



TOASTMASTERS FAQs

What is Toastmasters International?

[Toastmasters International](#) is a non-profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Headquartered in Colorado, the organization's membership exceeds 357,000 in more than 16,600 clubs in 143 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators, and leaders.

What are the benefits of membership?

- Improved communication,
- Build leadership skills
- Practice writing speeches and presenting in front of a group
- Potential for unlimited personal growth

Can anyone join the City's Toastmaster club?

The City's Toastmaster club is a "closed" group. Only full-time City employees may apply to participate. Club membership has a minimum of 20 and is capped around 30 participants.

How do I join the club?

Information about how and when to submit an application is available online at <https://www.sanantonio.gov/EmployeeInformation/Training/Toastmasters>

Twice a year, the City will accept applications for up to 30 participants (including a number who will carry over from previous cycle) to participate. Those without computer access may contact their Employee Relations partner for a paper application.

How often do the members meet?

The Club currently meets once per week during work hours. Due to COVID-19 the group is currently meeting virtually via Webex. You will need access to Webex, whether by phone line, computer with or without video, although video sharing is very valuable to club members in order to help members improve their speeches.

Is there a fee to participate?

Yes. The employee is responsible for two:

- \$20 new member fee (one-time fee)
- \$45 membership dues every 6 months

Will fees be reimbursed?

- At this time, the City of San Antonio is not reimbursing employees for their fees incurred to participate in this club.

What are the attendance and participation requirements?

In order to ensure the success of our Toastmasters chapter, it is essential that members make every effort to attend and actively participate in each meeting. Over the course of membership, it is expected that members will follow the “path” they are in, with a minimum of 5 speeches in each 6 month cycle. During meetings in which a member is not presenting a speech, it is expected the member will participate in another member role such as Toastmaster, Timekeeper, Grammarian, Evaluator, etc.

What is the Pathways program?

Pathways is Toastmasters’ exciting, interactive and flexible education program. With 11 paths to choose from, you have the option to pick which skills you want to focus on.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

For more information, call Human Resources Customer Service at (210) 207-8705 or email megan.janzen@sanantonio.gov