

MEMBERSHIP

Our mission is to help grow a community-based food system through the establishment of a cooperatively-owned retail storefront.

We envision a thriving and vibrant full-service grocery store, owned by and operating for the benefit of our membership and the larger community. Our shared concerns for how the foods and goods we sell are produced and distributed, and how these goods impact the environment and people in other parts of the world, are expressed through the cooperative's daily operations and policies which are determined by us, the member-owners. Shopping at a food co-op offers lots of opportunities to support local and organic growers and socially responsible food producers on a daily basis. We can have choices of products that are produced responsibly and healthfully coupled with the convenience of a storefront location.

We'll strive to provide a community center which enables people from all economic sectors to join together to build an improved food culture in our neighborhoods. We can provide a dependable market for our local producers and increase the availability of homegrown goods to our community's citizens.

Please join us to help build a more sustainable local food system. Invest in your community and become a member-owner today!

HOW TO JOIN

Joining is easy. Please fill out our simple application and include your \$100 fully refundable life-time membership investment to become an owner today.

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

There are many benefits to membership. As a member you become a co-owner of the co-op and are entitled to an equitable vote in a democratically-run business. Because we aim to serve all members of the community, we offer two main membership options. Join as a Consumer-Member or as a Producer-Member.

Consumer Membership

A Consumer Membership is open to any individual or household who purchases items from the Co-op and accepts the rights and responsibilities described below.

THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CONSUMER-MEMBER INCLUDE:

- Obtaining membership in the Locals' Market by applying for one of the following Consumer-Membership Plans:
 - Individual
 - Household, defined as two or adults living under the same roof
 - Student
 - Low-Income, defined as individuals receiving public assistance
- To receive financial benefits for the use of the Co-op's services and enjoy privileges as determined by the Board, such as the receipt of patronage dividends, discounted classes and workshops, discounts on special orders, access to our certified kitchen and other co-op owned property, and discounts at other cooperatives.
- Convenient access to local, fresh, healthy food
- To vote at membership meetings, in referenda, and in elections of the Board of Directors, and to have a Consumer-Member Representative serve on the Board of Directors
- Eligibility to serve on the Board of Directors or selected Committees
- To attend and observe meetings of the Board and Committees and annual Membership Meetings
- To receive from the Board of Directors within 30 days a written response to a written inquiry concerning Co-op matters.



Producer Membership

open to any Individual, Proprietor, or Group that seeks to supply the Co-op with food, goods, or services and accepts the rights and responsibilities described below

The rights and responsibilities of a producer-member include:

- Enjoy priority status in the supplying of produced goods and services to the Cooperative
- Access to a dependable marketplace and participation in a forum to determine fair prices for supplied food, goods, and services
- Participation in a network of local producers and direct access to local consumers on a daily basis
- To provide goods and buy goods from the same supportive marketplace
- To vote at membership meetings, in referenda, and in elections of the Board of Directors, and to have a Producer-Member Representative serve on the Board of Directors
- Eligibility to serve on the Board of Directors or selected Committees
- To attend and observe meetings of the Board of Directors and Committees
- To receive from the Board of Directors within 30 days a written response to a written inquiry concerning Co-op matters.

MEMBERSHIP EQUITY INVESTMENT PAYMENT OPTIONS

We prefer to receive the refundable \$100 membership investment in one payment. If this is a prohibitive requirement, we offer the following payment plan options:

- Individual or Household Consumer members and Producer members may pay \$27.50 each quarter by January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31. There is a \$10 processing fee built in to this payment plan.
- Students may pay \$25 per semester and still be eligible for all membership benefits. Please provide a valid student ID.
- Low-income Members may pay a \$25 investment in quarterly installments of \$5 by January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31. Please provide proof of government assistance with your application.

Please make all checks payable to Locals' Food Market, Inc

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Membership in Good Standing and Delinquency:

All memberships not in arrears on their payments are considered in good standing. These members may vote; propose by-law amendments; make, second, and vote on motions, resolutions, and nominations; and hold Co-op office. Memberships in arrears may do none of these things.

Transferring a Membership:

Household memberships are transferable; to transfer a membership, please send a request to our registered address Attn: Transfer, for a Transfer Request Form.

Terminating a membership:

Should you desire to leave the Cooperative, you must notify the registered address, in writing, of your intention.

