

Greater Regional Alliance of REALTORS®
660 Kenmoor Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-2331
940-8200/Fax 940-8216

NEW

LICENSEE INFORMATION PACK

The following forms and information sheets are included:

- Application Instructions
- Step-by-Step Process
- Sample Application for REALTOR® Membership
- Benefits of Membership
- Prorated Membership Dues Schedule

2019

REALTOR APPLICATION & APPROVAL PROCESS

The Greater Regional Alliance of REALTORS® (GRAR) welcomes new REALTOR® member applicants who are licensed as associate brokers, salespersons, limited real estate appraisers, licensed appraisers, and/or certified appraisers, and who are affiliated with a Primary Designated REALTOR® (DR) member. The application and approval process includes the following steps:

1. **APPLICATION:** Please complete the online REALTOR® Application Form at <https://www.grar.com/licensing-membership-info/>. Once you have filled out the online application, you will need to print or PDF it and obtain your Designated REALTOR® or Branch Designated REALTOR®'s signature prior to submitting it to GRAR.
2. **FEES:** Upon completion of the online application, you will receive an email message with instructions on how to pay the \$400 Application Fee and your pro-rated membership dues for the remaining calendar year. These fees are non-refundable once paid and may be paid online at the link provided in the email message.

Note: Provided continuous membership is maintained, the Application Fee is a one-time fee. Former REALTOR® members have the ability to reinstate membership within one year of the date of cancellation of membership by paying a Reinstatement Fee equal to ½ of the current Application Fee, as well as any outstanding amounts. In these cases, completion of the New Member Orientation Program may also be necessary.

3. **LICENSE:** You will need your license number to complete the application process.
4. **ELECTRONIC KEY:** Once the completed application is on file at GRAR and the app fee and prorated dues have been paid, you may obtain an e-key that will be active for 45 days pending membership approval. If you have an iphone, there is a fee of \$50.95 + tax for an adapter. You may schedule an appointment to obtain your e-key by contacting Krissie at krissie@grar.com or 616/940-8225. The REALTOR Store (lower level of GRAR) is open between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. **If membership is not approved within 45 days (i.e. completion of the training below) the ekey will be made inactive until the training is complete.**

5. **TRAINING:**

- a. First, attend the classroom portion of the GRAR New Member Orientation Program, which is held approximately once per month at the GRAR office from 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This session addresses industry issues and trends, MLS instruction, REALTOR safety, marketing tips and techniques, member benefits, and much more.
- b. Second, complete the GRAR on-line Comprehension Exam with a passing grade of 80% or better. This is a user-friendly, open book course that is taken at your convenience on your own computer. The course curriculum focuses on the GRAR Bylaws, MLS Rules and Regulations, anti-trust issues, fair housing, agency, etc. Access to this exam will be provided upon completion of the aforementioned classroom session.
- c. Next, complete the NAR on-line Code of Ethics training. This is an interactive, comprehensive review of the REALTOR® Code of Ethics. Access to this training will be provided.

6. **SPECIAL PERK - ATTEND A CORE KNOWLEDGE COURSE AND RECEIVE A REFUND:**

You are invited to complete one educational course focused on basic negotiation, selling, or appraisal skills (whichever is applicable based upon your license type). This course may be taken online or in person via GRAR or a GRAR-approved instructor/school. Upon submission of evidence of completion of the course, the Core Knowledge Refund Claim Form, and a copy of the receipt for the course, GRAR will refund the cost of the course (up to \$100) if it's taken within twelve (12) months of approval of your membership. If the course is not completed within the prescribed timeframe, you will not be eligible to claim a refund. This service is not offered by other Associations!

If you have any questions concerning the application and/or approval process, please don't hesitate to contact Paige Mather at paigem@grar.com or 616-940-8218. Thank you for your interest in REALTOR membership in the Greater Regional Alliance of REALTORS®. We look forward to partnering with you!

GRAR MEMBERSHIP PROCESS CHECKLIST FOR NEW APPLICANTS

STEP

1



Complete online application

- Go to www.grar.com, GRAR Resources, Membership, Licensing & Membership.
- Fill out the app and then save as a PDF or print and obtain broker signature.
- Email fully executed application to application@grar.com.
- You will receive an email confirmation with your user ID & password.

STEP

2



Pay \$400 app fee & pro-rated membership dues

- Go to www.grar.com, Member Login (top right)
- Using your user ID and password, sign in.
- Click on [My Account](#), then [Pay Membership Dues](#) where you will pay both your prorated membership dues AND application fee.
- You will receive an email confirmation with next step instructions.

STEP

3



Register & Attend New Member Orientation

- Your confirmation email from Step 2 will include a link where you can sign in (using your user ID and password) and select the preferred date for completing the in-person portion of the New Member Orientation class.
- The class is held at the GRAR office at 660 Kenmoor SE, Grand Rapids, MI.

