

## CENTRAL SURGICAL ASSOCIATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

**1.Application Form:** All applications for membership must be [submitted online](#). No paper submissions will be accepted.

### **2.Eligibility:**

**Active:** To be eligible for Active membership each candidate must be certified by the American Board of Surgery or equivalent board or a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. In special circumstances, Council may waive the requirement of certification by the American Board of Surgery or equivalent board or membership in the American College of Surgeons upon recommendation of the Membership Committee by a two-thirds affirmative vote. The applicant must show evidence of participation in activities which have a concern for the welfare of patients and the fostering of the advancement of surgical theory and practice. Applicants who have not attained the age of 50 will be considered for Active membership. Those who are 50 years of age or older or who have been elected to membership in the American Surgical Association will be considered for Senior membership.

**Associate:** Trainees in the last two years of surgical residency or in a surgical fellowship as well as new graduates currently in the first two years of surgical practice (prior to American Board of Surgery or equivalent certification) are eligible to join the Central Surgical Association as Associate Members.

**3.Sponsor & Endorser:** The sponsor must be an Active or Senior member of the Central Surgical Association. It is the responsibility of the sponsor to assure that candidates for membership have had enough time in their academic or community practice to develop their patient care and scientific skills, as well as to establish significant teaching and administrative responsibilities. Furthermore, in considering candidates for membership, the sponsors should seek those individuals who, if elected to membership, will participate actively in the Association and its meetings.

The application must also be endorsed by one Active or Senior member. The Membership Advisory Committee may contact the endorser to provide more details. CSA urges candidates to share work history information and highlights, so the sponsor and endorser are prepared with references. Special attention should be paid to the following areas when providing reference details:

- Administrative Responsibilities
- Teaching Responsibilities
- Hospital Undergraduate
- University Graduate
- Regional & National Awards

For applicants who have pursued a career in a community/hospital setting, it is important for the sponsor and endorser to be able to comment on the applicant's contribution in this area.

For candidates applying for membership for a second or third time, it is important that the sponsor and endorser emphasize the increased achievements or responsibilities of the candidate since the last application. Submission of the same letter which accompanied the first application may have a detrimental effect on the candidate's chances of selection.

**5.Optional Letters of Support:** The application form may be supported by an optional letter of support, written and signed by a sponsor and/or endorser, but this is not required. Letter(s) must be received in the Secretary's Office by the deadline.

**6.Curriculum Vitae:** The candidate's curriculum vitae must accompany the application.

**7.Deadline:** The final deadline for receipt of applications is January 15th for the application to be reviewed by the Membership Advisory Committee in March of the same year and its recommendations presented to the Executive Council for approval in March of the same year. Candidates approved by the Executive Council are proposed for election to membership at the business meeting during the annual meeting.

**8.Submission:** Complete the online membership application, and upload your curriculum vitae and letters of support by the deadline