

FEE SCHEDULE OF THE GERMAN SUSTAINABLE BUILDING COUNCIL (DGNB E.V.)

(Valid from 19 June 2024)

Part 1: Ordinary memberships

Categories*	Annual fee in € (net)
A) Consulting and design firms	
A0: 1 employee	250
A1: > 1 to 5 employees	550
A2: > 5 to 20 employees	1,100
A3: > 20 to 100 employees	2,200
A4: > 100 employees	5,500
B) Private businesses (whose business does not fall within category A)	
B1: up to €500,000 turnover**	550
B2: > €500,000 up to €10 million turnover**	1,100
B3: > €10 million up to €100 million turnover**	2,200
B4: > €100 million turnover**	5,500
** Turnover means sales revenue achieved in the previous financial year as per Section 275 (2) German Commercial Code (HGB)	
C) Public sector and non-governmental organisations	
C1: Towns and municipalities ≤ 20,000 inhabitants	880
C2: Towns and municipalities > 20,000 to 100,000 inhabitants	1,320
C3: Towns and municipalities > 100,000 inhabitants	2,200
C4: Other non-governmental organisations, corporations under public law	2,200
D) Universities	
D1: Universities	2,200
D2: Chairs/institutes	1,100
E) Associations	
E1: Associations	1,100

Note: Start-ups and business founders in categories A to E can apply in writing for a 50% reduction in the membership fee. The reduced membership fee is granted for three years after the DGNB assesses the application.

* Please refer to the notes on the fee schedule

Part 2: Further memberships

Categories*	Annual fee in € (net)
F) Partial member	
F1: Students, retirees and unemployed people	60
F2: Private individuals	250
G) Supporting member	
G1: Non-profit corporations, organisations and associations	1,100
H) Group member	
H1: Individual sub-organisation(s)* 50% membership fee each according to fee schedule part 1	
H2: Umbrella organisation*:	
With up to 9 sub-organisations	15,000
Each additional sub-organisation beyond the 9 sub-organisations	1,000
H3: Organisations including project companies*	membership fee according to fee schedule part 1

* Please refer to the notes on the fee schedule

NOTES ON THE FEE SCHEDULE OF THE GERMAN SUSTAINABLE BUILDING COUNCIL (DGNB E.V.)

General explanations

- Every applicant and every member is obliged, in the interests of the association, to provide the office with truthful and accurate information as required for correct collection of the membership fee. The DGNB reserves the right to request corresponding proof to this effect. If this information is not provided, the office may place members in the highest membership fee category.
- Companies and other groups of individuals must appoint a representative to exercise membership rights.
- A personal contact authorised to exercise membership rights must be appointed for each member.
- Membership fees are subject to statutory value added tax.
- The DGNB regularly reviews membership fees and may adjust them.
- Start-ups and business founders in categories A to E can submit an application for a 50% reduction in the membership fee. This application must be made in writing. The applicant must provide the DGNB with the required documentation. If the application is approved, the discount will be granted for three years from the date the company was founded. Discounts will only be granted for companies that are genuine start-ups in an economic sense; they will not be granted for mergers, changes of legal form, demergers, etc.
Member companies who take advantage of start-up and business founder discounts have the same rights as ordinary members.

Notes on part 1: Ordinary members

Definition of ordinary member

Any natural person of legal age as well as corporations, institutions, scientific organisations, partnerships, limited companies and other legal entities that have a special connection with the building industry due to their activities can become an ordinary member of the association.

Membership is intended for the entire organisation, not for individual divisions, departments or company sites.

Natural persons include, in particular, those who earn income from freelance work within the meaning of Section 18 (1) No. 1, 2 of the German Income Tax Act (EStG) and those who act solely for purposes that cannot be attributed to their commercial or professional activity.⁰

Applicants must prove to the DGNB that membership is not exclusively attributable to their private activity. If this proof is not provided, membership fees will be determined by taking the business accounts of the employer or company of the future member into account.

Definition of category A) Consulting and design firms

Company proprietors and employed technical and commercial staff are considered to be employees; in contrast, freelancers, trainees, apprentices and student interns are not considered to be employees. When establishing the number of employees, regular part-time employees working no more than 10 hours per week count as 0.25 of an employee, no more than 20 hours as 0.5 and no more than 30 hours as 0.75.

