

## <u>Initiation Fee Payment Plan Policy</u>

### **Installment Payment Plans**

To remove barriers to membership, AGMA provides members with access to payment plans for their Initiation Fee. Members currently paying their Initiation Fee through a payment plan agreement with AGMA may continue to make payments under their existing plan. Prospectively, individuals joining AGMA may elect to pay their Initiation Fee in installments as described below:

#### Monthly payments through credit/debit card

A new member may elect to pay their initiation fee in monthly installments at the minimum rate of 5% of the initiation fee until fully paid (At the time of the adoption of this Policy, 5% of the \$1,000 initiation fee is \$50.00);

Or

## Monthly payments through employer deductions

A new member working for a signatory company which agrees to deduct and remit initiation fee payments to AGMA may elect to pay their initiation fee in 5% installments until fully paid, to be deducted and remitted to AGMA by their employer(s).

# The following terms apply to all new members taking advantage of an Initiation Fee Installment Payment Plan:

- 1. All new members on an Installment Payment Plan must fill out and sign a Payment Plan Authorization Form (provided by AGMA), which requires a credit card or bank account information. Members whose employers will deduct and remit their installment payments must still provide account information so that AGMA can deduct payments in the event that the employer fails to properly deduct and remit the requirement payments.
- 2. Members on an Installment Payment Plan may make additional payments and/or pre-pay their initiation fee at any time without penalty.
- 3. A member utilizing an Installment Payment Plan who ceases working for an AGMA signatory company may contact AGMA to "pause" their payments until they resume working for an AGMA signatory employer. Such members will remain in good standing so long as they remain current on their annual dues. However, all AGMA members must pay their Initiation Fee in full within four (4) years of joining AGMA. In accordance with AGMA's Bylaws, members who fail to pay their full initiation fee within four (4) years will be expelled, and all monies paid toward the Initiation Fee shall be forfeited unless

- the member cures the delinquency within thirty (30) days. Should the member reapply for membership, the full Initiation Fee will be due at the time of re-application.
- 4. When a member has an Installment Payment Plan on pause, it is the member's responsibility to notify AGMA when they have resumed working under an AGMA contract and to resume installment payments at that time. If the member fails to notify AGMA and AGMA receives evidence that the member has resumed working under an AGMA collective bargaining agreement, AGMA may, with notice to the member, restart installment payments retroactive to the date when the member resumed work and the member will be charged a late payment fee.
- 5. Late payments will be subject to a late payment fee of \$35.

No exceptions to this Policy shall be permitted except with approval from AGMA's Chief Financial Officer and notice to the Administration and Policy Committee in accordance with AGMA's hardship policy.

Adopted by the AGMA Board of Governors: September 26, 2023