#### SAFER BUILDINGS COALITION MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

#### **GOVERNING AUTHORITY**

Membership eligibility criteria for the Safer Buildings Coalition are established under Section 2.4 of the <u>Bylaws</u>, which grants Executive Staff authority to establish and revise these criteria as needed

**Relevant Bylaw Section 2 (4.)** The Executive Staff is authorized to establish membership eligibility criteria and procedures for each membership tier, which criteria may be revised from time to time and shall be published on the membership application page of the official SBC website. Such criteria may be updated at any time at the discretion of the Executive Staff without requiring amendment to these Bylaws.

The Executive Staff shall have broad discretion to determine the eligibility of prospective members and the continued eligibility of existing members using criteria including, but not limited to, determining whether the member or prospective member supports or conflicts with the interests and values of SBC. The Executive Staff may consider factors such as business practices, reputation, alignment with SBC's mission, and potential contribution to SBC's purposes.

All membership applications shall be subject to review and approval by the Executive Staff. SBC reserves the right to reject any membership application or terminate existing memberships for failure to meet eligibility criteria, provided such action is made in good faith and is not based on unlawful discrimination.

**Oregon Law Requirements:** These criteria are also governed by <u>Oregon Revised Statutes</u> 65.167, which requires fair and reasonable procedures for membership decisions, including proper notice and opportunity to be heard for any membership termination.

## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY**

Membership in SBC is open to individuals, companies, organizations, and governmental entities that support our mission and demonstrate commitment to improving in-building communications for public safety.

#### **MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

## 1. Mission and Values Alignment

Support SBC's mission, vision, and guiding principles, including advancement of policies, practices, and technologies that enhance in-building public safety communications.

# 2. Ethical Standards and Transparency

Demonstrate integrity and transparency in all business and public dealings, including:

- Clear organizational identification in all business activities and communications
- Accurate representation of business structure and legal status
- Truthful representation of credentials and qualifications, including clear distinction between certificates of completion and professional certifications
- Professional conduct that avoids unlawful or misleading disparagement of SBC or other members, while recognizing legitimate competitive activities, policy debates, and factual product or services comparisons
- Adherence to applicable industry standards and professional codes of conduct

# 3. Good Standing

Not be subject to current or pending legal, regulatory, or ethical sanctions that would conflict with SBC's mission or bring disrepute to the organization.

# 4. Policy Compliance

Agree to abide by all SBC governance documents, including Bylaws, anti-trust guidelines, Board policies, and the **SBC Resource Usage Agreement** governing use of all SBC provided materials, data, intellectual property, and logos.

## 5. Resource Usage Standards

- Member benefits and resources are provided exclusively to the registered member entity and are non-transferable without express written consent from SBC
- All SBC resources must be used in accordance with the SBC Resource Usage Agreement
- **Exhibition and promotional activities** at SBC events must clearly identify the member organization
- Required attribution must be maintained on all SBC materials when sharing is authorized

### 6. Professional Standards

Members must maintain professional standards that support industry integrity, including:

- Avoiding misleading business practices that create market confusion about organizational structure or credentials
- Supporting fair competition through transparent business practices and truthful marketing
- Respecting industry standards for educational credentialing and professional qualifications

 Maintaining consistency between claimed organizational status and actual business structure

### 7. SBC Interest and Values Protection

Avoid activities that conflict with SBC interests and values, including:

- Activities that conflict with or undermine SBC's mission of advancing in-building public safety communications
- Unfair competition with SBC programming through improper methods including, but not limited to, using SBC-provided resources or relationships, creating market confusion, or other deceptive practices
- Operation of similarly branded initiatives that may cause market confusion or dilute SBC's neutral advocacy role
- Misuse of SBC networking opportunities for purposes that conflict with transparent business practices or the expectations of members, stakeholders, or SBC event attendees
- Unauthorized use of SBC-created content that conflicts with SBC interests and
  values, including unfair competition, commercial exploitation without permission,
  or promotional activities that misrepresent the member's relationship with SBC or
  use SBC materials without proper attribution
- Business practices that undermine SBC values of transparency, collaboration, and ethical conduct in the industry

# 8. Application Requirements

Submit completed membership application, pay applicable dues, and meet additional criteria for specific membership classification as defined in the Bylaws.

### **ONGOING OBLIGATIONS**

Members must maintain compliance with all eligibility criteria throughout their membership period. The Executive Staff may review member compliance at any time.

### **REVIEW AND DECISION PROCESS**

**Application Review Process:** Executive Staff reviews all applications against these criteria with consideration for both initial eligibility and ongoing contribution to SBC goals.

**Decision Authority:** Executive Staff has broad discretion to approve or deny applications based on alignment with SBC interests, values, and professional standards.

**Ongoing Monitoring:** Executive Staff may review existing member compliance with eligibility criteria and professional standards at any time.

**Termination Review Process:** Any membership termination will follow Oregon law requirements, including 15-day written notice with reasons and opportunity for the member to be heard before final action.

#### **Our Role**

SBC serves as an advocate for industry standards and protector of our membership ecosystem. We provide guidance to help members make informed decisions while maintaining fair competition, transparent business practices, and the integrity of professional credentialing in our industry.

# **QUESTIONS**

For questions about membership eligibility, contact info@saferbuildings.org.

These criteria may be updated periodically. Current version effective: [Date]

These criteria ensure that SBC members maintain the highest standards of professional conduct while supporting the Coalitions mission of advancing in-building public safety communications through transparent, collaborative industry practices.

needed.