American College of Emergency Physicians

Guidelines for Eligibility for Dues Waivers due to Financial Hardship

ACEP recognizes that there are times when members may be unable to pay dues as a result of an unanticipated financial hardship. As the entity responsible for establishing dues rates, requests for a dues waiver may be considered by the Board at their discretion. Members suffering unanticipated, significant, financial hardship may apply to the ACEP Board of Directors for a temporary or permanent waiver of dues.

A waiver of dues is available as an interim member benefit allowing a member to retain membership in their current member class during a temporary but significant financial hardship. These guidelines are intended to further define and provide guidance for approval of dues waivers by the ACEP Board of Directors.

A. The following reasons will be considered financial hardships eligible for board consideration of temporary dues waiver.
   • Natural disasters, catastrophic events, or acts of God, affecting a member’s economic status
   • Unanticipated, significant and extended loss of income due unemployment.
   • Significant and extended loss of income due to deployment or military activation.
   • Severe personal or family medical illness that prevents member from full time employment.
   • Extended disability resulting in a substantial and extended reduction in income.
   • Personal bankruptcy resulting from medical or other circumstances beyond the member’s control.
   • Other exceptional circumstances as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors

B. A waiver of dues as an interim member benefit allowing a member to retain membership in their current class of membership during a temporary term of hardship as cited above. The following limitations apply.

   • Approval of a dues waiver is for one year unless otherwise indicated at the time of request and approved by the Board of Directors.
   • Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the Board of Directors for extending approval of dues waiver beyond one year or extending a permanent waiver of dues. Such extension may require the member to submit additional documentation.

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