

*The Board of Directors of Oak Ridge Associated Universities has approved the following criteria for evaluation of applications to become sponsoring institutions and associate members. The Council will consider applications in the context that:*

- *ORAU recognizes that university partnerships and interaction with national laboratories, such as Oak Ridge National Laboratory, have become more global in nature;*
- *ORAU acknowledges that membership criteria and institutions change over time. Institutions may retain their current status by continued payment of appropriate dues, and may apply to change status at the annual deadline;*
- *ORAU will recruit top tier research institutions as strategic partners that complement ORAU core competencies and enhance the competitiveness of ORAU and the existing members. ORAU will focus on colleges and universities with synergistic interests that would provide value to the consortium. ORAU welcomes universities from all geographic regions, including international universities, with a strong focus on how universities complement the needs and interests of current members; and*
- *ORAU will consider applicants for membership annually.*

### **Sponsoring Institutions**

- A. An ORAU sponsoring institution must be a non-profit institution of higher learning granting doctoral degrees in areas complementary to the interests of ORAU members and/or the programs of ORAU itself. An institution must be accredited by regional organizations and by appropriate professional organizations.
- B. The following desirable criteria will be considered in reviewing applications. Candidate institutions that do not meet these criteria may be encouraged to apply to become associate members of ORAU.
  1. Be among the nation's top universities as measured by inclusion in the top Carnegie categories of Research Universities and/or inclusion in the top 200 institutions listed in the NSF R&D expenditures tables.
  2. Be a comprehensive program offering doctoral degrees in multiple science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields for a minimum of the five previous years.
- C. For international universities applying for membership as a sponsoring institution the preferred approach would be for the international applicant to be recommended by an ORAU sponsoring institution.

### *Associates*

Associate members may include for-profit institutions and corporate entities; however, this membership category does not include community colleges.

The following criteria will be considered in evaluation of academic applicants for associate membership:

- A. An institution must be an accredited institution of higher learning offering bachelor's, master's or a limited number of doctoral degrees in areas complementary to the interests of ORAU members and/or the programs of ORAU.
- B. The following desirable criteria will be considered in reviewing applications. At least one must be met.
  - 1. Provide documentation of a record of producing high quality graduates in appropriate fields and placing them in graduate school, teaching positions, or government or private sector scientific facilities.
  - 2. Support research activities of faculty and students in appropriate fields.
  - 3. Ensure that the institution faculty in STEM fields is largely composed of full time appointments of individuals holding earned doctorates, who demonstrate a commitment to research and professional enhancement as established by funded external research support, and/or participation in fellowships, workshops, summer research assignments, sabbaticals, etc.

The following criteria will be considered in evaluation of non-academic entities, including for-profit and non-profit organizations, applying for associate membership.

- A. Demonstrate an established commitment to STEM education,
- B. Offer capabilities which enhance education and research; and
- C. Participate in research and/or educational partnerships with one of more of the ORAU Sponsoring Institutions.