Amplify your impact.

2026 MEMBER BENEFITS

Join the Network.

exponent philanthropy
30 years of impact

About Exponent Philanthropy

Exponent Philanthropy is the largest philanthropic network in the nation — a community of more than 1,500 foundations, donor advised funds, philanthropic families, and individual donors achieving outsized impact with lean operations.

Whether you're an experienced executive of a small-staffed foundation, a board managing with no staff, or a family coordinating giving from your kitchen table, Exponent membership connects you to trusted peers, expert guidance, and practical resources that help you give with greater confidence, efficiency, and impact.

MISSION

To amplify and increase the impact of lean funders by building an inclusive community where they can learn, connect, and collaborate

VISION

Transformed communities through informed giving

WHY MEMBERS JOIN

Members choose Exponent Philanthropy because they value:

- Community: You don't' have to do this work alone.
- Efficiency: Practical tools save time and reduce guesswork.
- Expertise: Trusted guidance without hiring additional staff or consultants.
- Impact: Peer learning and proven practices amplify your efficiency and effectiveness.

There's a reason why **more than 75% of members have been with Exponent Philanthropy for over a decade.** They stay because membership helps them give with clarity and confidence—no matter their size, structure, or staffing.

Everything about Exponent Philanthropy has made a difference to us. The resources have benefited everyone in my organization: program officer, executive director, trustees, and grantees. And I have been surprised by the ongoing value. Even now, I am learning every day. Exponent Philanthropy is a friend, partner, and coach.

- THE SIRAGUSA FOUNDATION

Benefits of Membership

SIGNATURE MEMBERSHIP

Meaningful Connections & Peer Support

Our community is your community. Build trusted relationships with peers who understand your goals and challenges:

- Online Discussion Community & Searchable Member Directory: Ask questions, share experiences, and connect with funders who "get" your work.
- Peer Networks & Roundtables: Join in-person or virtual groups tailored for CEOs, operations staff, first hires, or funders spending down.
- One-to-One Peer Connections: Curated introductions to members who have been in your shoes. Let us know what you're looking for and we'll make the match!
- Regional Gatherings: Connect with fellow funders in communities across the country.
- Catalytic Philanthropy Podcast: Hear from some of the most creative, resourceful, and risk-taking funders in the nation as they share candid stories, smart solutions, and the "how-to" behind their impact.
- Directory of Advisors: Find trusted professional partners for all of your investment, technology, programmatic, and operational needs.

Practical Tools & Trusted Guidance

Access what you need—when you need it—to work smarter and stay compliant.

- Benchmarking data: Benchmark your foundation against your peers with our annual *Foundation Operations & Management Report*.
- Expert Q&A Service: Get personalized answers from our experienced staff.
- Sample Documents Library: Save time with templates for policies, job descriptions, board materials, and more.
- Assessments & Toolkits: Strengthen your foundation's practices with our 10 Minute Impact Assessment, Board Self-Assessment, and Great Funder–Nonprofit Relationships Toolkit, just to name a few.
- Publications: Some of our most popular downloads include The Trustee Handbook, The Foundation Guidebook, and the Advocacy Field Guide.

Benefits of Membership

Learning That Meets You Where You Are

From fundamentals to catalytic leadership, we provide year-round opportunities to learn from experts and peers. Grow your knowledge with learning that fits your goals.

- Annual Conference: Gather with 600+ peers for connection and inspiration.
- Catalytic Leadership Academy: Advance beyond trust-based philanthropy to deeper, systems-level impact.
- Next Gen Fellows: A six-month fellowship for emerging philanthropy leaders.
- Webinars: Stay current with regular policy and trend updates, and gain practical insights on investments, governance, and legal compliance from leading industry experts.
- **On-Demand Learning:** Access courses and trainings anytime—including Foundation Fundamentals, Investment Essentials, Legal Essentials, the Catalytic Learning Lab for advanced leadership practice, and a full archive of past webinars.

Exclusive Member Savings

In addition to member pricing for Exponent Philanthropy events, trainings, and publications, our membership pays for itself with these other exclusive offers:

- **Access to Field-Wide Events:** Enjoy exclusive rates and member-only access to partner conferences and trainings.
- Insurance Discounts: Save an average of $715+ annually on D&O, liability, and cyber coverage through our partnership with USI Affinity.
- Software & Technology Discounts: Streamline your operations and save thousands with partners such as Foundant, Blackbaud, Temelio, and others.