STEP

4



Complete the Online Code of Ethics Course

- Your confirmation email from Step 2 will include a link and instructions for completing the NAR New Member Code of Ethics online.
- This may be taken prior to attendance at New Member Orientation, if desired.

STEP

5



Obtain E-Key (optional)

- Once you have completed Steps 1 and 2, you are eligible to receive a temporary e-key for accessing electronic lockboxes on listings.
- Stop by the Realtor Store on the lower level of GRAR to sign the E-Key agreement and receive your authorization code. This code will be set to expire after 45 days unless all remaining steps are completed.

STEP

6



Complete Online Comprehension Test

- Once you have completed Step 3 (attendance at New Member Orientation), you will receive an email message with a link and instructions for completing the GRAR online comprehension test.
- It can be taken at your convenience, but we can only approve membership once this final step is complete.

Congratulations!

Once all 6 steps are complete, you will receive a confirmation email that your membership has been approved!



APPLICATION FOR REALTOR® MEMBERSHIP

For real estate professionals licensed as:

Brokers, Associate Brokers, Salesperson, Certified Appraisers, Licensed Appraisers, Limited Real Estate Appraiser

applying for membership in the Greater Regional Alliance of REALTORS®

01/19

The term REALTOR® is the exclusive designation of the members of the National Association of REALTORS®, its local boards and state Associations. It is listed in the U.S. Patent Office as a registered collective membership mark and may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the National Association of REALTORS® and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics.

I hereby apply for REALTOR® membership in the Greater Regional Alliance of REALTORS® (GRAR/Association) and agree to pay the non-refundable application fee in the amount of **\$400, together with pro-rated membership dues for the remaining calendar year.**

I understand that membership brings certain privileges and obligations that require compliance, including the following:

- I will attend orientation within sixty (60) days of the Association's receipt of my application for membership.
- Membership in the Association necessarily means that I am also a member of Michigan REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS® and I agree to abide by the Code of Ethics of the National Association, which includes the duty to arbitrate (or to mediate if required by the Association), as well as the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, Michigan REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS®, all as from time to time amended. Further, I agree to satisfactorily complete the periodic Code of Ethics training and a reasonable and non-discriminatory written examination on such Code, Constitutions, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations.
- I acknowledge that as a member of the Association, I will be licensed to use the REALTOR® trademarks to indicate such membership, and I agree to abide by the rules governing use of those trademarks. I understand that REALTOR® is a federally registered trademark of the National Association and use of this designation is subject to rules promulgated by the National Association. Upon termination of my membership in the Association for any reason, my license to use the term REALTOR® is automatically revoked and I will immediately discontinue use of the term REALTOR® and all REALTOR® trademarks.

I consent and authorize the Association to invite and receive information and comment about me from any person, and I agree that any information and comment furnished to the Association by any person in response to any such invitation shall be conclusively deemed to be privileged and shall not form the basis of any action by me for slander, libel, or defamation of character.

I acknowledge that if accepted as a member and I subsequently resign or am expelled from membership in the Association with an ethics complaint or arbitration request pending, the Board of Directors may condition renewal of membership upon verification that I will submit to the pending ethics or arbitration proceeding and will abide by the decision of the Hearing Panel; or if I resign or am expelled from membership without having complied with an award in arbitration, the Board of Directors may condition renewal of membership upon my payment of the award, plus any costs that have previously been established as due and payable in relation thereto, provided that the award and such costs have not, in the interim, been otherwise satisfied; or if I resign or otherwise cause membership to terminate, the duty to submit to arbitration continues in effect even after membership lapses or is terminated, provided the dispute arose while I was a REALTOR®.

I HEREBY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR CONSIDERATION:

FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE INITIAL _____ LAST NAME _____
NICKNAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____
HOME ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office # _____ Primary Phone # _____
Fax # _____ Cell # _____
Email Address: _____ Home # _____
Website: _____

If you would like consumers to locate you on the GRAR website based upon languages in which you are fluent (other than English), please indicate those additional languages here: _____

REAL ESTATE OR APPRAISAL COMPANY NAME _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip

THE COMPANY ADDRESS ABOVE IS: ☐ THE MAIN OFFICE or ☐ A BRANCH OFFICE

DATE LICENSED RECEIVED: _____ DATE LICENSED WITH ABOVE COMPANY: _____

Check each type of your licenses *that are active with the State of Michigan*:

- ☐ Individual broker ☐ Associate broker ☐ Salesperson ☐ Certified General Appraiser
☐ Certified Residential Appraiser ☐ State Licensed Appraiser ☐ Limited Appraiser

