

San Diego Mensa Dues Subsidy Policy

(Effective 3 October 2024)

San Diego Mensa may provide a subsidy for yearly American Mensa, Ltd. (AML) dues to individuals who demonstrate a need for such a subsidy and who are

- current members in good standing, or
- former members not under any sanction, or
- persons who have been offered membership.

The Dues Subsidy Fund shall be funded by donation and handled by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall report the balance in the Dues Subsidy Fund to the Ombudsman at the beginning of each membership year.

Any applicant for a dues subsidy must submit an application to the Ombudsman. The application should be in the form of a written communication to the Ombudsman explaining the applicant's need for a subsidy, the amount of the subsidy being requested, and the applicant's history of service to San Diego Mensa and/or AML, if any. The Ombudsman will respond in writing to each applicant within thirty days of receiving the request, with either a decision or a request for more information.

The annual amount of each individual subsidy will be determined by the Ombudsman, based on the Ombudsman's determination of the applicant's need as well as whether the applicant participates or volunteers in Mensa activities, and any limitations the applicant has with regard to participation. The subsidy will be limited to between 25% and 75% of the annual dues payable to AML in that membership year. Every individual dues subsidy shall be considered a one-time award. A new application must be submitted for each AML dues year.

Upon approving a subsidy, the Ombudsman shall

- inform the applicant in writing both of the approval and the amount of the subsidy
- determine an appropriate amount of time for the recipient to pay the unsubsidized portion of the dues to AML
- communicate the amount of the subsidy and this time period to AML
- inform San Diego Mensa's Treasurer of the subsidy amount to send to AML

If, at the expiration of the determined time period AML has not received the unsubsidized amount from the recipient, AML will refund San Diego Mensa's contribution. The Ombudsman and Treasurer shall keep any names of applicants and the amounts of any dues subsidies confidential.

At the June San Diego Mensa Board meeting, the Ombudsman shall report the total number of subsidized members, if any, to the Board. At that same meeting, the Treasurer shall report the balance in the Dues Subsidy Fund to the Board. If further dues subsidies are granted during the membership year, the Ombudsman and Treasurer shall report to the Board at the next scheduled meeting.