



NABJ AFFILIATION FACT SHEET

WHY BECOME AN NABJ AFFILIATE?

As an affiliate of the National Association of Black Journalists, your local group will be affiliated with a progressive, professional organization that constantly strives to unite Black journalists dedicated to excellence and diversity in news coverage and full equality in the industry.

NABJ programs are conducted in part through workshops and panel discussions offered during the annual national convention, as well as by each of NABJ's regions. Forums are available to working journalists in both print and broadcast, and many sessions are targeted at journalists who are moving into management.

The organization also offers professional development and technical training for professionals and students through the NABJ Media Institute. The Institute is headquartered at the NABJ national office on the campus of the University of Maryland, but its programs are often held at venues around the country.

Special efforts are made to encourage Black students to pursue careers in the media. Seasoned professionals are available to offer guidance and personal critiques. In recent years, the NABJ Job Fair has expanded, and now enjoys the participation of some of the largest and most prestigious media organizations in the country. For journalists considering new career opportunities, the Job Fair, as well as the informal networking that naturally occurs, provides a wealth of contacts.

As an affiliate of NABJ, your local organization will have at its disposal all the resources and expertise of the national organization. In addition, NABJ chapters are eligible to host regional conferences and the national convention. Members of an NABJ chapter also eligible for discounted registration fees at regional and national meetings.

By becoming a NABJ chapter, your local organization can join the efforts to establish an extensive network of Black media professionals and organizations that together can be a unified force.

HOW TO BECOME A NABJ AFFILIATE

NABJ recognizes that many journalism organizations have developed independently and often have unique characteristics.

To maintain its integrity and mission, NABJ must adhere to its membership and affiliation standards. The constitution and bylaws of any potential chapter applying for affiliation must reflect its intent.

Two types of NABJ chapters make up NABJ: **Professional Chapters** - comprised primarily of working Black Journalists, and **Student Chapters** - composed largely of Black students enrolled in colleges or universities who are pursuing careers in journalism.

A chapter or local organization of five or more Black journalists who meet the criteria for full NABJ membership may seek affiliate status as a professional chapter. The following requirements must be met at the time of application and the application must include:

- A letter from the regional director stating why the organization is a candidate for NABJ affiliation.
- A letter from the chapter president stating brief history, as well as goals and purpose of the group.
- A copy of the chapter's constitution and bylaws. The constitution and bylaws must be consistent with NABJ's mission and must be approved by the NABJ Constitution/Operating Procedures Committee.
- A membership roster for the chapter listing each member's media affiliation and position.
- At the time of the application and at the time of the annual review of the application, the organization must submit to NABJ a membership roster showing that two-thirds of the affiliate members are eligible for NABJ status as full, associate or student members.
- Candidates for president and/or chair of the local board and the vice president(s) of the organization must be full members of NABJ.

A group composed principally of five or more Black college or university students interested in pursuing a career in journalism may seek affiliation as a Student Chapter. The following requirements must be met at the time of application and the application must include:

- A letter from the regional director stating why the organization is a candidate for NABJ affiliation.
- A letter of nomination from the student chapter adviser.
- A letter from the chapter president stating brief history, as well as goals and purpose of the group.
- A letter of nomination from the local professional chapter, if there is a local professional chapter in close proximity.
- A copy of the chapter's constitution and bylaws. The constitution and bylaws must be consistent with NABJ's mission and must be approved by the NABJ Constitution/Operating Procedures Committee.
- A membership roster for the chapter listing each member's classification in school and major.
- A copy of the school's newspaper.
- The organization must have a full-time journalism professor or a professional full member of NABJ as its adviser.
- When possible, the organization should have the support and assistance of a local professional NABJ chapter
- At the time of the application and at the time of the annual review of the application, the organization must submit to NABJ a membership roster showing that two-thirds of the affiliate members are eligible for NABJ status as student members.

- Candidates for president and/or chair of the local board and the vice president(s) of the organization must be NABJ members.

All affiliation applications must be sent to NABJ's Membership Committee for review and will be presented at a board meeting for consideration by your regional director. Board meetings typically are held every January, April, July/August and October. The NABJ Board of Directors will decide whether affiliate status will be granted.

All materials must be received by the national office by **December 1** for review at the January board meeting, **March 1** for review at the April board meeting, **July 1** for review at the July/August board meeting and **September 1** for review at the October board meeting.

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