

Constitutional Amendment_Article III Membership

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Active Employee Membership: All members of the Wisconsin locals of the American Federation of Teachers, who are actively employed as educational professionals or public employees, other than those affiliated with the Wisconsin Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (WFNHP), are members of AFT-Wisconsin (AFT-W). Provided, however, that members of locals affiliated with WFNHP shall become members of AFT-W if WFNHP affiliates with AFT-W.

Section 2. All Wisconsin locals affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), other than those affiliated with the Wisconsin Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (WFNHP), must affiliate with AFT-Wisconsin (AFT-W). Provided, however, if WFNHP affiliates with AFT-W, all Wisconsin Local affiliated with WFNHP must affiliate with AFT-W.

Section 3. Other Membership Categories.

(a) **At Large Membership:** Any education professional or other public employees, who are active employees, residing outside of the jurisdiction of an established local may be a ~~member of the nearest local or a~~ member at large of the State Federation. The State Executive Board shall determine procedures for participation by these at large members in all activities of the State Federation, except where other constitutional provisions apply.

(b) **Retire Membership:** Retired members of any AFT local or retired members at large are eligible for membership in the AFT-Wisconsin Retiree Council. The exclusive source of voting rights of members of the AFT-Wisconsin Retiree Council are provided in Article VIII, Section 4 of the Constitution.

(c) **Associate Membership:** Where a local of the American Federation of Teachers exists in or near a college or university having a department of education, that local may accept prospective teachers as associate members. Associate members shall have only visitor's privileges at the state and national conventions. A student teacher may also be accepted as a member at large of the State Federation.

(d) At Large Officer Membership: Once an officer is elected and holds a full-time, release position for AFT-Wisconsin, they shall transition from Active Employee Member to At Large Officer Member of the State Federation. They shall hold this membership status until they are no longer in office.

Submitted by the AFT-W Executive Board
The AFTW Executive Board recommends adoption.

<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as Amended
<input type="checkbox"/> Defeated

White Paper: Changes to Section 1 clarify to address concerns raised in Tim Hawk's legal memo to define who is an Active Employee Member and who is eligible to participate at convention.

Changes to Section 3 are intended to clarify and define the different categories of membership.

Section 3 (d) was added to allow a member to take a full-time position with AFT-Wisconsin upon election and continue to serve. Prior to ACT 10, unions had clauses in their contract to allow an employee to take a leave of absence to serve as a full-time employee of a labor union with the ability to return to their previous employer. Since ACT 10 and the cessation of collective bargaining in Wisconsin, that option is no longer available.