



Associate Membership Application

The Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN) is the leading trade association representing ingredient suppliers and manufacturers of dietary supplements and functional foods including vitamins, minerals, and botanical products. CRN and its members are committed to providing consumers with safe, effective products made to quality standards. CRN's mission is to enhance and sustain a climate for our member companies to responsibly market dietary supplements and their ingredients by maintaining and improving confidence among consumers, media, government leaders, regulators, healthcare professionals and other decision makers with respect to our members' products.

Associate Members—Any company or person who supplies services, products (other than dietary ingredients) or other support to a company or person eligible for Voting membership is eligible for Associate membership. This includes testing laboratories, consultants, law firms, packaging manufacturers, machinery providers, consumer research firms, trade media, and many others. A company who manufactures a dietary supplement, functional food or dietary ingredient or markets or distributes a dietary supplement, functional food or dietary ingredient under its own brand qualifies as a Voting Member of CRN and may not join as an Associate Member. Associate Members may apply to upgrade their membership to Voting status by paying dues as a Voting Member. Dues for Associate Members are \$3,000 per year.

To become a member of CRN, complete and return this application to CRN along with your dues check. Applications require the approval of CRN's Board of Directors.

For more information about CRN membership, please contact CRN's Director, Membership Development, Carl Hyland at 202-204-7674 or chyland@crnusa.org.

1. Tell us about your company

Company Name (as it should appear on our membership list):

Primary Company Contact _____ Title _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Primary Contact E-Mail _____ Company Website _____

Company President / CEO _____

President's Phone _____ President's E-Mail _____

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Please provide a brief paragraph that describes your company and its business (*or attach a separate page*):

2. Determine your company's dues

Associate/International Applicants

Dues Policy— Applicants shall submit a check in the appropriate amount as payment in full with the application.

Dues rates:

- Associate Member \$3,000
- International Member \$5,000

3. Enclosed is a check for my company's dues for:

\$ _____

3. Sign and certify the information provided

I certify that the information included with this application is true and complete to the extent of my knowledge, and I understand that my signature below indicates my obligation to fulfill my commitment.

This application will be complete only when the above information and a check in the appropriate amount have been received by CRN. The application must be signed by an officer or senior executive in your company. Dues are non-refundable once the application has been approved by CRN's Board of Directors.

I have read the CRN Code of Ethics (attached hereto) and verify that my company is in compliance with these voluntary, self-regulatory actions by which CRN member companies agree to abide.

Company Contact (please print) _____

Title _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail the completed application, dues, and supporting documents to:

Member Services
Council for Responsible Nutrition
1828 L Street, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20036

OR fax to: (202) 204-7701

OR e-mail to: chyland@crnusa.org.

Contact Carly Hyland at 202-204-7674, chyland@crnusa.org, with any questions.

Note: Contributions or gifts to the Council for Responsible Nutrition are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes, but may be partially deductible as a business expense.

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Code of Ethical Principles

(Adopted March 2008)

CRN and its members share a commitment to improving public health through nutrition, including the appropriate use of dietary supplements. In pursuit of this goal, CRN's members pledge to observe and uphold the highest ethical principles in their dealings with their customers, suppliers, competitors, regulators and consumers in order to foster confidence in our products. In particular, CRN and its members commit themselves to the following ethical principles:

- 1. CRN's members are committed to marketing products that will improve the personal health of consumers and the public health.**

CRN and its members should support nutrition research and education, including the role of the federal government in conducting research, on the relationships between dietary supplements and health in order to expand scientific information and knowledge about the role of safe and beneficial dietary supplements in improving personal and public health.

- 2. CRN and its members are committed to observing all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.**

CRN and its members recognize the important role of laws and regulations, and the state and federal agencies that implement them, to assure that the best interests of the public are promoted and protected. Although CRN may on occasion advocate for changes in those laws that are inconsistent with the best interests of the public and the industry, CRN members should adhere to all relevant laws and regulations while they are in place.

- 3. CRN members are committed to marketing dietary supplements with truthful and non-misleading labeling and advertising.**

CRN members should make only those representations in labeling and advertising that are supported by [competent and reliable scientific] reasonable and credible evidence to substantiate those claims; that accurately represent the findings of scientific or consumer research; and that are supported by scientifically-valid methods to verify the labeled composition of the product.

- 4. CRN and its members are committed to taking appropriate action to support the safety of their products.**

CRN members should market ingredients and products that have been demonstrated to be safe through appropriate scientific evidence and, where appropriate, evidence of safe use in previously marketed products, and should undertake additional evaluation or testing whenever new safety issues arise.

