



Retirement Association

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

WHO CAN JOIN UW-MADISON RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (UWRA)?

In one simple word – “anyone” can join. The Association welcomes all retired and current employees from UW-Madison, UW Health, UW System Administration, Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association, Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, and other UW campuses. Additionally, membership is open to the employee’s spouse, partner, widow, or widower who may or may not be affiliated with the UW. Others with no affiliation other than friendship are welcome.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN UWRA?

Membership gives you an opportunity to stay connected to the university, former colleagues, and meet new people; take advantage of a variety of great offerings and continue lifelong learning. UWRA is your network in retirement.

WHEN CAN I JOIN UWRA?

You can join UWRA at any time, but all memberships renew on July 1.

WHAT ARE THE DUES?

Members may choose from among the following categories:

- ***Annual*** (one-year membership) **\$20**
- ***Bargain*** (six years for the price of five) **\$100**
- ***Out-of-area*** (half-price if living outside 535, 537, and 539 ZIP codes; electronic newsletter only) **\$10**
- ***Out-of-area bargain*** (6 years for price of 5 years - half-price if living outside 535, 537, and 539 ZIP codes; electronic newsletter only) **\$50**
- ***Lifetime*** (nonrefundable and only available if one member of the household is receiving a Wisconsin Retirement System annuity) **\$300**
- ***Not yet retired*** (half-price membership, with electronic newsletter only) **\$10**

DOES THE MEMBERSHIP FEE COVER ALL UWRA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS?

For the most part, yes. The membership fee includes a subscription to the Association newsletter, *The Sifter*, access to password-protected member only section of the UWRA website, and participation in seminars/presentations. For special events, e.g., luncheons, and day trips, there may be an additional fee.

IS UWRA’S MEMBERSHIP FEE TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

No. UWRA is a nonprofit corporation organized under Wisconsin law and is recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under section 501(c)(4).

IS THERE A MINIMUM AGE FOR ME TO BE A MEMBER OF UWRA?

No. While UWRA is your network in retirement, people of all ages are welcome to join. Many members join the association before they retire. Approximately 2% of our membership are currently not yet retired.

CAN NON-MEMBERS ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN UWRA'S ACTIVITIES?

Yes. Members are welcome to bring guests to programs, seminar presentations, lunches, and day trips.

IS THERE A LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF EVENTS A MEMBER MAY ATTEND?

No.

AM I REQUIRED TO PRE-REGISTER FOR UWRA EVENTS?

Pre-registration is required for UWRA events. Members are encouraged to register online for programs, hands-on sessions, lunches, and day trips.

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHAT IS BEING OFFERED?

As soon as presentation and programs are finalized, information is posted on the UWRA website. The events include information about the speaker(s), topic, location, and registration deadline, etc. Similar information is printed in the monthly newsletter, *The Sifter*.

WHO ARE THE PROGRAM PRESENTERS?

UWRA strives to bring topic area experts from throughout our community. Many are civic leaders, State of Wisconsin officials, University staff, or private industry professionals.

WHO DETERMINES WHAT TOPIC ARE OFFERED?

UWRA is an association that is driven by the various committees. These committees determine the topics to be covered, contact speakers, and make arrangements for the event. Program evaluations and suggestions from event audiences help to direct future topics and speakers.

WHERE ARE UWRA ACTIVITIES HELD?

UWRA activities take place in a variety of community locations throughout the Madison area. However, in compliance with state and county COVID-19 health guidelines, programs are currently being presented virtually.

IF I JOIN UWRA, WILL I BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESENTATIONS AND BE REQUIRED TO JOIN A COMMITTEE?

You can be as active and involved as you want and as your personal situation allows. While UWRA is always looking for new ideas and new perspectives, the level of participation is your choice.

HOW CAN I BECOME INVOLVED IN UWRA'S ADMINISTRATION?

The short answer is simply to ask. For more information about volunteering contact any Board Officer, Director, Committee Chair, or Executive Director. UWRA is always looking for more members to become involved in its activities.

ARE MEETINGS OF UWRA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS? IF SO, HOW DO I KNOW WHEN THEY ARE HELD, SO I CAN ATTEND?

All members are welcome to attend UWRA'S Board and Committee meetings. All meetings are posted on the website at UWRAmadison.org.