



In December 2021, the NCPH Board of Directors voted to approve the creation of three new member types, rate increases for current membership levels, and new benefits for some existing member types.

Rate and benefit increases will be implemented in mid-May when our new membership database, hosted by association management software Your Membership, launches. This new system will improve both the member experience and how the office communicates with you. We are currently working to build the new site and migrate information to it. As we get closer to the launch, we will communicate with you the information you'll need to make the transition as seamless as possible.

The New Membership Options

We are adding two new categories, at the same rates as our student membership, to make membership more accessible for underfunded public historians as well as those adjacent to our field.

Under-/Unemployed - \$37*

Many historians were let go or furloughed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and are still feeling the effects. Others, even before the pandemic, struggle to find positions in the field and continue to labor as volunteers or interns. We hope that offering this rate allows anyone in an underemployed status to be involved with NCPH and make use of our resources.

Public History Adjacent - \$37*

Members who join at this rate aren't self-described public historians, or don't practice public history as their primary career, but may work with public historians or have conducted related work. For example, a person who does grassroots work that connects a community with their history could join at this rate.

***Both of these new rates are available right now, while the dues increase for existing levels and the new database will be introduced in May.**

Institutional - \$250 (coming in May)

If your organization or institution is interested in accessing NCPH membership benefits for several staff members but you're seeking a more affordable option than our higher Partner and Patron levels of support, the new Institutional Membership may be right for you. This level is accompanied by the following benefits:

- 1 print copy of *The Public Historian*
- 3 log-ins for digital access to *The Public Historian*
- 1 print copy of *Public History News*
- 3 staff members receive the weekly *Public History News Update* e-blast
- 3 staff members receive the member rate at the annual meeting
- 3 staff members receive the member rate for mini-cons and webinars
- All staff can join the Members' Forum group on Facebook

Overview of the Membership Rate Increase

To cover the growing costs of our work and services, we must impose a small rate increase as follows:

- Student - \$37

- New Professional - \$47
- Retired - \$59
- Individual - \$84
- Sustaining - \$150
- Partner - \$450
- Patron - \$650

The increase for Partners and Patrons is accompanied by an increase in benefits as well, listed at <https://ncph.org/about/patrons-partners/>

It has been eight years since NCPH increased dues for membership, and in that time we have introduced a number of benefits that the rate increase will help cover. This includes in-person mini-cons and after work events, such as the upcoming [Dismantle Preservation Learning Lab](#), and [virtual programs](#) like the Consultants' Grumpy Hour and Public History Book Club. We also convened the [Teaching Public History Online Working Group](#) to support public history educators during the COVID-19 pandemic, and recently published the [40th Anniversary E-Pub](#).

This increase is also necessary to secure the ongoing stability of the organization and its staff and keep annual meeting registration fees low, which in turn helps us welcome the broadest possible audience of public historians, both pillars of the 2017-2022 Long Range Plan. The board had previously approved similar increases in 2019 but postponed implementation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These increases will also help subsidize costs for members that join or renew at one of the new membership types.

What do you have to do?

Not much! You are welcome to renew anytime between now and May to lock in your membership at the current rate for another year. When you renew before May, the system will automatically tack on a year of membership from the end of your current membership at the current rate. For example, if your membership is set to expire November 1, 2022, and you renew today, it will move your expiration date to November 1, 2023. (Note: You must be logged in to the system before it reflects an accurate renewal date.) If you renew after the new database launches in May then you will renew at the new rate.

After May 2022, when you join or renew it will be at the new rate and on our new system.