

FFMIA Corporate Membership Program FAQ's

Background:

The Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association (FFMIA) is a 501 (c) (3) corporation whose mission is to train and educate fire marshals and inspectors in the latest code driven requirements and industry trends. To be successful in this venture we have formed alliances with many private contractors, manufacturers, industry professionals and other fire and building code and service related associations. It is our belief that we must understand the industry that we are charged with enforcing regulations upon. We further need to understand legislative intentions as we provide committee testimony and aggressive pursuit of legislation that impacts our industry.

What does the FFMIA do on a daily basis for it's members?

FFMIA is managed on a day-to-day basis by a full time executive director. The duties of this individual are overseen by a voluntary board of directors. Additionally, FFMIA contracts with a private 3rd party vendor to manage all training and educational programs. This contract is vital to the core of what we do as they coordinate all classes, locations, logistics, Fire College approvals and maintenance and disposition of attendance rosters. FFMIA also contracts with a web and technical services company as well as an accountant, an attorney and finally a legislative representative (lobbyist).

What are 3 good reasons why I should give financial support to FFMIA?

- 1) FFMIA is widely recognized across the Country as a premier leader in the development of professional level fire service technical expertise. Our membership drives this level of commitment with their involvement in countless technical committees for all code promulgators. You can have a voice in the code making process for your industry through membership in FFMIA.
- 2) The FFMIA Board of Directors goal to provide training and education in all of our regions is accentuated by industry professionals such as yourself providing many of these training opportunities. We recognize your expertise in your field and we welcome your involvement in educating us to your industry standards. This will give you and your company/organization personal exposure to our membership, while assuring the AHJ's in your area are trained to your industry standard.
- 3) Your FFMIA staff is heavily engaged in the legislative process working with all fire service constituent groups and industry leaders. We provide testimony to assure we safeguard and protect fire service and industry legislation that has previously passed and to assure we educate Legislators of any proposed new Bills that would negatively impact the fire service, the safety of the citizens of Florida, or the fire protection community. You can have a voice in legislation that impacts your area of industry through membership in FFMIA.

How well does FFMIA manage my pledge?

FFMIA is proud to produce our most recent financial statement upon request. An audit of the 2015 finances produced a positive response and may be found on the home page of our website at www.ffmia.org.

What is the difference between being a corporate member and an associate?

Corporate membership is a level that a business or other entity achieves by virtue of a specific level of financial commitment annually to FFMIA. Corporate memberships often are held by contractors, businesses, corporations and other associations who benefit from an affiliation with FFMIA. These benefits range from exposure on our web site and newsletter to recognition at regional and statewide training events. Additional exposure is gained through participation in our chat group and other networking and social venues whereby we recognize our partnerships and nurture these relationships.

Associate membership is an individual designation. This is a regular membership status, but is reserved for persons who are not affiliated with a code enforcement agency (AHJ). This membership allows an individual to be a part of the organization and to participate in events at a member rate. This is a non-voting position in terms of elections and by-laws and the associate may not hold an office in the FFMIA.

Why am I asked to pay to be a vendor/sponsor at your conference if I am a corporate member?

Conferences are designed and intended to be self-sufficient. Membership dues (regular and corporate) are budgeted to pay for our operating costs for a given budget year. FFMIA has set various categories of corporate level memberships to fit individual needs. Your corporate membership allows us to accomplish the goals and objectives identified above and allows us to provide the best membership experience for all of our members.

We understand that money is a tight commodity and we understand that everyone needs to be able to justify a return on their investment. Our conferences are set up in such a manner that there are additional opportunities for you to reach the membership. Of course everything costs money. Conferences are not cheap and we must pay to produce a good product. Your participation allows us to take these events to greater levels each year and we are proud and humbled that you have trusted in us to share these opportunities.

What do I get in return for my corporate investment?

When considering which level is right for you, please also consider that we have a considerable commitment to you. We understand that you support us with an expectation of a return on your investment. That return is found through exposing you to every member in our association with any means available. Naturally the higher your investment in our membership, the more exposure we will commit to you.