

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

SIDNEY-SHELBY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Sidney-Shelby County Chamber of Commerce (the "Chamber") is a membership organization serving Shelby County, Ohio. It has more than 500 members. The following document reflects the Chamber's Membership policies, which are subject to change with Board approval.

Chamber Membership Terms

The Chamber is an Ohio not for profit corporation that is qualified under Section 501(c)6 of the Internal Revenue Code. Active membership in this corporation shall be open to any person, association, partnership, corporation, Limited Liability Company or other entity having an interest in the mission and purposes of the Chamber. A prospective new member shall comply with those requirements for admission to membership, including the payment of dues that are established by the Chamber's Board of Directors.

Admission of Members

Prospective members are required to pay Chamber membership dues in full at the time of application. Membership dues in year one are pro-rated and covers the balance of the current calendar year. Chamber memberships are renewable each calendar year on January 1st. In addition to pro-rated dues in year one, new members pay a one-time processing fee. (This fee does not apply to second and subsequent-year members.) Membership dues are generally based on employee count except in cases of banks, out of county businesses, individual memberships, and not for profit organizations. Dues for all membership categories are based on the following formulas:

Type of business	Dues based on:
General Business:	Base rate plus a variable cost per full time and part time employee(s)
Banks:	Base rate plus a variable cost for total cash deposits in Shelby County
Out of County Businesses:	Flat fee
Individuals:	Flat fee
Not for Profits:	Flat fee

Dues, which are subject to change in price and formula, are payable in advance and are continuous until cancelled in writing in advance of the due date.

Chamber membership dues may be deductible for Federal income tax purposes as an ordinary and necessary business expense (not as a charitable contribution). However, members should consult their own tax advisors for specific tax information and advice.

Honorary Members

Honorary membership in the Chamber may be conferred by the Board of Directors upon persons who or entities that have distinguished themselves in public or business affairs or have been of special service to the Chamber and its mission and purposes. Such honorary membership shall be granted based on the unique circumstances of each relationship. Honorary members shall have all the rights and privileges of active members but shall not be required to pay dues.

Termination of Membership

Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors, the Board, acting at a meeting called for such purpose, may suspend the privileges of any member or expel any member for any improper conduct of such member that may be at variance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Amended Code of Regulations, the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors, that pose a challenge to the Chamber achieving its mission, or is believed to be incongruent with the values of the Chamber. Notice of the meeting and the purpose for which it is called shall be given to any such member not less than three nor more than 30 days before the date fixed for such meeting and such member shall be given the opportunity to appear and defend against any allegation of improper conduct.

Non-Payment of Dues

Chamber members who do not pay membership dues within 90 days of the due date may have their membership cancelled. In any such case, the Chamber will notify the member of the cancellation, which shall require no further action by the Chamber.

Privacy Statement

The Chamber is committed to protecting the privacy of its members' personal information. This commitment applies with respect to information we collect from visitors to the Chamber's web site, located at www.sidneyshelbychamber.com, and to information we collect necessary to process commercial transactions initiated by customers. The Chamber owns and has sole authority concerning the use of all member data it collects. Further, the Chamber will not share member email addresses with other members or outside entities unless given expressed permission to do so.

Logo Use

The Chamber licenses its membership logo for display only by Chamber members in good standing. Images may not be modified in any way. If the logo is used on a member's website, it should be linked to the Chamber's website at www.sidneyshelbychamber.com. Any other use of the image requires prior written permission from the Chamber President. Downloading and displaying a Chamber membership logo constitutes acceptance of these terms.