- 5. CRN and its members are committed to responsible self-regulation to foster consumer confidence in the quality of products and the truthfulness of advertising.**

CRN and its members should foster and encourage the development and implementation of voluntary standards for responsible business behavior within the dietary supplement industry and in the wider community.

- 6. CRN's members are committed to observing fair business practices in their dealings with consumers, the general public, and other industry members.**

CRN and its members should recognize that the credibility of individual companies and of the dietary supplement industry as a whole depends upon fairness in the marketplace, with respect to individual consumers, the public at large, government agencies, state and federal legislatures, the professional and academic communities, and fellow members of the dietary supplement industry and its supporting suppliers.

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CRN Bylaws Provisions Relevant to Membership & Dues

ARTICLE II - Membership

Section 2.01. **Membership.**

A person (which shall include a corporation, a partnership, or any other organization) who is actively engaged in the manufacture (which shall include the packaging and labeling) or distribution of a dietary ingredient or a dietary supplement, or of a related traditional food, and a person who supplies products, services, or other support to such person, or who support the purpose of the Council set forth in Section 1.02, shall be eligible for election as a member of the Council.

Section 2.02. **Classes of Members.** There shall be four classes of members:

- (a) **Voting Member.** A person who manufactures a dietary ingredient or a dietary supplement or who distributes a dietary supplement under its own brand shall be eligible for membership in the Council as a voting member. Voting members shall be divided into two categories:
 - (1) **Manufacturer Member.** A member who manufactures a dietary supplement or who distributes a dietary supplement under its own brand.
 - (2) **Supplier Member.** A member who manufactures a dietary ingredient but not a dietary supplement.
- (b) **Functional Food Member.** A person who does not manufacture a dietary ingredient or a dietary supplement, but who manufactures a related nutritional food (such as a food for special dietary use, a functional food, or an ingredient used in these products) shall be eligible to join the Council as a functional food member.
- (c) **Associate Member.** A person who is eligible for membership in the Council and is not actively engaged in the manufacture of a dietary ingredient or a dietary supplement but who provide products, services, or other support to manufacturers or suppliers, or who support the purpose of the Council set forth in Section 1.02, shall be eligible to join the Council as an associate member.
- (d) **International Member.** A person who is eligible for membership in the Council but does business exclusively outside the United States shall be eligible to join the Council as an international member. A foreign affiliate of a person eligible to be a voting member shall be eligible for international membership only if the person eligible for voting membership is in fact a voting member.

Section 2.03. **Election of Members.**

Members of the Council shall be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee.

Section 2.04. **Removal of Members.**

A member of the Council may be removed by two-thirds vote of the votes entitled to be cast by all of the Council members or of the Board of Directors, provided that a member may be removed only at a meeting where prior notice of this issue has been given.

Section 2.05. **Resignation of Members.**

A member of the Council may resign by giving notice in writing to the Council. A member shall be liable for dues and assessments for the full calendar year during which the member gives a notice of resignation.

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ARTICLE IV – Dues and Assessments

Section 4.01. Annual Dues.

Each year the Board of Directors shall prescribe the dues for the four classes of members for the following calendar year. The Council shall promptly send to each member written notice of the prescribed dues and the due date or dates of payment thereof. The dues of voting members shall be determined on the basis of the total sales derived by the member's business in the United States from the activities described in Section 2.01, as recommended by the Audit Committee and established by the Board of Directors from year to year.

Section 4.02. Special Assessments. Members of the Council shall pay such special assessments as the Board of Directors may from time to time levy in order to defray extraordinary or unusual expenses incurred by or on behalf of the Council, provided that no member shall become obligated to pay such an assessment until it has been ratified by a majority vote of the members of the Council. Payment by a member, in whole or in part, of any special assessment shall constitute the member's vote to ratify such assessment.

Section 4.03. Non-Payment of Dues or Assessments.

Renewal dues are payable within the first sixty (60 days) of a calendar year. The failure of any member of the Council to pay dues or assessments within thirty days after the due date thereof shall result in such member's suspension from the Council until such payment is received except in extenuating circumstances communicated to and accepted by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee. Once a new dues year begins, that member must reapply for membership if it fails to pay its dues within the prescribed time period. A firm that fails to pay its dues in a timely manner in a particular year, may not allow its membership to lapse and then rejoin later that calendar year at a pro-rated amount; dues for the entire year are payable upon an application to rejoin in the same calendar year except in extenuating circumstances communicated to and accepted by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee. Members whose dues are more than 30 days delinquent may be assessed a reasonable interest charge on those dues, up to 1.5 % per month.

Revised February 2010