Date you first became licensed as a: Salesperson _____ Broker/Assoc Broker _____

Certified Appraiser _____ State Licensed Appraiser _____ Limited Appraiser _____

- 1) Please list the names of any real estate boards/associations that you currently hold membership in and the type of membership held: _____
- 2) Please list the names of any real estate boards/associations that currently provide you with MLS access and/or materials: _____
- 3) Please list the names of any real estate boards/associations that you were previously affiliated with either as a member and/or MLS user: _____
- 4) Have you ever been refused membership in any other real estate board/association? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If Yes, state the basis for each refusal and detail the circumstances related thereto: _____
- 5) Are there now, or have there been within the past five years, any complaints against you or your firm with which you have been associated before any state real estate or appraisal regulatory agency, any other agency of government or any real estate board? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If Yes, specify the substance of each complaint in such state, the agency or board before which the complaint was made, and the current status or resolution of such complaint: _____
- 6) Are there now or have there been within the past five years any lawsuits brought against the company which you have been associated with which involve claims for damages or alleged breach of contract in a real estate transaction or due to an appraisal performed? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If Yes, specify the substance of such lawsuit, the court in which it was filed and the current status or resolution of suit. _____
- 7) Are you currently or have you in the past been a party to a lawsuit? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If yes, please describe: _____
- 8) Are you now employed or engaged in any other business or profession? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If Yes, please specify: _____
- 9) Is the firm address, as stated, your principal place of business? ☐ YES ☐ NO
If No, or if you have any branch offices, please indicate and give addresses: _____
- 10) If you are actively engaged in the appraisal business, is the firm name and address provided the only entity for which you perform appraisals? ☐ YES ☐ NO If No, please provide additional firm names and addresses: _____
- 11) Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a felony? ☐ YES ☐ NO If Yes, please explain: _____

I hereby certify that the foregoing information furnished by me is true and correct, and I agree that failure to provide complete and accurate information as requested, or any misstatement of fact, shall be grounds for revocation of my membership, if granted. In addition, I understand that I must complete GRAR Orientation and Comprehension Test (which is a prerequisite for membership), provide a copy of my real estate and/or appraiser license(s), and submit the proper application fee(s), and any other required documentation requested by the Association, in order for my application to be processed and considered for approval. In the event I am a sole proprietor, principal, partner, LLC member, or corporate officer of the firm, I authorize the Association to obtain a credit report about me from any credit reporting agency. In addition to the provisions in the GRAR Bylaws pertaining to my credit history, if I have had a previous membership in GRAR or another REALTOR® organization, and I have documented history of financial delinquencies to GRAR or another REALTOR® organization, the GRAR Board of Directors may elect to approve my membership subject to the following terms: For a period of one year from the date of approval of membership, payment for all dues/fees must be made in the form of cash (no checks or credit cards permitted) at least one month in advance of the payment due date. I agree that, if accepted for membership in the Association, I shall pay the fees and dues as from time to time established by the Board of Directors, the MLS Rules and Regulations, and the Bylaws. I hereby authorize GRAR to forward any communications it deems appropriate to me via one or more of the following methods: direct mail, e-mail, facsimile, etc. I hereby authorize GRAR to perform a background check about me. Also, I understand that the term "REALTOR®" denotes a member of the Association (and does not denote a profession) and will not use the term to describe myself by any means until I have received notice of my approval as a REALTOR® member from the Association.

Date

Applicant Signature

As an individual granted access to the MLS, I accept and agree to all of the following:

- 1) To keep confidential the password granted to me. I will not post, share, disseminate, or record the password in any way.
- 2) To accept responsibility for any action I take under my password.
- 3) To issue the appropriate sign-off command when leaving a computer terminal unattended, thus, preventing unauthorized use of my password.
- 4) To refrain from making the MLS information available to any person or entity except in connection with the regular conduct of my real estate or appraisal business, defined as a good faith effort to produce a sale, exchange, estimate of value, or lease of the property or properties involved. I will not sell or share copies of any MLS information, including connection software, to any non-participant of the MLS (including persons within my office). (Information and data compiled from the listings filed with the MLS shall be subject to the same rules and regulations as apply to copies of the listings themselves).
- 5) To not advertise or promote a listing without the prior consent of the listing broker.
- 6) To report to the CEO of GRAR any apparent breach of, threat to, or violation of MLS and/or computer system security, including breach of the user passwords.

I have read the above conditions, I understand these conditions, and agree to comply with them. Further, I understand that violation of this agreement may result in disciplinary action or prosecution, as defined by the MLS Exchange, Inc. policy that states: "ANY MLS USERS FOUND GUILTY OF SHARING THEIR MLS PASSWORD WILL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$2,500.00 (WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE POTENTIAL LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES) AND SUSPENSION FROM THE MLS FOR NOT LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS."

