



THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT ATHENS

ΑΥΣΤΡΑΛΙΑΝΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

The AAIA is legally constituted under Greek law as one of twenty foreign archaeological schools in Greece. The Hellenic Ministry of Culture only allows researchers from postgraduate level onwards to be formal members of its foreign archaeological schools. To respond to this, we must distinguish our supporters into Researcher and Friend categories.

Researchers

Our researchers receive the most direct and intensive support from the AAIA. It is appropriate, therefore, that membership fees reflect this.

In 2024, the Director undertook considerable consultation on this with AAIA academic members, from postgraduate level to established scholars. All confirmed their willingness to pay elevated fees in recognition of the work required to realise their membership benefits. These were approved by the AAIA Executive Board.

Postgraduate Researcher: \$25 per year

Early Career Researcher: (up to 7 years after year of PhD award): \$150 per year

Established Researcher: \$250 per year

Emeritus scholars and **independent researchers** are eligible for the **Early Career Researcher** rate.

These fees will come into effect in 2026.

Membership remains free for the remainder of 2025.

Friends

Some of our supporters engage with the AAIA only through their local AAIA Friends Group and not with the AAIA itself. As a result, they have been missing out on receiving our annual *Bulletin* and direct notice of other events, including opportunities aimed at the public.

To ensure we can communicate directly with all our supporters, we ask all current non-academic supporters to join the AAIA itself as Friend, and to indicate which local Friends Group you would like to affiliate with.

This change does not impact the autonomy of each Friends Group to deliver its stimulating programme of events: your local Friends group will continue to organise the activities you have always enjoyed.

It does allow the AAIA to provide each Friend Group with direct financial support to bolster local activities, something we have not been able to do before.

Furthermore, we are now able to establish a new Friends Group in Melbourne and revitalise our Sydney Friends Group.

All membership is free for the remainder of 2025!

Membership renewal will be on 1 February beginning in 2026.

While anyone is welcome to join at any time, unfortunately we do not have staffing capacity to offer pro-rata rates for supporters who join mid-cycle.

Community, Corporate, and Governor

Some of you may observe that the categories of Community, Corporate, and Governor do not feature in this new membership structure. Their terms were never defined in our previous governance. This has rendered it difficult to align them with the membership system under which we must operate now, as well as current philanthropy legislation and practice. Nevertheless, we acknowledge and celebrate our individual supporters to date on our website, as we wish to recognise their invaluable contribution to the AAIA.

Individual members who have been Governors or Life Members of the AAIA or their local Friends Group will remain members for life without further payment. Nevertheless, we ask all our supporters to re-register under the new membership categories now so that we can communicate directly with you.

We look forward to continuing to work with individuals, community groups and organisations to undertake and disseminate research into topics of particular interest, as per our mission. We welcome the development of collaborations to further such initiatives.

May 2025