

State Bar of Wisconsin Member Relations Committee Guidelines

The Member Relations Committee is a special committee, comprised of State Bar of Wisconsin members and a Wisconsin Association of Legal Administrators representative who have volunteered to serve on the committee. Each spring the State Bar President appoints and/or reappoints interested members to serve a one year term on the committee.

The Member Relations Committee oversees general member benefits. Member benefits related to specific areas such as insurance plans are handled by those committees, i.e., Insurance for Members Committee, etc.

Member Relations Committee members periodically take the following steps in regards to the existing member benefits:

1. Monitor the benefit program's usage and any royalties from vendors.
2. Evaluate if the benefit continues to be a true value to members.
3. Determine if the benefit continues not to be staff intensive.
4. Monitor that the vendor continues to market the benefit program.

The Member Relations Committee also reviews new benefit proposals received from committee members, State Bar of Wisconsin members and vendors. When reviewing proposals, committee members use the following criteria:

1. New benefit proposals cannot compete with current State Bar of Wisconsin programs.
2. If appropriate, explore possible beneficial royalty from vendor (not a condition of the endorsement).
3. Determine if the possible new benefit is a true value for as many State Bar of Wisconsin members as possible. This includes being sensitive to geographics (out-of-state, northern and western Wisconsin members) and subgroups (young lawyers, government and corporate lawyers).
4. Determine that the possible new benefit is not staff intensive.
5. If the committee agrees to proceed, appointed committee member(s) negotiate the contract.
6. The contract is to include specifics of marketing the program.
7. The contract is to include the vendor providing quarterly or monthly usage reports.
8. The committee recommends any benefits not in the Member Relations Committee's jurisdiction to the appropriate State Bar committee or group.