

# SAGA MEMBERSHIP TIERS

SAGA is accessible to all actors in South Africa. SAGA is committed to building a broad base of membership among aspiring actors, professional actors and committed semi-professional actors.

Each membership tier has its own defined set of criteria through which candidates are assessed for eligibility.

The scale of fees and benefits is structured according to the needs of each tier.

A membership card reflecting the current status of the member is issued and is used to access the relevant benefits.

Any SAGA Associate or SAGA Student Member who is offered professional work as an actor would be eligible for SAGA Full membership and is encouraged to upgrade prior to signing a contract, as UASA's mandated waiting period would apply.

SAGA membership fees are subject to change annually on 1 March.

## 1. SAGA FULL MEMBERSHIP

### Eligibility

SAGA Full membership is open to any actor legally entitled to work in South Africa.

They should be engaged or about to be engaged as an actor in the film, television, theatre and radio industry.

Prospective members *may be* required to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the SAGA Executive Committee that they have the necessary training or work experience to be considered as professionals within the industry.

### Membership Fee

SAGA Full membership is currently R130.00 (2015)\* per month paid by debit-order. A member may elect to make an up-front annual payment of R1560.00 (2015)\*. SAGA membership fees are fully tax-deductible.

## Benefits

UASA benefits are *exclusive* to SAGA Full Members:

1. First-rate representation in contractual disputes, up to the level of the Constitutional Court where necessary.
2. SAGA Full Members may find themselves in formal permanent employment, in which case UASA's legal representation extends to the CCMA and Labour Court.
3. UASA's range of benefits includes an automatic funeral policy; a maternity benefit and preferential access to financial products and travel deals.
4. An exclusive SAGA/UASA card is issued to SAGA Full members and is used when accessing any of these benefits.
5. A further exclusive benefit to SAGA Full members is theatre ticket discounts offered at most major theatres around South Africa.

*Other Benefits of SAGA Full membership:*

1. Full voting rights.
2. Eligibility for election as SAGA office bearers.
3. Automatic access to SAGA standard contracts.
4. Free access to all SAGA-facilitated talks and workshops.
5. Subscription to newsletters.
6. Alerts to relevant opportunities.
7. A range of discounts that SAGA negotiates with service providers.

## 2. SAGA ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

### Eligibility

This tier is designed for aspirant professionals in the early stages of their careers.

SAGA Associate Membership is open to any actor legally entitled to work in South Africa. They should be engaged or about to be engaged as an actor in the film, television, theatre and radio industry.

It is renewable up to a maximum of two years.

SAGA Associate Members who are eligible can upgrade to SAGA Full Membership status at any time. In case of upgrade, UASA benefits are subject to the mandated waiting period.

## Membership Fee

1. Annual payment up-front of R800.00 (2015)\*
2. SAGA membership fees are fully tax-deductible.

## Benefits

1. Automatic access to SAGA standard contracts
2. Support from SAGA's in-house legal department
3. Access to the vast institutional knowledge of SAGA.
4. Free access to workshops organised and facilitated by SAGA.
5. Subscription to newsletters.
6. Alerts to relevant opportunities.
7. A range of discounts that SAGA negotiates with service providers.

## Restrictions

1. SAGA Associate Members do not have access to the benefits offered under the SAGA/UASA partnership.
2. Formal legal action would be for the member's own account.
3. SAGA Associate Members may not hold office or participate in SAGA elections.
4. The discounted theatre ticket benefit is reserved for SAGA Full Members and SAGA Associate Members are encouraged to upgrade as soon as they are ready to.

## 3. SAGA STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

### Eligibility

This tier is designed for final year performing arts/drama students and actors who are attached to verified community-based theatre groups. It is open to any student of a tertiary institution who is in their final year of study in the performing arts.

This tier is renewable up to a maximum period of two years. Community based actors may renew SAGA Student status beyond two years on motivated request.

SAGA Student Members who are eligible can upgrade to SAGA Full Membership status at any time. In the case of upgrade, UASA benefits are subject to the mandated waiting period.

### Membership Fee

1. Student SAGA membership requires an up-front annual payment of R300.00 (2015)\*
2. SAGA membership fees are fully tax-deductible.

## Benefits

1. Automatic access to SAGA standard contracts.
2. Support from SAGA's in-house legal department.
3. Access to the vast institutional knowledge vested in the Guild.
4. Free access to workshops organised and facilitated by SAGA.
5. Subscription to newsletters.
6. Alerts to relevant opportunities.
7. A range of discounts that SAGA negotiates with service providers.

## Restrictions

1. SAGA Student Members do not have access to the benefits offered under the SAGA/UASA partnership.
2. Formal legal action would be for the member's own account.
3. SAGA Student Members may not hold office or participate in SAGA elections.
4. The discounted theatre ticket benefit is reserved for SAGA Full Members and Student Members are encouraged to upgrade as soon as they are ready to.