OPTIONAL MEMBERSHIP ADD ONS

Legal Guidance – *10 hours of expert legal counsel for just $1,000 per year!*

A must have for funders who want peace of mind in an ever-shifting legal landscape. Receive timely guidance from expert attorneys who understand the nuances of private foundation rules, philanthropic giving, and nonprofit tax law.

- 10 Hours of Legal Consultation: Work directly with attorneys from Arnold & Porter, one of the nation's leading firms advising foundations and nonprofits.
- **Responsive, Reliable Counsel:** Receive prompt, expert answers on topics such as self-dealing and private foundation compliance, legislative and regulatory reviews, policy advocacy, governance and policy updates, international grantmaking, and more.
- **Peace of Mind:** Stay confident with expert support as regulations evolve.

Benefits of Membership

Customized Consulting & Meeting Facilitation

For members ready to dig deeper, we offer a variety of specialized research and consulting projects customized to meet your needs:

- **Grantee & Applicant Perception Survey:** Gather candid feedback from nonprofit partners on your processes, communications, equity efforts, and overall impact. *Pricing starts at $3,495.*
- **Custom Salary & Benefits Benchmarking:** Compare your foundation's compensation and benefits to peers through a customized survey and report. *Pricing starts at $5,995.* Please contact us for custom quotes for your project.
- **Speaking & Facilitation Services:** Engage Exponent's expert staff as facilitators and speakers for your staff and board retreats, events, conferences, and strategy planning sessions. We offer both in-person and virtual presentations, allowing you to choose the format that best suits your audience and location. *Pricing starts at $1,495.* Please contact us for a custom quote for your event.

> *Joining Exponent Philanthropy has been one of the best decisions our foundation has ever made. We've paid the nominal fee ten times over for the benefits we receive. Every time I call, everyone is friendly and immediately responsive. It's truly like having extra paid staff who are efficient and extremely qualified, which is beyond helpful for a small-staffed foundation.* —SMART FAMILY FOUNDATION

THE BOTTOM LINE

Exponent Philanthropy membership is your all-in-one resource for giving effectively with limited staff and unlimited ambition.

As a member, you have:

- **A nationwide network of peers** behind you
- **Expert guidance** at your fingertips
- **Proven tools** that strengthen your giving
- **Opportunities to grow** your leadership

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

Get connected. Stay informed. Achieve outsized impact.

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2026 NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Organizational Profile

Organization Name

Mailing Address | City | State | Zip

Physical Address | City | State | Zip

Main Email | Main Phone

Website | EIN | Year Established

Full Time Staff | # Part Time Staff | # Trustees/Members | Sunset Year *(if applicable)*

Assets | Annual grants budget | Average # grants/year | Average grant size

Legal Structure *(check one)*

- ☐ Private Foundation
- ☐ Operating Foundation
- ☐ Community Foundation
- ☐ Donor Advised Fund
- ☐ Public Charity
- ☐ Giving Circle
- ☐ Individual Philanthropists
- ☐ Other:

Governance Structure *(check one)*

- ☐ Family
- ☐ Independent
- ☐ Corporate
- ☐ Other:

Funding Areas & Population Focus *(check all that apply)*

- ☐ Aging/Seniors
- ☐ Arts & Culture
- ☐ Children & Youth
- ☐ Economically Disadvantaged
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Environment & Animals
- ☐ Ethnic/Racial Minorities
- ☐ Health
- ☐ HIV/AIDS
- ☐ Human Services
- ☐ Immigrants, migrants & refugees
- ☐ Incarcerated people
- ☐ Indigenous people outside the U.S.
- ☐ International
- ☐ LGBTQ
- ☐ Men & boys
- ☐ Military personnel & veterans
- ☐ Native Americans
- ☐ People with disabilities
- ☐ Religion / religious groups
- ☐ Science & Technology
- ☐ Societal Benefit
- ☐ Social sciences
- ☐ Substance abuse recovery
- ☐ Women & Girls
- ☐ Other:
- ☐ Other:

Why are you choosing to join at this time? *(check all that apply)*

- ☐ To meet other lean funders
- ☐ For resources/best practices
- ☐ Access to legal services
- ☐ For benchmarking data
- ☐ To get started
- ☐ To prepare for transition
- ☐ To increase impact
- ☐ For programming/trainings/learning
- ☐ Other:

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How did you hear about us?

- ☐ Internet search
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Exponent Philanthropy event
- ☐ Exponent Philanthropy email
- ☐ Exponent Philanthropy article, report or publication
- ☐ Speaking engagement featuring Exponent Philanthropy
- ☐ We are a former member.
- ☐ Referral from a peer: _____
- ☐ Referral from advisor: _____
- ☐ Other: _____

Membership Selections

Term: Membership runs on a calendar year (Jan-Dec). If desired, new members may prorate their dues in their first year based on the month they join. To calculate, please divide your annual dues by twelve and multiply by the number of months remaining in the year.