Date

Applicant Signature

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT I HAVE REVIEWED THE COMPLETED APPLICATION OF THE APPLICANT AND AGREE THAT I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE APPLICANT.

Date

Designated REALTOR® Signature

The many benefits of...MEMBERSHIP!



Public Affairs/Advocacy

- Protection of Private Property Rights
- Communication with Elected Officials
- Identification of Candidates that Support REALTOR® Issues
- Monitoring of Ballot Initiatives
- RPAC
- Promotion of Affordable Housing Initiatives

Multiple Listing Service

- MICHRIC MLS Database (22 counties wide)
- Residential Rental Listing Section (RRLS)
- The MLS Exchange Inc. (An MLS Cooperative for Designated REALTORS®)
- Tax, CMA, and Other Data Software
- Open House Search
- Data Verification & Quality Assurance
- Comparable & Statistical Data
- Calculators (Balloon, Mortgage, Seller's Net Sheet)

Dispute Resolution Services

- Professional Standards Program for Resolution of Business Disputes &/or Ethics Complaints
- Enforcement of the REALTOR® Code of Ethics
- Mediation Program
- Legal Action Fund
- Professional Expectations Program/Pledge
- Report Suspicious Mortgage Fraud Tool

Volunteer & Leadership Opportunities

- Committees, Task Forces, & Focus Groups
- Board of Directors
- Key Person Assignments to Local Municipalities
- Community Liaison Assignments

Member Services

- Real Estate Forms (hard copy & electronic)
- REALTOR® Store
- Supra Electronic Lockbox System (subscription based service)
- E-mail Accounts
- Non-MLS Tech Support (phones, printers, laptops, and other devices)
- Facebook Groups
- Forewarn App
- WearSafe Device
- Online Voting Programs
- Online Membership Roster
- Meeting Space Rental (Event Recording)
- Deluxe Hot Drink Bar
- Comprehensive Document Library
- REALTOR® Logos
- Awards Program (REALTOR®-of-the-Year, Good Neighbor, Young Professional, Most Congenial, Committee/Task Force Appreciation, etc.)
- Promotion of State & National Assoc. Benefits Packages
- Call Support by Professional Staff

Publications & Subscriptions

- Press Releases
- REALTOR® Report (weekly news)
- Statistical Reports (monthly)
- Shareable Blogs
- Annual Real Trends Subscription (Provided to all broker members- a \$350 value!)



Public Website (www.grar.com)

- Over 78,000 Unique Visitors (monthly)
- Property Search
- Find a REALTOR®
- Open House Search
- Neighborhoods
- Schools
- Economic Development Resources
- Buying & Selling Tips
- Foreclosure Resources
- Helpful Links

Education/Events

- Class and Event Schedules
- Annual Brokers Meeting
- Code of Ethics Training
- Continuing Education Courses
- Designation Programs
- Master of Brokerage Principles Certification
- Fair Housing & Diversity Training
- Core Knowledge Refund for New Members
- Installation & Awards Breakfast
- Legal Updates
- Lunch- n- Learn Topical Seminars
- Marketing Tips & Techniques
- New D.R. Orientation
- New REALTOR® Member Orientation
- REBarCamp
- Risk Reduction Resources
- Safety Training
- MICHRIC (MLS) Training
- "Young Professionals" Networking Events



Greater Regional Alliance of REALTORS®

2019 NEW MEMBER PRORATED MEMBERSHIP DUES SCHEDULE

NOTE: Amounts invoiced are determined based on date of licensure, not date of application.

MONTH	MR (State)	NAR (National)	GRAR (Local)	TOTAL DUE
January 2019	\$223.00	\$185.00	\$380.00	\$788.00
February 2019	\$210.50	\$172.50	\$348.00	\$731.00
March 2019	\$198.00	\$160.00	\$316.00	\$674.00
April 2019	\$185.50	\$147.50	\$284.00	\$617.00
May 2019	\$173.00	\$135.00	\$252.00	\$560.00
June 2019	\$160.50	\$122.50	\$220.00	\$503.00
July 2019	\$148.00	\$110.00	\$188.00	\$446.00
August 2019	\$135.50	\$ 97.50	\$156.00	\$389.00
September 2019	\$123.00	\$ 85.00	\$124.00	\$332.00
October 2019	\$110.50+	\$ 72.50+	\$ 92.00+	\$275.00+
November 2019	\$ 98.00+	\$ 60.00+	\$ 60.00+	\$218.00+
December 2019	\$ 85.50+	\$ 47.50+	\$ 28.00+	\$161.00+

+ Since membership dues for the ensuing calendar year are invoiced on October 1, new applicants from October through December will be assessed the pro-rated dues for the remaining calendar year PLUS the annual dues for the following calendar year. These amounts have not yet been established for 2020 but will be updated as soon as available.