



APPLICATION FORM – ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Editors of publications with audited circulations of at least 10,000 must submit:

1. A one-page letter detailing your work and experience in professional journalism, length of time in the travel-writing field, percentage of time devoted to travel journalism, and any other pertinent information about your education and/or work in the travel or journalism fields.
2. A copy of your publication's masthead with your name indicated as editor.
3. Five samples of your work.
4. Two [Sponsor Forms](#).

Staff Writers or Freelance Journalists must submit:

1. A one-page letter detailing your work and experience in professional journalism, length of time in the travel-writing field, percentage of time devoted to travel journalism, and any other pertinent information about your education and/or work in the travel or journalism fields.
2. Five travel articles, columns or features with minimum word counts of 250 published within the previous 12 months in publications with audited circulations of at least 10,000. Submissions can be photocopied, scanned or sent as PDFs and must show byline, publication name and date. Two co-bylined articles with two or more author names listed on the published article are acceptable for two of the five article submissions. Applicants may submit two online clips to count toward the five article submissions as long as they were paid to produce the clip, the online outlet that hosts the clip demonstrates at least 10,000 sessions per month, and the clip has a minimum word count of 250.*
3. Two [Sponsor Forms](#).

Book Authors must submit:

1. A one-page letter detailing your work and experience in professional journalism, length of time in the travel-writing field, percentage of time devoted to travel journalism, and any other pertinent information about your education and/or work in the travel or journalism fields.
2. A copy of your most recent travel-related title with a minimum press run of 3,000 copies published within the previous 12 months.
3. Two [Sponsor Forms](#).

Broadcast journalists must submit:

1. A one-page letter detailing your work and experience in professional journalism, length of time in the travel-writing field, percentage of time devoted to travel journalism, and any other pertinent information about your education and/or work in the travel or journalism fields.
2. A letter from station management carrying your programs that details program length; program frequency; station call letters or other identifying information; size of audience, how long the program has aired and confirms you are paid for your work.
3. Five episodes or segments via MP3, MP4, links to podcasts, cassette, DVD or CD air-check.
4. Two [Sponsor Forms](#).



Travel photographers must submit:

1. A one-page letter detailing your work and experience in professional journalism, length of time in the travel-writing field, percentage of time devoted to travel journalism, and any other pertinent information about your education and/or work in the travel or journalism fields.
2. A minimum of five images published within the previous 12 months in five different outlets each with print circulations of 10,000 or more, or a minimum of 10,000 sessions per month for online publications. For photography used in travel-related books, the initial print run must be at least 3,000. Photographers must be able to verify that they were paid for all images submitted as part of the MTJA Inc. application.*
3. Two [Sponsor Forms](#).

MTJA Inc. strongly encourages photographers to work with a variety of writers and publications/outlets, and it is preferred that travel photographer applicants demonstrate a body of work beyond sole collaboration with one other MTJA Inc. member. Travel photographer applicants must note on their application if they work with a current MTJA Inc. member.

Bloggers must submit:

1. A one-page letter detailing your work and experience in professional journalism, length of time in the travel-writing field, percentage of time devoted to travel journalism, and any other pertinent information about your education and/or work in the travel or journalism fields.
2. PDFs or screenshots of five paid blog posts (minimum word counts of 250) the applicant has written within the previous 12 months. Any blogs that the applicant has written for must be active for at least two years prior to application for MTJA Inc. Membership, and must demonstrate at least 5,000 unique visitors per month on average over the previous 12 months. Blogger applicants should be prepared to verify payment for their work, or to show proof of income from their own personal travel-related blogs.
3. Two [Sponsor Forms](#).

***The following do not meet Active Membership Requirements and are not eligible to submit as writing samples/clips:**

Travel articles, photos or content sponsored or paid for by Convention & Visitor Bureaus (CVBs), State Tourism Offices, Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs) or similar promotional entities. Copy produced by brand ambassadors; paid or sponsored influencers; or others hired to promote a particular destination, region, topic or carrier.

Verification of payment and audience size:

Please note, if there is a question as to whether a clip meets MTJA Inc. Membership Requirements, it is the responsibility of applicants to submit to the Membership Review Committee verification of payment for their work (but not the amount of payment) and acceptable documentation regarding circulation, users, viewership, listeners and/or audience size as requested.



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SPONSORS

Applicants must be sponsored by two current MTJA Inc. Active or Associate members in good standing who have been members of the Association for at least one year. Each sponsor must submit a separate **Sponsor Form** for your application to proceed. Sponsors should familiarize themselves with the applicant’s work enough to make sure that the applicant meets membership qualification requirements before submitting a sponsor form.

Please note: It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure Sponsor Forms are submitted in a timely manner directly to the MTJA Inc. mailing address or submitted electronically to admin@mtja.us.

MTJA Sponsors

1. _____
2. _____

Applicants should mail all hard copy materials along with a non-refundable \$50 application fee check payable to “Midwest Travel Journalists Association Inc. to:

MTJA Inc.
902 S. Randall Road, Suite C311
St. Charles, IL 60174

Or submit materials electronically to: admin@mtja.us.

To pay non-refundable \$50 application fee by credit card, please [CLICK HERE](#) or provide the details below.

Cardholder Name <i>(as it appears on card)</i>				
Phone		Email		
Card Type <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> Amex		Expiration		CID*
Card Number				
Card Billing Address <i>(must be exact)</i>				
City		State		Zip