



Member Services

Updated December 2019

Policy

Purpose: To provide guidance for the Association for member service matters.

1. The following services will be provided to members:
 - a. The Association provides a legal consultation service to members for professional purposes.
 - i. The member could have a one-time consultation with an appointed attorney regarding any type of dispute with his/her school board or administration for finding out if he/she (the teacher) has a case to pursue.
 - ii. The consultation service will not be in lieu of the professional liability insurance with a cap of 1,000 per case.
 - b. Post career opportunities on the Careers page of the VATAT website.
 - c. Professional Liability insurance.
 - d. Maintain an up-to-date website and social media presence for member use.
 - e. Lobbyist working for agriculture science teachers' interests in Austin
 - f. Legislative updates concerning agriculture science
 - g. VATAT Membership Online (online member directory)
 - h. Access to the VATAT Credit Union
 - i. Monthly VATAT Publication
 - j. FFA 15% discount at Wyndham Hotels nationwide
 - k. Annual VATAT Awards and recognition
 - i. Awards will include tenure awards given at five year intervals, beginning at five years tenure.
 - ii. Honorary life memberships will be given to retiring members with at least 25 years of VATAT tenure.
 - iii. Awards will include recognition three outstanding teachers at varying levels of experience.
 - iv. Other awards include
 1. Outstanding School Administrator Award
 2. Outstanding Chapter Advocate Award
 3. Outstanding Publication Award
 4. Outstanding Broadcast Award
 5. Outstanding Television Station Award
 6. Outstanding Media Award
 7. Outstanding Social Media Award
 - l. VATAT Scholarships for active members' children
 - m. Special VATAT events at the annual VATAT Professional Development Conference
 - n. VATAT Professional Development Conference is included with VATAT Membership
 - o. The \$20/\$10 Life Insurance Plan be named the Kenneth Hughes \$20/\$10 Life Insurance Plan.
 - i. Teachers may join the plan between July 1 and November 1 each year. If a member discontinues his/her membership but later chooses to re-enter, he/she may do so by paying \$20 for each death occurred since he/she left the program.

- ii. If a member of the insurance program leaves the profession and later returns, he/she may re-enter the insurance program as a new member if his/her membership was current when he/she left.
 - iii. The interest earned on the escrow account of the life insurance plan will be used to defray the expenses of mailing and printing material for the plan.
 - p. Use of the Agricultural Education Ford Texas FFA Leadership Center
 - q. Professional New Teacher Mentoring Program
 - r. VATAT Crisis Fund
2. The Executive Director will speak to student teaching blocks or pre-student teaching blocks to promote VATAT membership and benefits.
 3. The committee will investigate new services to offer to members.
 4. The Association maintains a close liaison with the officials of the VATAT Credit Union and promote Credit Union benefits to members.

Operational Protocols

1. Promote membership by recognizing membership tenure at general sessions and area meetings.
 - a. Acquiring and presenting tenure awards as per discretion of the Executive Director
 - b. Recognize retiring teachers who are VATAT members.
2. Work with the membership committee with organizing Family night, including door prizes.
3. Explore the option to have text alerts that remind members of deadlines and notices pertaining to members; i.e. deadlines, VATAT Scholarship for member's children, etc.
4. Develop methods to promote awareness that the VATAT Conference program satisfies the required CEU's for maintaining teacher certifications.
5. Give information to teacher trainers to promote membership.
6. Staff will provide information on the PAC and Crisis Fund before the conference so that teachers will know what they are when so they can contribute.