Dues: Annual membership dues are based on your organization's average asset size over the last 3 fiscal years. Grantmaking public charities may calculate dues based on discretionary assets. Individual philanthropists not associated with an organization may join at the base tier.

Average Assets over last 3 years	Annual Membership
☐ <$5M	☐ $870
☐ $5M-$9.9M	☐ $1,000
☐ $10M-$14.9M	☐ $1,250
☐ $15M-$19.9M	☐ $1,500
☐ $20M-$29.9M	☐ $1,750
☐ $30M-$49.9M	☐ $2,000
☐ $50M-$74.9M	☐ $3,000

Average Assets over last 3 years	Annual Membership
☐ $75M-$99.9M	☐ $4,000
☐ $100M-$124.9M	☐ $5,000
☐ $125M-$149.9M	☐ $6,000
☐ $150M-$199.9M	☐ $7,000
☐ $200M-$299.9M	☐ $8,000
☐ $300M-$499.9M	☐ $9,000
☐ >$500M	☐ $10,000

Calculations:

2026 Membership Dues* 2026 Dues

- ☐ $1,000 for 10 hours of legal services _____
  (that's just $100 an hour!)
- ☐ Additional Mission Support* _____
  Dues cover less than 40% of our annual operating expenses. Please consider a donation to support our mission and services.

2026 TOTAL: $ 0

Payment Method:

- ☐ Check enclosed ☐ ACH / Wire
- ☐ Bill.com *(Payment ID: 0186560946470764)*
- ☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ AMEX

Name on card: _____

Number: _____

Expiration: _____ CVV: _____

**As a 501(c)(3) public charity (EIN 65-0617866), contributions to Exponent, including dues, generally qualify as an administrative expenses for private foundations and may count toward your annual minimum distribution. The base membership tier represents the fair market value of goods and services received. Any amount paid above that may reasonably be treated as a charitable contribution.*

I'm interested in learning more about:

- ☐ D&O, Liability, and/or Cyber Security Insurance *(average savings over $700/year!)*
- ☐ Co-hosting a Regional Gathering in my area
- ☐ Commissioning a custom salary/benefits report
- ☐ Commissioning a grantee & applicant perception survey/report
- ☐ Exponent's expert meeting facilitation/speaking
- ☐ Exponent presenting at a Board/staff meeting

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Key Contact Information

Your organization's membership in Exponent Philanthropy means that all of your staff, trustees, and consultants have access to all that we offer! Please complete the information below *(the same individual may fill multiple roles)* and be sure to attach a full roster with contact information when you submit your application so we can grant everyone membership access.

Primary Contact: *Exponent Philanthropy's primary point of contact for your organization*

Name		Title	
Email		Phone	

Lead Executive: *Exponent Philanthropy's executive point of contact for your organization and the person who should receive invitations to executive-only programming and retreats.*

Name		Title	
Email		Phone	

Board Chair/Lead Trustee: *The person who should receive invitations to trustee-only events, programming, and retreats.*

Name		Title	
Email		Phone	

Billing Contact: *Exponent Philanthropy's financial point of contact for your organization*

Name		Title	
Email		Phone	

Admin Contact: *The point of contact for scheduling requests, keeping records up to date, etc..*

Name		Title	
Email		Phone	

Questions?

For questions or support, please contact Brian Bates, Membership Specialist, at (202) 580-6574 or membership@exponentphilanthropy.org.

Ready to Join?

Please return your completed application to membership@exponentphilanthropy.org or by mail to:

Exponent Philanthropy | P.O. Box 65607 | Washington, DC 20036-5607

About Us

Exponent Philanthropy is the largest philanthropy network in the country. With more than 1,500 members in every corner of the U.S., we are a nationwide network of community-connected philanthropy leaders. Our members include all types of foundations, families, companies, and individuals who achieve outsized impact with limited time and staff. Our members – no matter their asset size (ranging from less than $1 million to over $1 billion) – focus on investing maximum resources directly to the causes, people, and places they care about. Exponent Philanthropy's work focuses on amplifying and increasing the impact of these lean funders and transforming communities through informed giving. We do this by fostering a strong philanthropic network, serving as the collective voice for lean funders, sharing innovative and promising practices from across the field, and providing a robust arena for idea exchange and collaboration.

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