

Frequently Asked Questions about the Membership Requirement

What if I already have a membership?

- Then you're all set. You don't need to change a thing.
- Thank you for supporting the Arboretum with your membership dollars and your time.

Why do I want a membership?

- If you work here, you should be able to enjoy the fruits of your labor.
- It allows for better tracking at the Gatehouse.
- Volunteers who are members will receive all news, invites, and discounts as members.
- The more you know about what's happening at the Arboretum, the more effective you can be as an ambassador to our guests.
- We're a non-profit, and this is another way to support the Arboretum's programs, gardens, and educational opportunities. Only 10% of our entire budget comes from the University of Minnesota. That money is designated for the Horticultural Research Center.
- Requiring membership for volunteers allows us to set up a grant fund for volunteers who do not have membership in their budget.

What if I can't afford a membership?

- We can help! It's our goal to make membership possible for all volunteers. Solo Memberships are available for anyone who doesn't have membership in their budget. There are two choices for the Solo Membership. You may receive a subsidy (where you pay an amount decided by you and the rest is covered by the Arboretum) or you may choose to receive one at no charge.
- We do ask that volunteers who receive a membership at no charge commit to *25 hours per year*.

How do I get a subsidized or complimentary membership?

- It's as easy as contacting the Volunteer Center. Please do so by email arvol@umn.edu or phone 612 301-1203.
- Your request will be shared only with the relevant Departments (Volunteer Center and Membership). Fellow volunteers and most of our staff will not know your status.

Where do I go to find out more?

Please come to the Volunteer Center, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. or make an appointment to speak with the Volunteer Program Coordinator.