



Terms of Membership

November 2025

| Version | Purpose/ Change Summary | Approved by Board | Effective Date | Next Revision |
|---------|---|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1.0 | New Policy | 2022 | 2022 | 2025 |
| 2.0 | Updated policy – reflecting life member model | November 2025 | November 2025 | November 2028 |

1.0 Introduction

Terms of Membership of Parkinson's Ireland

This document is the Terms of Membership (the "Terms") as referred to in the Constitution of Parkinson's Ireland (PI) and should be read in conjunction with the Articles of Association section of that Constitution. This document deals with the arrangements that apply for membership of PI.

PI has three types of membership:

1. Ordinary Members
2. Associate Members
3. Honorary Members

All personal data provided by members to Parkinsons Ireland will be processed in line with Parkinsons Ireland's obligations under data protection law and in line with Parkinsons Ireland's privacy policy which is available at: <https://www.parkinsons.ie/about-us/governance/documents/>

The Directors of PI will consider applicants meeting the below criteria for membership of PI:

1. Members who qualify to become Ordinary Members of PI in accordance with the criteria set out below and their Ordinary membership subscriptions are paid (except in the case where an individual is entitled to honorary membership).
2. Applicants for membership will be required to complete a membership application and to pay the appropriate fee for their category of membership, where applicable. Upon acceptance, the term of membership shall be for life. It shall be a condition of membership of a Branch that the member shall be, and shall at all times continue to be, a member of PI. A branch member of Young Parkinson's Ireland (YPI) is a member of the YPI branch, local branch and a member of PI. Membership of a Branch shall cease forthwith upon the member ceasing to be a member of PI.
3. They subscribe to PI's values:
 - Obtaining and effectively communicating up-to-date practical information on Parkinson's, especially for those newly diagnosed;
 - Becoming a true nationwide representative body, aiming to provide the opportunity to come together to share ideas and concerns and support each other;
 - Organising informal social meetings as well as educational events in any area where there is an interest;
 - Lobbying for augmented research, health, financial & social benefits for those affected by Parkinson's;
 - Developing peer support structures for all affected including partners, family, carers and friends.

- Making Irish people more aware of the existence and effects of Parkinson's;
- Collaborating with other expert organisations.

The mechanism for subscribing to these values is by signing up to them on the membership application form.

4. They subscribe to the PI branch values

- The objectives of the Branch are to help and support those living with "Parkinson's".
- The promotion of research into the causes, prevention and cure of "Parkinson's".
- The dissemination to the public of the results of research, and other relevant information.
- The Branch will co-ordinate its activities with the Association and be responsible to it and accept its ruling in all matters of administration or otherwise.
- For attainment of the above objectives, the Branch agrees to adopt these guiding principles and to be constituted thereby.

5. They support PI's vision:

'Our vision is that the quality of life for people with Parkinson's & their families will be enhanced & that they will be presented with opportunities to link into a wider range of relevant services & supports.'

The following terms apply to all members:

- Members are requested to quote their name and branch to avail of preferential member rates and services. PI reserves the right to withdraw membership from members that do not adhere to these Terms and the PI Member and Volunteer Code of Conduct
- A member may terminate their membership at any time.
- The Board of Directors of PI reserves the right to amend, alter or add to the Terms.

Ordinary Members

Membership will ensure you are kept informed about developments in PI and allow you to have a say in the way PI operates and develops. Membership also means that we strengthen our voice in our lobbying and campaign work, aiming to improve the rights and entitlements of people affected by Parkinson's. Ordinary members shall have the right to receive notice all meetings of the Company and to attend and vote thereat;

Associate Members

An Associate member shall have such rights and privileges as may from time to time be granted by the Directors and prescribed by the Bye-Laws of the Company but shall not be entitled to receive notice of meetings of the Company. An Associate member is a nominated person (e.g. friend/family member/care partner/other loved one) nominated by an Ordinary or Honorary member.

Honorary Members

An Honorary member shall have the rights of an Ordinary member, but shall not be under any obligation to pay the membership fee;

Membership Fee: €50 which entitles a person to lifetime membership and includes Associate Membership for a nominated person (e.g. friend/family member/care partner/other loved one).

Process of reviewing the membership of a current member of PI:

1. Any concerns about any Ordinary Member's, Honorary Member's or Associate Member's adherence to PI's values that are brought to the attention of PI's staff or its board will be reviewed by the PI CEO in the first instance.
2. The reasons for the concern will be researched by the CEO.
3. If the CEO feels that the concerns equate to the member not adhering to PI's terms of Membership or the Member and Volunteer Code of Conduct, a report from the CEO will be brought to The PI board at its next scheduled meeting.
5. If the Board concurs with the recommendation of the CEO, the member will be informed that PI is triggering clause 2.5 of the Constitution which states that "The Directors may require a Member to resign his membership by serving notice upon the Member terminating his membership, such termination to take effect no earlier than the date of service of the notice of termination."