



Background

Founded in 1920, the Junior League of Cincinnati is part of a network of more than 291 Junior League Organizations across the globe. We are a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization, whose nearly 1,000 members are dedicated to **promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.**

Vision

The Junior League of Cincinnati is committed to improving our community by stimulating change and empowering people through the direct efforts of our dedicated volunteers. Our members are global in complexion and perspective. Partnerships with the community strengthen our ability to make an impact on the lives of those we serve, and we commit financial and volunteer resources to community projects that further its focus area: **Strengthening Childhood Environments.**

Commitment

Our commitment has remained unwavering: to develop exceptionally qualified civic leaders who can identify a community's most urgent and pressing needs and address them with meaningful and relevant programs and initiatives that not only improve lives, but change the way people think.

Results

The Junior League of Cincinnati has amassed an archive of irrefutable results and an undisputed reputation as a thoughtful and influential change agent for the public good. Our organization has been instrumental in championing education and literacy programs, children's cultural development, school nutrition, foster care, mental health, and heightened awareness around domestic violence and alcohol abuse.

This important work has won us dedicated community and corporate partners and loyal supporters for more than 99 years as well as an enduring legacy as the foremost provider of civic leadership training for women.

They don't call us the Volunteer Powerhouse for nothing.

**WOMEN
BUILDING
BETTER
COMMUNITIES**



Welcome Prospective Member!

We are delighted that you are interested in membership in the Junior League of Cincinnati (JLC). It is an exciting time to join, as the JLC will be celebrating its Centennial year in 2020. The JLC has a rich tradition of community service dating back 99 years. Our reach throughout our community is far and wide and can be seen in organizations like Fernside Center for Grieving Children, ProKids, MindPeace, the Cincinnati Art Museum docent program, The Children's Theatre, The Duke Energy Children's Museum, and the Cincinnati Fire Museum to name a few. The JLC was built upon a cornerstone of affecting positive community change with the collective power of trained women volunteers.

As you consider your application, please give careful thought to our member qualifications as listed below.

All JLC candidates should possess and demonstrate a commitment to:

- Voluntarism
- Community Service
- Developing Personal Potential

All candidates for the incoming New Member class should be at least 21 years of age by the application deadline of Saturday, June 15, 2019.

The 2019-2020 application deadline is Saturday, June 15, 2019. All applicants will be notified by July 15 of their acceptance status. The 2019-2020 New Member Class will commence mid-August and will conclude in May 2020.

All members of the New Member Class of 2019-2020 will participate in the New Member Curriculum, which is comprised of volunteer opportunities, community events, and trainings. This packet includes additional information about the New Member Curriculum and a preview of the can't miss events being planned for the Centennial year in 2020.

If you have any questions after reviewing these materials, please feel free to contact us at recruitment@jlcincinnati.org. Thank you for your interest in the Junior League of Cincinnati!

Sincerely,

Nicole Portal-Velarde

Nicole Portal-Velarde

Chair of Membership Recruitment

Junior League of Cincinnati

**WOMEN
BUILDING
BETTER
COMMUNITIES**

Your New Member Year At-a-Glance

The 2019-2020 JLC year begins in late August and ends with our Annual Meeting in May. During your first year you will participate in a variety of activities to learn about the JLC and the impact we have made to the community as well as our current program partnerships.

Sponsorship

Your New Member sponsor can be a current Member you already know or assigned to you from our sponsor bank as needed. Your sponsor is encouraged to attend events with you throughout the year, including the New Member Informational Sessions. Your sponsor provides general guidance and mentorship as needed throughout the year.

New Member Advisors & Small Groups

In addition to your Sponsor, you will also have a New Member Advisor and will be divided into small groups with other New Members. New Member Advisors help organize small group activities to get to know one another better and make connections, and offer guidance on New Member requirements and curriculum throughout the year.

Training & Volunteer Experiences

General Membership Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month, include both training and administrative components, and are open to all members. This is a great place to connect with Active and Sustaining members!

New Member Meetings are held monthly and aim to orient and educate New Members about the Junior League of Cincinnati and voluntarism. Meetings will also focus on a New Member Practicum, with New Members having the opportunity to produce a training, community service event, and fundraiser in the form of the Little Black Dress Initiative (LBDI) campaign to be held in the spring.

Volunteer Service Opportunities

Many direct service volunteer opportunities are available each year, both through our program partnership with Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank, as well as with 22+ partner organizations through our CandO Committee. New Members are encouraged to engage with these opportunities as available, in both the spirit of community service and to learn more about the Junior League of Cincinnati within the community.

Fundraising Opportunities

We host two major fundraisers each year, as well as an Annual Fund Campaign and on-going Cincinnati Seasoned cookbook sales. Any of these can be applied towards members' annual \$100 financial obligation, and further the impact of our mission and program partnerships.