This category includes service providers – in particular architects, consultants, designers, real estate agents, engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, property developers, lawyers, industry experts, corporate consultants, etc. Annual average figures are used to calculate the number of employees.

Definition of category B) Private businesses

This category includes all private firms whose business does not fit into category A – particularly banks, construction product manufacturers, building material manufacturers, construction firms, financiers, tradespeople, retail companies, hotels, real estate companies, cleaning and recycling companies, software companies, insurance firms, housing associations, publishers, etc.

Rights of ordinary members

Ordinary members are entitled to vote at the general assembly and can participate in committees and the DGNB pool of experts. They have access to the non-public area of myDGNB, receive member information and can advertise their DGNB membership (use of the association logo/see DGNB style guide for members). They also receive a member discount on DGNB products such as certifications, further education and training, events, etc.

However, natural persons can only purchase one product or one entry for an event at a time.

Notes on part 2: Other members

F) Partial member

Definition of partial member

Any natural person of legal age who has a special connection with the building industry and acts solely for purposes that cannot be attributed to their commercial or professional activity can become a partial member of the association. This includes full-time students.

Students, retirees, and unemployed people must provide the DGNB with proof of their status on an annual basis. Partial members can only gain membership if they provide their private contact details.

Rights of partial members

Partial members receive member information and can advertise their DGNB membership (use of the association logo/see DGNB style guide for members). They have access to the non-public area of myDGNB.

Partial members in category F2 (private individuals) also receive the respective member discount on certification projects where it can be demonstrated that these are private projects.

Partial members are not entitled to vote at the general assembly and are not entitled to DGNB Academy membership prices. They cannot participate in the DGNB's committees or expert pool.

G) Supporting member

Definition of supporting member

Only non-profit corporations, organisations and associations can become supporting members of the DGNB. They must

appoint a representative to exercise supporting member rights.

Rights of supporting members

Supporting members can participate in the DGNB pool of experts. They have access to the non-public area of myDGNB, receive member information and can advertise their DGNB membership (use of the association logo/see DGNB style guide for members).

Supporting members do not have the right to vote at the general assembly and cannot participate in DGNB committees. In addition, they do not receive member discounts on DGNB products such as certifications, further education and training, events, etc.

H) Group members

Definition of group member

If a corporation comprises a number of individual, legally independent sub-organisations beneath an umbrella organisation, the sub-organisations can apply for group membership if the umbrella organisation is an ordinary member or category H3 group member of the DGNB.

In particular, umbrella organisations cannot be: chambers, associations and societies.

If an umbrella organisation is or seeks to become a member, sub-organisations of the umbrella organisation are excluded from automatically being or becoming members of the DGNB.

Definition of category H1) Individual sub-organisation(s)

The umbrella organisation pays the full membership fee corresponding to its contribution category. All sub-organisations receive a 50% discount on the membership fee corresponding to their contribution category. Each sub-organisation must apply for membership independently.

The written consent of the umbrella organisation is required to apply for group membership.

Definition of category H2) Umbrella organisation with sub-organisations

The umbrella organisation and sub-organisations become members of the DGNB. The umbrella organisation is an ordinary member of the DGNB.

Membership is applied for by the umbrella organisation for itself and the desired sub-organisations. A personal contact authorised to exercise membership rights must be appointed for each member.

Definition of category H3) Organisations including project companies

Organisations can be both umbrella organisations and sub-organisations; as such, a combination with group membership H1 and H2 is possible. The membership fee is calculated based on the classification of the organisation and the associated project companies. With H3 DGNB membership, an organisation can enable its project companies to certify in accordance with DGNB membership conditions.

An organisation and its project companies fall into the H3 category if:

- The member organisation directly holds at least 50% of the shares in the project company
- The project company is not intended to be permanent and was only founded for the development/construction of a project

Proof that the requirements are satisfied must be provided on request.

Note: project companies that develop/build several projects or are set up for the long term must become independent DGNB members. Group membership in accordance with category H1 is suitable for this purpose.

Rights of group members

Group members can participate in DGNB committees and the expert pool. They have access to the non-public area of myDGNB, receive member information and can advertise their DGNB membership (use of the association logo/see DGNB style guide for members). They also receive the respective member discount on DGNB products such as certifications, further education and training, events, etc.

Group members do not have the right to vote at the general assembly. Voting rights are reserved solely for the umbrella organisation. If, however, the sub-organisations desire the right to vote, they must apply for regular ordinary membership.