

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF MUSIC
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DEFINITIONS OF INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Institutional Membership signifies accreditation. Institutions eligible to apply for Membership include colleges, universities, and independent schools of music.

Associate Membership may be granted to baccalaureate and/or graduate degree-granting institutions, community colleges, and non-degree-granting institutions applying for the first time that meet all curricular standards and all other applicable standards of the Association, and which are developing in areas related to purposes or operations. Accreditation with Associate Membership is valid for up to five years. At the end of this period, such institutions will be required to satisfy all criteria for Membership in the Association.

Membership may be granted to baccalaureate and/or graduate degree-granting institutions, community colleges, and postsecondary non-degree-granting institutions meeting all of the standards of the Association. Institutions approved for Membership are granted five-year periods of accreditation. At the end of five years, such institutions are expected to apply for renewal of Membership. Institutions approved for renewal of Membership are granted ten-year periods of accreditation.

When certain criteria are met, NASM reviews community education divisions of collegiate-level programs. These are undertaken on the same schedule as reviews for the collegiate music unit(s), unless an institution specifically requests a different schedule. More detail is found in the NASM [Membership Procedures](#).

For more information about institutional membership categories, see the Bylaws, published in the NASM *Handbook*.

The standards for all types of institutional Membership are published in the NASM *Handbook* and any current addenda.