAnet comprehensive registry of pediatric rheumatic disease patients; these data can be used for scientific research, or as pilot data for research proposals



- Logistic support for research including site and data management; access to site specific information to assist with study design or data analysis
- Membership in research committees

A.3 Awards & Grants

Members in good standing are eligible to apply for CARRA research funding.

A.4 Other membership privileges

Voting members of CARRA (see Bylaws and Section B for details) have the right to the following:

1. Vote for the various officers of CARRA*
2. Approve CARRA Bylaws and amendments
3. Sponsor new CARRA members
4. Serve as PI for CARRA-sponsored studies (trainee members also have this right if supported by a voting member)

* Research Associate members vote for their representative to the CARRA Steering Committee and a liaison to each research committee of CARRA.

B. Membership Categories

The various membership categories, and the benefits available to each membership type, are summarized in **Table 1**. Note that these benefits are subject to change and are only available to CARRA members in good standing (see Section C for details).

Additional details about CARRA member benefits and categories can be obtained from the CARRA Business Office or reviewed at <http://www.carragroup.org>



Table 1 Membership Categories

Category	Details	Benefits
<p><i>Voting Membership</i></p>	<p>Voting Members are EITHER Board certified or Board eligible (in the United States or Canada) pediatric rheumatologists who spend at least 50% of professional effort in pediatric rheumatology and live in the United States and Canada.</p> <p>OR are Sponsored Members, who are health care professionals or research scientists in the United States or Canada who meet the following requirements: Must be sponsored by at least two (2) Voting Members of CARRA, at least one of whom is outside the candidate’s institution, AND HAVE EITHER</p> <p>a. served as the Principal Investigator of a study undertaken within CARRA, OR</p> <p>b. for more than five (5) years committed at least 50% of professional effort in a field relevant to pediatric rheumatology, and published at least three peer reviewed articles in a field relevant to pediatric rheumatology.</p>	<p>A1, A2, A3, A4</p>
<p><i>Non-voting Membership</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Member 	<p>Associate Members are health care professionals in the United States or Canada who actively care for children with rheumatic disease.</p>	<p>A1, A2, A3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainee Member 	<p>A Trainee Member is a physician licensed in the United States or Canada currently participating in an approved Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship in Canada or the USA.</p> <p>Other health care professional trainees who concentrate their scientific efforts in pediatric rheumatology will be considered on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>A1, A2, A3, A.4.4</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emeritus Member 	<p>At the discretion of the Steering Committee, a CARRA member who is no longer active in clinical research can be identified as an Emeritus Member.</p>	<p>A1, A2, A3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Associate Member 	<p>A Research Associate Member is a clinical research coordinator in the United States or Canada who actively works with studies related to children with rheumatic disease.</p>	<p>A1, A2, A3, A.4.1*</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Associate Member 	<p>An International Associate Member must be a practicing pediatric rheumatologist committed at least 50% of professional effort in pediatric rheumatology who lives outside of United States or Canada.</p>	<p>A1, A2, A3</p>

C. Membership in Good Standing

Only members in good standing have access to the full benefits of their membership category. Members in good standing:

- Promptly submit yearly membership dues to keep the membership current as per the payment schedule detailed in **Section D**
- Keep their membership information up-to-date: location, contact information, and membership status
- Join at least one Research Committee of CARRA (the Research Associate Members can only join the Research Associate committee)
- Attend at least one annual CARRA meeting over each 3 year period
- Respond to CARRA surveys including study surveys and elections

Members in good standing also adhere to other relevant membership duties as detailed in the Bylaws.

D. Membership Dues

Membership dues differ by Membership category. The current fee schedule is summarized in **Table 2** below. Note that this schedule is subject to change.



Membership calendar follows the standard calendar year and runs from January 1 to expiration on December 31. A Dues Statement is issued in December of every year for the upcoming year.

Members can take advantage of discounts on membership fees as described in **Table 2**. Partial payments will not be accepted.

If membership dues are not paid by April 30th, the membership will be considered **lapsed**.

Trainee membership, which is offered at free of cost, is considered expired after 3 years in fellowship unless an extension is requested. Trainee membership with expired status will be considered lapsed.

Table 2: Membership Dues Schedule

(New application payment is due within 30 days of application.)

Category	New Membership Fees (USD)	Existing Membership Renewal Yearly Fees (USD)
Voting Membership	\$150	Paid by March 31st \$150 (25% discount) \$200 After April 1 st onward
Non-voting Membership categories:		
• Associate Member	\$50	Paid by March 31st \$50 (33% discount) \$75 After April 1 st onward
• International Associate Member	\$50	Paid by March 31st \$50 (33% discount) \$75 After April 1 st onward
• Trainee Member	NONE	NONE
• Research Associate Member	NONE	NONE
• Emeritus Member	NONE	NONE

Membership dues can be paid as follows:

- **Secure online payment by credit card:** <https://www.carragroup.org/get-involved/healthcare-professionals/membership-dues-payment>



- Make the check payable to “**CARRA Inc.**” and send it along with the application or dues renewal invoice form to:

CARRA Inc.
700 Welch Rd, Suite 301
Palo Alto, CA 94304

All payments must be received at the CARRA Business Office by the payment deadline. Discounts are only provided to those whose payment is received at the CARRA Business Office by the required deadline. Payments received after the mentioned deadline will not be eligible to receive discounts.

E. Lapsed Membership

Generally, an individual whose membership lapses will lose ALL membership benefits immediately. This includes, but is not limited to, voting privileges in CARRA scientific and administrative affairs, access to the members’-only sections of the CARRA website, and the right to serve as a sponsor for other professionals wishing to join CARRA.

An individual with lapsed membership cannot serve as principal or co-principal investigator, or site PI of CARRA-sponsored studies. The respective positions will be reassigned to a member in good standing. Individuals with lapsed membership cannot apply for endorsement of their studies by CARRA.

Additionally, an individual with lapsed membership is not eligible for monetary support, including but not limited to grants or travel subsidies for the calendar year during which their membership lapsed, even if their membership is reinstated (see Section F).

F. Reinstatement after Membership Lapse

If the membership lapsed, a member may request reinstatement by payment of all owed dues plus an administrative fee.

The administrative fee for membership reinstatement for voting members is \$100 USD and for all other membership categories is \$50 USD.

In select cases a written request can be submitted to the CARRA Steering Committee requesting reinstatement of Membership privileges should extraordinary circumstances have been present that prohibited the payment of dues on time.