



Membership Policy

The scientific, educational, and charitable **mission** of Dryad is to promote the availability of data underlying findings in the scientific literature for research and educational reuse.

The **vision** of Dryad is a scholarly communication system in which learned societies, publishers, institutions of research and education, funding bodies and other stakeholders collaboratively sustain and promote the preservation and reuse of data underlying the scholarly literature.

As a nonprofit membership organization, Dryad relies on input from the broad community of stakeholders in research, education and scholarly communication for governance and support in making irreplaceable data resources available for present and future generations of researchers and educators.

Governance

Dryad is governed by a twelve-member [Board of Directors](#), elected by its Members at the Annual Membership Meeting.

Membership is open to organizations that support and advance the mission of Dryad. This includes the full spectrum of stakeholder organizations, such as journals, learned societies, publishers, research institutions, libraries, and funding bodies. Since both journals and their publishers are eligible to join Dryad, a journal can have a direct voice in Dryad's affairs by becoming a voting member, or a journal can be associated with Dryad through its publisher. Dryad does not offer memberships to individuals.

Becoming a member

Dryad members have a say in the organization by participating in annual meetings, electing the Board of Directors, and providing input on strategic directions and other matters of importance. Journals which are members of Dryad, or are produced by publishers which are members, receive a discount on data deposit fees.

Organizations interested in joining Dryad may complete the [online membership application](#) or request an application by contacting **director@datadryad.org**. Applications will be reviewed by the Dryad Board of Directors.

Annual membership meeting

There is an annual meeting of Dryad members every May at which members learn about the progress of Dryad, discuss its future direction, vote on policy matters and the budget, and elect one-third of the members of Dryad Board of Directors. The meeting also provides a forum for sharing knowledge and coordinating action around data policies. Each member organization is asked to send a representative.

Election of the Board of Directors

Four Directors are elected each calendar year by the members at the annual meeting. Each term is three years, and Directors may not serve for more than two consecutive terms. Each member has one vote in the election of the Board of Directors, and the election is determined by a simple majority. Directors serve as individuals rather than representatives of any organization. The Board of Directors is expected to be a diverse group of people, with a mix of backgrounds and skills representing the various stakeholders. Nominations for people to serve on the Board of Directors are welcomed from all members. These can be forwarded to the Chair of the Board of Directors or the chair of the Governance Committee by emailing **director@datadryad.org**.

Member discounts for associated journals

Dryad charges modest fees for depositing data. These fees are the main source of financial sustainability for Dryad, which operates on a not-for-profit basis. Fees may be paid by journals or by authors using a variety of flexible payment plans. Journals which are members of Dryad or are produced by publishers which are members receive a discount on deposit fees.

What are the costs of membership?

Membership in Dryad requires an annual membership fee, which is scaled based on the annual budget of the candidate member organization. For organizations whose gross annual revenue is less than US\$10 million, the annual membership fee is US\$1000. For organizations whose gross revenue exceeds US\$10 million, the annual membership fee is US\$5000. Membership runs January through December.

In addition, member organizations need to appoint a representative to Dryad, who is authorized to vote and communicate on the organization's behalf. These representatives are requested to attend the Annual Meeting of Dryad. In the event that a representative (or a replacement chosen by the member) cannot attend the annual meeting, that member may participate electronically in the election of board members and any votes on changes to the bylaws.

Appendix: [Dryad Bylaws](#)
