

Member Services Q&A

Q: Will there be changes to the benefits that I receive as a Member?

A: SDC Members will continue to receive all contract protection and enforcement as usual when they work. These protections include minimum levels of compensation in most jurisdictions, health and pension benefits, property rights protection, terms covering electronic rights, and dispute resolution provisions, among others. Members and Associate Members will continue to receive specially negotiated national discounts and offers for health club memberships, car rentals, hotels, and much more, as well as access to industry workshops and events, all of which can be found in the [Member Portal](#).

Q: Will any Member events be planned for 2021?

A: We will continue to have Membership Meetings, expanding these to quarterly meetings in addition to our Semi-Annual and Annual Meetings in April and November. We expect these will all be virtual events. At this time, there are no plans for regional events. If you have specific questions or concerns about a regional matter, you can contact a Contract Affairs Representative at Contracts@SDCweb.org.

Q: How can I learn more about The Actors Fund Member Assistance Program?

A: SDC has contracted with The Actors Fund to provide a free, confidential Members Assistance Program (MAP) for SDC Members. For support and assistance in finding solutions to a wide range of personal or work-related problems, you can contact The [SDC, MAP](#) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For information on health insurance, please visit [The Actors Fund Artists Health Insurance Resource Center](#).

Q: Is SDC still accepting applications for the COVID-19 Income Replacement Fund?

A: No. That Fund closed in December.

Q: Is SDC Foundation still operating the Emergency Assistance Fund?

A: Yes. This needs-based Fund is accepting requests. Later this week, SDCF will be sending out revised guidelines that will expand access and grants. This information will also be made available through the [Member Portal](#). For any additional questions regarding the Fund, please email Dani Cattan at emergencygrant@SDCweb.org

Q: I have questions about my initiation, dues, or assessment payment:

- **When am I billed for annual dues?**
 - The annual dues are billed every January.
- **What is the deadline for any payments due to the Union?**
 - For annual dues, the deadline for payment is March 31, 2021. The 2.5% fee assessment is due at the end of each quarter in which they were billed.
- **What is the 2.5% fee assessment for?**
 - Like all Unions, SDC charges its Members working dues assessment on all compensation earned under an SDC contract. This, combined with the annual dues, are the Union's two primary sources of income.

- **Why was I billed directly for a fee assessment? I thought the theatre was responsible.**
 - When working for an employer that has a Collectively Bargained Agreement with the Union, those assessments are withheld from your paycheck and remitted directly to SDC. When working under promulgated agreements, like the Tier and Remote Contact, the assessment is not withheld, and the Member is billed directly.
- **I still owe annual dues from the previous year. If I pay my dues now for the new year, do I still owe last year's dues?**
 - Yes. We cannot waive the annual dues.
- **Why should I have to pay dues if the industry is currently shut down?**
 - We understand that the pandemic has devastated the industry and has impacted many. However, we have to continue receiving dues in order to continue operating as an organization. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please reach out to our Finance Department at Finance@SDCweb.org to discuss your options.
- **What are my options if I cannot pay my Union dues/assessments?**
 - Please contact Michele Holmes at MHolmes@SDCweb.org.
- **Can I combine my health/pension payments with my Union dues payments?**
 - No. The Union and SDC-League Pension/Health League Fund are two separate entities; therefore, the payments must be separate. Union payments should be made payable to SDC. Payments to the Pension Fund should be made payable to SDC-League Pension Fund and payments to the Health Fund should be made to SDC-League Health Fund.
- **I am unable to pay my annual dues in full. Is there an alternative option?**
 - Members have the option of automatically paying their annual dues on a quarterly basis via this link: <https://sdcweb.org/make-a-payment-january-march-2021/>

Q: I'm currently an Associate Member. I want to talk to someone about upgrading to be a Member. Who do I talk to?

A: Please email Membership@SDCweb.org

Q: I am not working and don't expect to have work this year. Should I consider Honorable Withdrawal? What is the process?

A: If you expect that you will not be directing or choreographing for at least a year and are a Member in good standing, you may place your Membership on Honorable Withdrawal. While on withdrawal, you may not accept work. If your employment patterns change and you find that you are directing or choreographing within a year, you must return to active status. For more information on Honorable Withdrawal, please email Membership@SDCweb.org.

Q: I want to update my contact information (i.e., email, mailing address).

A: You can do this directly by logging into your [Member Portal](#) and navigating to the "My Profile" tab. If you need additional assistance, please email Membership@SDCweb.org.

Q: I'm having trouble with the Member Portal, or need to re-set my username or password.

A: Please email Membership@SDCweb.org.

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Q: Who should I contact regarding any workplace issues involving harassment or discrimination?

A: Please contact Stephanie Coen at SCoen@SDCweb.org. These conversations will be kept confidential.

Q: What about *SDC Journal*?

A: We will be publishing a digital issue in spring 2021 and hope to be in a position to publish one or two issues later in the year. If you have questions about the *Journal*, please contact SDCJournal@SDCweb.org.

Q: Will I continue to receive a monthly E-News?

A: Yes, we will send our next edition on February 1, 2021.

Q: Will I be able to use SDC's Zoom Conference Rooms for meetings?

A: Yes, please email Membership@SDCweb.org with the date, beginning and end time, time zone, and password for your meeting to reserve.

Q: How will SDC support its academic initiatives?

A: For the foreseeable future, our program designed to specifically support our Members working in higher education will be suspended. As a reminder, all Academic Associates have access to all Associate Membership benefits.

Q: I'm trying to reach another Member. Can someone help me with contact information?

A: Please email Info@SDCweb.org.

Q: I would like to contact Barbara Wolkoff or Marisa Levy. How do I do that?

A: Please email Maureen Fox at MFox@SDCweb.org.

Q: I am not sure who I should contact about my question.

A: For general inquiries, please email Info@SDCweb.org.

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