



MEMBERSHIP FINANCIAL SUPPORT (HARDSHIP)

Version #1, May 2020

Ratified by the NADTA Board: June 5, 2020

Introduction

Thank you for being a part of the North American Drama Therapy Association (NADTA) community. It is your connection with drama therapists, students, and allied professionals through membership in our organization that strengthens the profession. We are grateful to be in community with you. The NADTA is your professional home and exists to protect and promote the profession of drama therapy. Membership in the NADTA not only helps support our mission and is required to maintain the RDT credential, it also helps you as a drama therapist in more ways than you know. Being a member is the best way to participate in the future of our profession. Be sure to renew your membership to take advantage of all the benefits membership in NADTA has to offer.

The NADTA strives to make membership to the organization accessible to all, regardless of financial hardship or adversity. The NADTA also recognizes that, from time to time, members may experience personal financial difficulty due to various circumstances, including but not limited to child-related expenses, divorce, alimony, child support, college expenses for children, other family support obligations, repayment of student loans, illness, change of career path, loss of employment, or change in condition of employment due to uncontrollable events (e.g. natural disaster, pandemic, etc.). To this end, the NADTA offers membership and registry dues payment plans or dues relief options.

Objective

This policy is designed to ensure that the NADTA remains financially accessible to those seeking to gain and sustain membership and registry on an annual basis.

Scope

Applies to organization dues for membership and registry within the NADTA.

Policy

To establish a standard that is unbiased and open to all. Those seeking membership and registry who are unable to pay the full amount of dues may request assistance. The

NADTA will accommodate requests to the extent possible while maintaining the financial viability of the organization.

Procedure

- Procedure A – Installment Payment Option

Members may elect to pay annual dues in 4 equal installments, due by May 31st, August 31st, November 30th, and February 28th of the given year. The entire amount (all 4 payments) must be completed and paid in full no later than April 30th of the membership year for which the installment plan was arranged. Failure to complete the agreed-upon payments by April 30th of the membership year for which the installment plan was arranged will result in 1) an assessment of a late fee and the remaining balance being due 2) if this is not paid, the member will not have successfully renewed their membership for the annual period and 3) not be allowed to use the installment option in the future. If a member arranges to pay dues by the Installment Option and later finds this option still causes undue financial burden, the member may request dues relief for any balance of dues remaining.

Request Deadline for Installment Option: end of annual grace period, typically May 31st. In 2020, members had until July 31 due to the world health emergency.

To request to pay dues in installments, please contact the office at office@nadta.org.

- Procedure B – Dues Relief Option

In considering dues relief, the NADTA requests that members first consider the financial feasibility of the installment payment option. If unfeasible, members are eligible for a one-year reduction of dues by either 30%, 50%, or 100%. Dues Relief requests are strictly limited to two consecutive years unless extenuating circumstances exist. The NADTA will take into consideration serious financial hardship such as divorce, alimony, child support, college expenses for children, other family support obligations, repayment of student loans, change of career path, or other special fiscal considerations.

Request Deadline for Dues Relief Option: end of annual dues collection period, typically April 30th. In 2020, members had until July 31st due to the world health emergency. If a member has previously arranged to pay dues by the Installment Option and later finds this option still causes undue financial burden, the member may request dues relief for any balance of dues remaining at any time during the membership year for which the installment plan was arranged. To

request dues relief, submit a request for financial support in writing to the NADTA office. Requests for dues relief should include a brief statement of need.

Requests will be reviewed by the Board Executive Committee in consultation with the Membership Chair.

To request dues relief, please contact the office at office@nadta.org.



MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT FUND

Version #1, May 2020

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Introduction

In times when a significant number of members may be experiencing financial hardship (e.g. natural disaster, pandemic, etc), and the payment of organization dues for membership and registry within the NADTA may be a financial burden to a significant number of members, the NADTA may establish a relief fund to go toward providing financial support for members.

Objective

To provide a funding source for membership financial support (hardship), the membership support fund allows members to request dues relief and allows the NADTA to establish a fund to cover those costs.

Scope

Applies to organization dues for membership and registry with the NADTA.

Policy

The NADTA may, from time to time, establish a relief fund to which members may choose to donate. Monies will be used to support members who request dues relief.

Procedure

To set up a relief fund, the treasurer in consultation with the executive committee and in conjunction with the office, will create a mechanism (i.e. a PayPal link on the NADTA website) to collect donations and a means of tracking donations (i.e. a line item on the budget). Funds will be distributed to members requesting financial assistance until the fund is depleted. A full depletion of funds should not prohibit members from applying for dues relief as part of the NADTA Membership Financial Support (Hardship) Policy. Any leftover funds shall be used in a way that directly benefits members, such as a donation to the Drama Therapy Fund.