

Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

Life Members Guidelines

About Life Membership in Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization

According to the provisions of Section 14 through Section 16 and Subsections 1-5 of the Constitution & By-laws of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, "Life Membership" will be granted to any Organized Lay Member of the Fifth Episcopal District.

Section 14:

A.) Life Membership designee will be established for those members of the Fifth District Lay Organization who have served the District as officers and/or standing committee chairpersons for a period of not less than eight (8) years,

OR

B.) Life Membership designee must have served 16 years of continuous/meritorious service in the Lay Organization, they have provided outstanding leadership and, have made outstanding contribution to the Lay Organization, that he/she is an active member of his/her Local and Conference Lay Organization for a period of not less than four (4) continuous quadrennials. Upon recommendation, all of the requirements must be met and the recommendation must be submitted through the Life Member nomination form, accompanied with the resume/ bio and enrollment fee.

C.) All such recommendations shall be reviewed by the Fifth District Lay Organization Life Member Committee Chairperson of the Conference prior to consideration by the Fifth District Lay President, Fifth District Lay Organization Executive Board and shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay membership present at the time of voting during the annual Fifth District convention.

D.) Once the Life Member nominee is approved by the Fifth District Lay Organization Life Member Committee Chairperson of the Conference, and then the Fifth District Lay President, Fifth District Lay Organization Executive Board and by the majority vote of the convention body the nominee becomes a Life Member for a lifetime. Excluding voting rights, Life Member(s) will receive and acquire all of the privileges as set forth in the Constitution and By-laws of the 5th Episcopal District Lay Organization as well as being a member in good and regular standing in their Local Lay Organization.

E.) All newly nominated Life Members will be responsible to pay a one-time enrollment fee.

Subsection 1. Life members should continue to be active in their Local and Conference Lay Organization as long as their health permits.

Subsection 2. Life members, who are not elected delegates, will receive a 25% discount on registration to the 5th Episcopal District lay Convention. This discount does not pertain to any other district meetings or events.

Subsection 2a. When a Life Member is elected a delegate to the 5th Episcopal District Lay Organization or is an elected officer serving at the 5th Episcopal District Lay level, then the status and privileges associated with being a Life Member to the District Lay Organization suspends.

Subsection 3. Excluding voting rights, Life members shall be extended all the rights and privileges of other active members of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization as set forth in Section 14D.

Subsection 4. When a Life Member relocates to different conference within the 5th Episcopal District, he/she will remain as a Life Member representative from the conference where he/she was nominated from.

Subsection 5: Any provisions or condition not expressly covered in either the Constitution & By-laws of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization shall be interpreted and construed in keeping with the long established policy, custom, tenets and traditions of African Methodist Episcopal Church, the AME Book of Discipline and Roberts Rules of Order, newly revised edition.

Section 15

Life Membership Processing Procedures:

1. Any member of the Local Lay Organization can make a nomination to their Conference for Life Membership.
2. Applications are made available through the 5th District Lay's Life Membership Chairperson.
3. All application forms must have the required signatures such as Local and Conference Lay Presidents and must be accompanied by one-time enrollment fee as stated on the application form. (See Section 14 #E) All Monies go directly to Financial Secretary. A copy of the check, resume/bio and application is sent to the 5th District Lay's Life Membership Chairperson.

4. Members requesting Life Membership will have to apply no later than one month (30 days) prior to the annual convention meeting of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization.
5. Any Application form and a one page resume/bio should be sent for the person desiring Life Membership status to the 5th District Lay Chairperson with the one-time enrollment fee.
6. Depending upon appropriate vacancies (see Section 15: 8), Life Membership will be granted to conferences with vacancies. Vacancies will be reviewed and filled once during the Conference Year.
7. A Conference cannot have and will not be approved for more than seven (7) District Life Members, however the Conference may have as many Life Members it sees fit.
8. No additional Life Member application will be approved or accepted if the Conference has more than a total of seven (7) names unless the death of one of the Life Member has occurred during the Conference year and before the thirty (30) day annual convention meeting rule (See procedure number 4).

Section 16

Life Membership Benefits:

1. Assigned Seating during the Convention: Life Members shall have special seating status at all Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Conventions and worship services.
2. Life Members Jacket: Each Member is responsible for purchasing his/her Jacket.
3. Assigned Processional Line Up: Life Members will march in together at the worship services behind the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Officers.
4. Financial Discounts: Life Members shall have discounts on Registration fee not to exceed 25% to the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Conventions if not a delegate or 5th District Lay Organization office.
5. Awards: Life Members will receive a plaque showing the year of inauguration paid for by the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization from the Life Member Program Guidelines budget.
6. Life Member Pin: Life Members will receive a special Life Membership pin(s).

7. Rights/Privileges: Excluding voting rights, Life Members shall have the privilege and honor of being part of the Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization Executive Board meetings, but will not be paid a stipend to attend conventions/meetings unless he/she is an actual Executive Board Member.

8. The Fifth Episcopal District Lay Organization will only be responsible for the benefits as specifically stated on line item number four (4) only.

The cost of the royal blue blazer for women and men Life Members are \$59.00 and extra charge for plus sizes in addition doesn't include tax/shipping. You can view the blazer on the website at www.blazerdepot.com, but does not include the cost of monogramming the blazer.

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