



Institutional Membership Dues Policy

Membership in Together Baton Rouge is open to religious congregations, civic organizations and non-profit institutions in the greater Baton Rouge area. Membership includes a dues commitment. Dues are the organization’s primary source of independent funding, which helps assure that TBR can maintain the independence to act on its mission and remain accountable to its member institutions.

Membership becomes official when an organization completes a Membership Form and makes a dues pledge for the current or subsequent year. Dues can be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually.

Member institutions have a representative on TBR’s Executive Committee, typically the pastor or executive of the organization. The Executive Committee approves the budget, reviews financial reports, has hiring and firing responsibility over the lead organizer and plays an important role in strategic decision-making. It meets every two months. In addition, member institutions name three voting delegates, who have voting power at annual Delegates Assemblies or Votes of the Whole.

Dues help to pay for:

- Being a member of a broad-based organization, which increases an institution’s capacity to act on its mission and affect change as an expression of the values of the institution.
- Professional organizers to work with the congregation or organization, to help them develop and train a team of leaders to be effective at advocacy and “public life.”
- Campaigns and strategies to win concrete improvements for our communities.
- Training sessions, conferences, civic academies, etc, developed in collaboration with member institutions.
- Subsidizing the costs of 3-day and national IAF training, so leaders can attend regardless of income.

Any member of a member institution has access to Together Baton Rouge’s budget and financial records. Requests to review financial reports can be sent to contact@togetherbr.org.

Guidelines for Dues Amounts

The chart below indicates suggested dues levels for institutions of different sizes. The dues policy allows for flexibility, permitting institutions to join at a level higher or lower than the one indicated below. In other words, an institution in the “Level 3” budget range is encouraged to pay dues at the “Level 3” amount, but may also pledge at levels 1, 2, 4, 5 or 6.

The final category is intended for small non-profit organizations with annuals budget below \$50,000. Very small organizations are permitted to join with other such organizations, joining as a group of 2 to 4 organizations. Together, they would contribute at Level 1 dues (or higher), have three voting delegates and one voting representative to the Executive Committee (although others may attend and participate).

| Dues level | Annual revenue of institution | Suggested annual dues | (per month) | (per week) |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Level 1 | Below \$200,000 | \$1,200 | \$100 | \$23 |
| Level 2 | \$200,000 to \$400,000 | \$2,400 | \$200 | \$46 |
| Level 3 | \$400,000 to \$750,000 | \$4,000 | \$333 | \$77 |
| Level 4 | \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 | \$7,500 | \$625 | \$144 |
| Level 5 | \$1,000,000 to \$1.5 million | \$10,000 | \$833 | \$192 |
| Level 6 | Above \$1.5 million | \$15,000 | \$1250 | \$288 |
| Joint membership with 2 to 4 small organizations | Below \$50,000 | \$1,200 (collectively) | \$100 | \$23 |

The membership status of existing TBR institutions as of the date of approval of this policy will not be adversely affected by this revised dues policy. If you have questions about dues or the process of joining Together Baton Rouge, please contact Edgar Cage at (225)274-5808.