

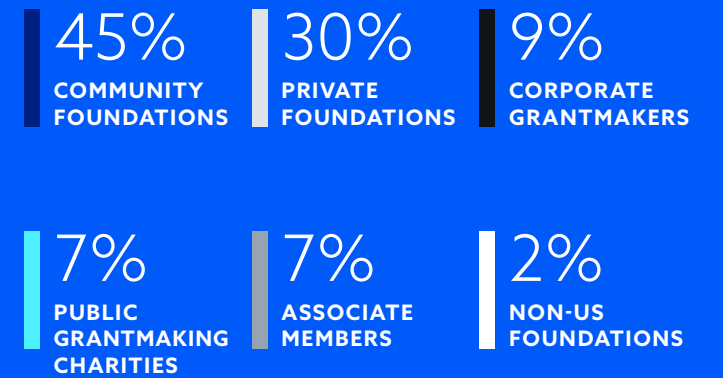
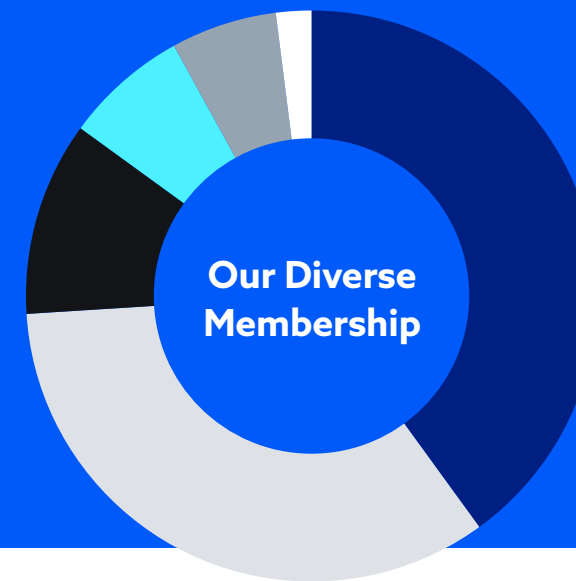


New Member Experience Guide

A Membership Guide to support new members of the Council on Foundations.

Membership at a Glance

Who are Council members? We celebrate the diversity of the Council community, which includes many types of members of different sizes from all 50 states and around the world.



Member Benefits

Council members – including staff, board members and volunteers – have access to exclusive member benefits and services including:



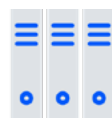
TAP INTO PHILANTHROPIC EXPERTISE

- Access more than [300 member-only resources](#) – including recently updated sample documents, tips to start grantmaking in specific countries, communications toolkits and more.
- Connect with Council staff for support on issues impacting your organization.
- Access research and reports like our [Grantmaker Salary & Benefits Report](#) and our [Study of Investment of Endowments for Private and Community Foundations](#) as well as our topical reports each year.



LEARN AND INFORM PUBLIC POLICY

- Contribute to philanthropy's greater impact in Washington through [advocacy](#) and regular interactions with legislators.
- Learn about policy changes, such as the private foundation excise tax, DAF regulations and how changes to the tax code impact your foundation.
- Collaborate with Council staff to strengthen your ability to work with government officials and advocate to policymakers on the issues that matter most to you.



ACCESS TRUSTED LEGAL RESOURCES

- Engage with our [legal team](#) and receive on-demand support for issues related to governance, fund management, scholarships, lobbying and political activity, self-dealing and more. Voting members only.
- Gain free access to our regularly updated [Legal Compendium](#).



SHAPE THE COUNCIL COMMUNITY

- Submit ideas for sessions, present at conferences, participate in peer-reviews of upcoming publications, and volunteer as a discussion lead for our [peer learning circles](#).
- Opportunities to lead through our working groups and advisory groups, including our [Public Policy Advisory Committee](#) and [Community Foundation Advisory Group](#).
- Vote and serve on the Council's [Board of Directors](#).



BUILD YOUR NETWORK

- Engage with fellow philanthropic peers during [in-person and virtual events](#), including Council webinars, trainings, peer events, conferences, and summits.
- Interact with industry peers online through our [Philanthropy Exchange](#).
- Participate in a topic or role-based [Peer Learning Circle](#).
- Join [peer roundtables](#) with members from community, private, and corporate foundations, CEOs and HR leaders.
- Utilize our online [member directory](#) to connect with industry peers.



STAY INFORMED ON SECTOR ISSUES

- [Stay in-the-know](#) on opportunities and challenges shaping philanthropy via our website, social media, blog and member-only e-newsletters like:
 - Council Connection - Latest news, announcements and updates from the Council and across the field;
 - Washington Snapshot- A weekly look at what's happening in Washington related to philanthropic policy and news;
 - Global Newsletter- An update on global philanthropy and grantmaking;
 - Community Foundation Newsletter- An update on community foundation philanthropy



DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS

- Receive access and member-exclusive discounts to [trainings](#) and leadership cohorts, including [Career Pathways](#) and the [Bridging Differences Leadership Cohort](#).
- Gain free access to all live and recorded [webinars](#).



