



A • S • U

Australian Services Union
Victorian Authorities & Services Branch

Branch Policy

date: 30.11.09
code: VASB-P002
title: branch membership

Introduction >>

The aim of the policy is to ensure the income derived from union fees is spent on members who are committed to unionism and not on non-members who join the union for convenience purposes only.

This policy is based on the commitment of ASU Branch Executive and staff to providing industrial advice, advocacy and professional representation of the highest quality on the equal basis to all financial members.

Branch Membership

1. There will be no assistance to non-members, unless a special exemption is approved by the Branch Secretary.
2. Such exemptions will only be approved in circumstances where it is in the best interests of the members in the workplace and would only occur with the endorsement of the delegate/s and/or members at the workplace.
3. In the first three months from the date of joining as a member, a non-member will only be provided with advice and assistance to resolve an issue at a local level only. The exceptions would be if a member joins within two weeks of being employed, or in the case of a non-member where a problem developed that required advice and/or assistance after the date of joining. In the case of unfair dismissals, the Branch will only make application to Fair Work Australia, where a person has been a financial member for 6 months or more.
4. Where a non-member seeks advice about an existing problem or a member seeks advice about a problem that arose prior to the time they joined the union, no assistance will be given, subject to the provisions of clause 6 below.
5. Where a person experiences an ongoing problem while a financial member of the ASU but is no longer eligible to be a member of the ASU, the member shall continue to receive advice and assistance in relation to that problem.
6. In the interests of progressing the objectives of the union, a special exemption may be granted at the discretion of the Branch Secretary, whereby the above clauses may be waived in whole or in part.
7. Where an exemption is granted in accordance with the above, a fee equivalent to 2 times the annual fee at the time of joining or rejoining shall be charged.
8. This policy will not apply to junior Apprentices or junior Trainees.