



## 2025 Information about Iowa Shares for Potential New Members

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### I. About Iowa Shares

Iowa Shares is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation, providing financial and other support for member nonprofit organizations across the state of Iowa that are active in programs directed toward community improvement, social change, and/or citizen education and empowerment. The primary goal of Iowa Shares is to provide significant ongoing funding through workplace fundraising for organizations that meet the above criteria.

Membership shall be drawn from organizations that address issues of importance to the community, including but not limited to the following: unemployment, hunger, health care, fair housing, consumer protection, environmental concerns, social justice, peace, economic inequality, civil rights and civil liberties, and animal welfare.

Iowa Shares member organizations are 501(c)3 non-profit organizations or are affiliated with a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Iowa Shares offers two levels of membership:

*Full membership* is available to non-profit organizations that can actively participate in the ongoing operation of Iowa Shares. They have access to funds that donors designate for their non-profit and to a portion of funds that are not designated for any specific non-profit.

*Associate membership* is available to non-profit organizations that do not actively participate in the ongoing operation of Iowa Shares. Associate members pay a smaller membership fee but only have access to the designated funds that donors direct specifically to their non-profit.

### II. Raising Funds Through Iowa Shares

Most of the funds raised come from the annual fall campaign, held in various workplaces in Iowa.

#### *Public Sector*

Iowa Shares, and other federations in Iowa, can participate in public sector campaigns in Iowa, such as school districts, counties, and cities. All public sector employees can give contributions through payroll deduction to health, human services, social justice, and environmental organizations at the local level.

#### *Private Sector*

Iowa Shares hopes to recruit private organizations and businesses to allow workplace giving and encourages its member nonprofits to participate in that effort.

#### *Designated and Undesignated Donations*

Iowa Shares gives its donors the opportunity to choose to donate to:

- Specific nonprofit member organizations (designated donations)
- Specific non-Iowa Shares member, nonprofit organizations that do not belong to the Iowa Shares network
- The General Fund (undesignated donations)
- Iowa Shares Administration

- Cash contributions made to Iowa Shares outside the campaign process go to the administrative budget.

Designated Donations

Designated funds will be given to the designated member organization minus the 15% administrative fee.

Undesignated Donation

The General Fund (or undesignated fund) is distributed only to full member organizations that are working on a Point System basis. By participating in meetings, committee work, campaigns and fundraising, members can earn points. The more points an organization earns, the more money they receive from the General Fund. This is fair because more points mean that the organization has chosen to take on a larger amount of work. The 15% administrative fee will be taken from undesignated donations before they are distributed to full members.

Donations Made to Non-Member Organizations

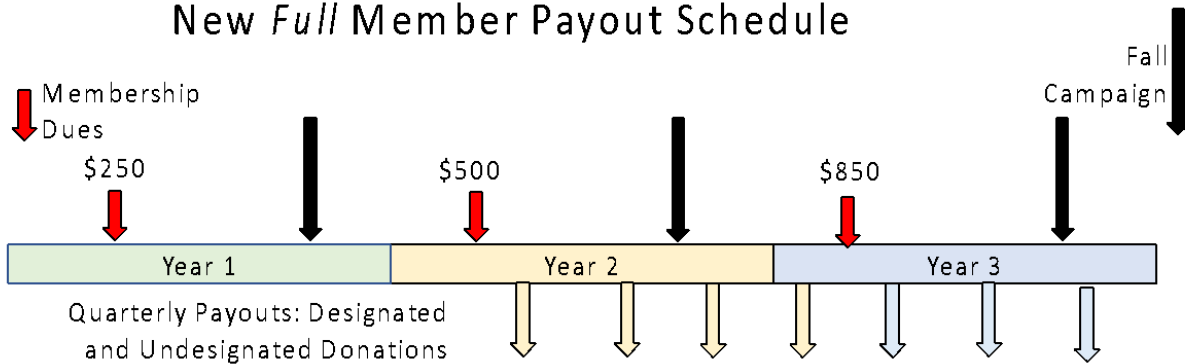
Iowa Shares accepts pledges and donations made through Iowa Shares to non-profit organizations that are not members. An administrative fee is 20% is deducted for these donations.

**Please note:** A new member must pay its dues in full by June 1 of the year in which it joins. It will not receive any payout funds until May of the following year.

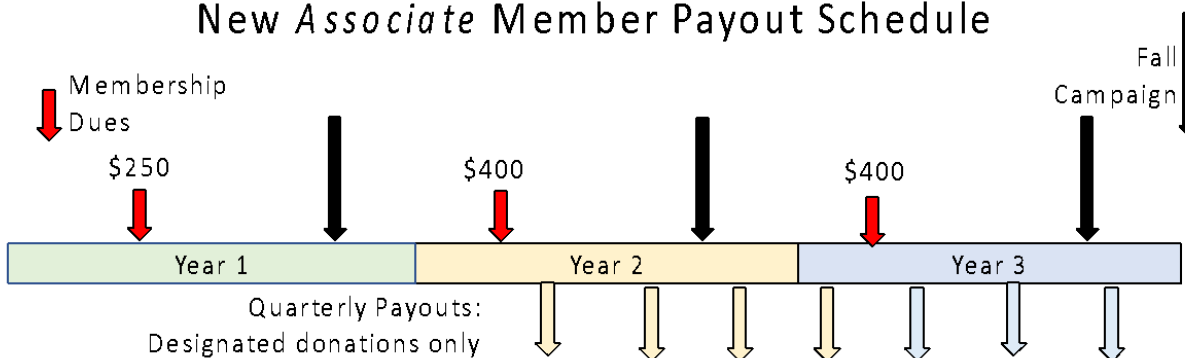
**When Donations are Raised vs. When Donations are Distributed**

Membership dues and payout schedule

**New Full Member Payout Schedule**



**New Associate Member Payout Schedule**



### *Examples of Donations Raised Over One Year*

In 2020, full Iowa Shares member organizations received – after administration fees and membership payments were removed – between \$161.15 (lowest) and \$8,518.91 (highest) in payouts. Associate member organizations received between \$552.55 (lowest) and \$3,325.18 (highest) in payouts. Please remember that the size of a member organization's payouts for a year is determined by:

- The amount of designated donations it received, and
- The percentage of the undesignated donations it earned through participation in the administration of Iowa Shares, as measured by a points system (full members only).

### *Distribution Withholding for Emergency Expenses*

In emergency situations for which Iowa Shares does not have enough money to cover its administrative and operating expenses, one quarter's payout might be withheld from all member organizations. This has not occurred in recent years.

## **III. How Iowa Shares Benefits Member Organizations**

### *Networking*

Your organization becomes part of a dynamic coalition of diverse nonprofit organizations working together to better our communities and our state. Membership in Iowa Shares provides great opportunities to connect with other nonprofits from across the state to share best practices, resources, education, and motivation!

### *Visibility*

Iowa Shares publications, website, and campaigns help market your nonprofit to potential new donors that you may not have been able to reach before. Information about your organization—and how to support it—is distributed to thousands of workplace employees across the state during each campaign season.

### *Funding*

Workplace giving provides an alternative source of unrestricted funding to your agency that is usually not available to you as an individual organization. Donors also often give more to their favorite charity because their contribution can be spread out over time.

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