SAVE WITH MEMBER DISCOUNTS

- Enjoy cost savings on professional development opportunities and resources, including:
 - FREE access to the [Legal Compendium](#)
 - FREE access to the annual [Grantmaker Salary and Benefits Survey Report](#)
 - FREE access to all [webinars + webinar archives](#)
 - \$220 savings per [Council Career Center](#) job post
 - 20% discount on print and/or digital subscription to [The Foundation Review](#)
 - 20% discount on print and/or digital subscription to [Alliance Magazine](#)
 - 10% discount on [Council-endorsed Directors and Officers Insurance](#)

Getting Started

These are the actions you can take to start using your Council membership.

CREATE USER ACCOUNTS
Each team member of your organization can take advantage of all member benefits by creating their own, unique user account. Individuals should head to cof.org and select 'Login.' They will then select 'Don't have an account?' to create their user account.

EXPLORE COF.ORG AND COUNCIL RESOURCES
Access publications, research, and members-only legal resources at cof.org/resources. With over 500 resources—over half of which are for members only—you might be surprised at the breath and depth of the information on cof.org.

REGISTER FOR AN EVENT OR LEARNING OPPORTUNITY
Excited to participate in a Council convening? You can register yourself and/or member(s) of your team for our sector-wide convenings, summits, retreats, and webinars. View upcoming Council convenings at cof.org/events.

LOG INTO THE PHILANTHROPY EXCHANGE
The [Philanthropy Exchange](https://cof.org/exchange) is a peer-to-peer platform that connects Council members through shared interests, topics or resources. On the Exchange you can:

- Connect with your peers around the globe to discuss topics of shared interest
- Search an online library of best practices and template documents
- Seek and give candid advice in a private community of your peers
- Find members funding similar issues or performing similar roles in your foundation
- Share resources to develop stronger relationships that advance your work All Council members have access to the Exchange.

Learn more about and getting started on the Philanthropy Exchange at cof.org/exchange. For troubleshooting or general questions, email the Engagement Team at engagement@cof.org.

DISPLAY YOUR MEMBER BADGE
Add the official member badge to your organization's website and/or social pages and show that as a Council member, you are part of a community committed to advancing the greater good with integrity. Download the badge at cof.org/badge.

ASK THE COUNCIL
Our team is an extension of yours and we encourage you to contact Council's staff - who have decades of experience supporting philanthropy - for help navigating thorny issues and maximizing new opportunities.

Questions related to governance, fund management, scholarships, lobbying and political activity, self-dealing and more connect with our Public Policy team at govt@cof.org and our Legal Team at legal@cof.org. Any membership related questions, you can contact our Membership team at membership@cof.org. If you would like to share feedback on Council benefits or strategy, you can reach out to president@cof.org.

We also realize that our members and other philanthropy serving organizations have vast knowledge and expertise in specific areas related to philanthropy, so we are more than happy to connect you with the community and leaders in philanthropy who can best help you.

Community Foundation Membership Add-Ons

We offer three membership add-ons for community foundations that expand your membership beyond the benefits of an annual membership. Membership Add-Ons are optional and only available with a full Council membership.



CF Insights

CF Insights Add-On gives you unlimited access to peer benchmarking, customized benchmarking dashboards, and 1-on-1 assistance.



CF Leadership Coalition

CF Leadership Coalition Add-On gives you expanded policy and communications support and access to a network committed to strengthening the field.



Add-On Bundle

Add-On Bundle includes both CF Insights and CF Leadership Coalition at a reduced rate. The Add-on Bundle is only available to new and renewing members.

Please contact **CF Insights** at cfindights@cof.org or the **Policy Team** at cfcoalition@cof.org with any questions.

About the Council on Foundations

Our members are the backbone of our community and together we are committed to advancing the greater good. Building on our 75-year history, the Council supports over 1,000 member organizations in the United States and around the world to build trust in philanthropy, expand pathways to giving, engage broader perspectives and co-create solutions that will lead to a better future for all.

OUR VISION

Philanthropy is a trusted partner in advancing the greater good.

OUR MISSION

The Council on Foundations fosters an environment where philanthropy can thrive and cultivates a community of diverse and skilled philanthropic professionals and organizations who lead with integrity, serve as ethical stewards, and advocate for progress.

OUR CORE BELIEFS

The Council on Foundations believes in:

Philanthropy.

Philanthropy plays a critical role in strengthening diverse civil society and supporting communities where everyone thrives.

Community.

By fostering a community of philanthropic leaders who generously share knowledge and resources, build trusting relationships and engage in challenging conversations across difference, we can enhance the impact of grantmakers across the U.S. and around the world.

Integrity.

Public trust in philanthropy expands when our field demonstrates high professional and ethical standards, integrates perspectives from those most affected by our decisions and commits to continual learning.

Awareness.

A more robust understanding of philanthropy by policy makers and the public helps create the supportive policy environment needed to expand individual and institutional giving in the United States.

Collaboration.

We encourage and support multi-sector collaboration and partnerships as philanthropy works to address systemic issues.

Talent.

Philanthropic organizations are continually expanding their knowledge and understanding of how change happens. A diverse, empathetic and skilled workforce is essential to realize the full promise of philanthropy and keep pace with community needs.

