

Sponsor FAQ

Why do I need a sponsor to join the Society for Neuroscience?

As part of the organization's by-laws, all new members are required to be sponsored by two active members. The purpose of this requirement is to increase your network.

Who can sponsor my membership application?

Any Postdoc, Regular or Emeritus SfN member with an active membership for the current year may serve as a sponsor.

What do I need from my sponsors?

When you apply for SfN membership on SfN.org, you will need to enter your sponsors' last name and member ID number.

Where can I find my sponsors' member ID numbers?

You will need to get this directly from your sponsor as member ID numbers are not made public. If a sponsor doesn't know their member ID number, they can find it by logging into their profile on SfN.org. Alternatively, the sponsor can email membership@sfn.org for their member ID number.

What if I don't know any SfN members?*

Start by going to the [Member Directory on SfN.org](https://www.sfn.org/membership/member-directory) to locate the contact information of potential sponsors. To improve your search, you should limit it to a small population, such as an institution. If you would like to search for members in a particular city, you may want to limit the search by entering one letter in the last or first name field.

What should I say when I reach out to a potential sponsor?

While this is at your discretion, some ideas are to include your reasons for joining the Society, information about your current position/research, and a copy of your CV.

If I contact a SfN member to request sponsorship, will they respond?

While there is no guarantee that every person you contact will respond to you and agree to sponsor your membership application, many will. SfN members are generally happy to expand the community and lend support to new members. It is a good idea to contact several potential sponsors.

Are there exceptions?

Applicants in countries with low membership may elect to have their application reviewed by members of the SfN Global Membership Committee. These applications must be submitted by email, fax, or mail. Please note that this process can take up to 30 days and exceptions are rare.

You're serious about neuroscience, and we're serious about you. Take advantage of the opportunity to begin building your network. As a member of the Society for Neuroscience, you are one of nearly 38,000 voices advocating for the advancement of the understanding of the brain and nervous system. Take the first step and reach out, SfN will be there the rest of the way to provide you with opportunities to share your science, advocate on your behalf in the halls of government, and provide the tools to help you to advance your career.

*In order to protect members from third party solicitation, the Member Directory will return zero results if the search credentials entered yield more than fifty results.