



Criteria for Primary Membership

Each member organization is urged to comply voluntarily. Beginning in 1980, membership has been predicated upon an organization's certifying that it is in compliance. The following elements are listed as standards against which any agency can be judged as to the appropriateness of its membership in LeadingAge and LeadingAge New York.

1. The member facility shall have an identifiable controlling entity, which has the following characteristics:
 - a. Not-for-profit corporation or trust,
 - b. Charitable intent and purpose,
 - c. Eligible for 501(c) (3), 501(c) 4), 501(c)(6),
 - d. May be public, charity or private foundation.
2. The member facility must be governed by a bona fide volunteer board of trustees (board of directors) which regularly participates in review of its philosophy and purpose and which is fiscally and programmatically accountable and responsible to the person served, to the sponsoring group and the broader community.
3. A procedure for identifying and dealing with cases of duality or possible conflict of interest are stated preferably in the bylaws of the organization.
4. Sponsorship of the member organization is rooted in a community, i.e., a neighborhood group, minority group, ethnic group, church, religious, and/or fraternal organization.
5. The member organization is committed to the development of community linkages and services, both for the wellbeing of the person served, as well as that of the larger community and should assure continuity of care either within the home or elsewhere through conscientious planning.
6. The member organization shall have a non-discriminatory policy indicating that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in its program for services because of race, color or national origin.
7. The member organization is licensed according to the levels of care it purports to provide within the context of local requirements.

Compliance:

1. Each member organization will certify that it accepts the standards and is in compliance at time of renewal of its annual dues. New members will certify by means of a resolution of their board. The administrative officer and chief executive officer of the board will certify at the time of renewal.
2. Compliance will be assumed until a complaint has been filed.
3. The policy and procedures of compliance as outlined will be policed only by exception.