New Member Year Timeline

- 
- April 11 & May 16, 2019**
Membership Informational Sessions in preparation for applying for JLC membership
 - June 15, 2019**
Membership application deadline
 - July 15, 2019**
New Members notified of acceptance status
 - August 2019**
New Member Brunch and Orientation
Small Group assignments
 - September 2019**
Monthly General Membership Meetings begin
Monthly New Member Meetings begin
 - Fall 2019**
New Member Practicum Course begins as part of monthly New Member Meetings
 - November 2019**
Annual JLC Tour of Kitchens fundraiser
 - December 2019**
Annual JLC Holiday Party
 - Spring 2020**
Centennial Gala
 - March-April 2020**
Annual Membership Renewal (dues)
 - April 2020**
Choose your 2020-2021 Committee Placement in preparation for being a first-year Active Member
 - May 2020**
JLC Annual Meeting & Awards
(includes New Member induction to Active Members!)
Annual Conference of the Association of Junior Leagues International (May 14-17) in Cincinnati

Application Overview

Application Process

- Complete online application form by Saturday, June 15, 2019. Please submit in advance of the deadline to allow enough time to meet with your sponsor or to request a sponsor.
- Meet with Sponsor
- Sponsor Checklist submitted by Sponsor as final piece of your application

Financial Obligations

- One-Time Application Fee, \$140
Due with application
- 2019-2020 JLC Annual Dues, \$195
Due with application; dues amount is subject to review annually
- Financial Commitment, \$100
Met throughout year in participation of JLC fundraisers and campaigns that support our mission, programs, and projects

Sponsor Requirements

All candidates must have one sponsor in order to apply for membership. Persons eligible to sponsor candidates are JLC Members in good standing and are either Active or Sustaining Members.

If you do not have a sponsor, don't worry! Simply indicate on your application that you need a sponsor, and we will connect you with one of our current Members! Please be prepared to meet with your sponsor prior to the application deadline so that she can complete her sponsor responsibilities as part of the application process. *Remember, your application is not considered complete until you meet with your sponsor and she has submits her Sponsor Checklist.*

Sponsors can complete their checklists online at jlcincinnati.org/membership, or mail them to: JLC Membership Recruitment, 3500 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226. **All Sponsor Checklists are due by June 15, 2019.**

New Member Application Detail

Applications are considered complete only when the online application form has been submitted by the applicant and the Sponsor has submitted her checklist. The online form requires the following:

- Candidate's personal data
- Candidate's Commitment to Voluntarism statements
- Candidate's photo
Uploaded as a jpg, for internal purposes only
- Resume *(optional)*
- Application Fee in Amount of \$140
Paid online with application; nonrefundable
- 2019-2020 JLC Annual Dues in Amount of \$195
Paid online with application. If, for any reason the applicant is not accepted as part of the 2019-2020 New Member class, the \$195 dues will be refunded to the applicant
- Sponsor Status
Identification of JLC Sponsor or request for Sponsor
- Sponsor Checklist
Completed separately by the Sponsor

In order to offer all incoming New Members the best experience possible, **applications must be received by Saturday, June 15, 2019.** *Any applications or partial applications (such as those without a sponsor checklist) received after that date may be held for the next application year.*

Online application and materials can be found at jlcincinnati.org/membership.

New Member Curriculum & Expectations

Introduction

Throughout the New Member year, each New Member will:

- ✓ Learn more about the impact that the JLC has made within our community over its 99 year history.
- ✓ Learn about the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky areas from a unique community service perspective, with particular focus directed towards better understanding gaps in key service areas, as well as organizations/institutions that work to fill needs within our community.
- ✓ Build relationships with Active and Sustaining Members of the JLC through service, volunteer, and training opportunities.
- ✓ Enhance skill sets that can be used within a personal or professional capacity.
- ✓ Engage with the community and make new friends!

New Member Curriculum*

During monthly New Member Meetings, New Members will be oriented towards the Junior League of Cincinnati and the Association of Junior Leagues International and be educated on the skills that contribute to effective voluntarism. New Members will also have the opportunity to participate in available volunteer, training, and fundraising opportunities outside of the New Member Meetings.

New Member Practicum*

As part of the curriculum, New Members will produce a training, community service event, and fundraiser of their own through the Little Black Dress Initiative (LBDI) campaign. This Practicum has the purpose of preparing New Members for their first active year placement and may require additional time commitment outside of New Member Meetings.

New Member Expectations*

All New Members will participate in the New Member Curriculum, which includes attending New Member Meetings and participation in the New Member Practicum. During the course of the year, all New Members are expected to complete the Curriculum in connection with the Flexible Points System guidelines, which includes an additional completion of a \$100 fundraiser commitment and accumulation of the minimum required number of points.

New Member to Active Status

Each New Member class begins in August and ends in May with the JLC Annual Meeting celebration. At that time, all New Members who have successfully completed their coursework and membership expectations will be presented as First-Year Actives. This is an event that all New Members are encouraged to attend.

Holding Over

A New Member who decides not to start the New Member Course in the fall of 2019 or who decides not to finish the course may work with the JLC office to be designated a "holdover." A New Member who postpones taking the course may do so for no more than two years after which she must take the course or resign. During this holdover period, the New Member is still considered a member of the JLC and pays annual dues when they are billed to her. She has no further financial or volunteer obligation.

Flexible Points System

The JLC's Flexible Commitment System ("Points System") is an easy way to fulfill your commitment to the Junior League based on what fits your schedule and interests. In addition to mandatory commitments, you receive points for participating in a variety of activities. A brief overview of flexible points for New Members follows:

New Members	
Mandatory Commitment	Points
Annual Dues	✓
\$100 Fundraiser Commitment (<i>Cookbook purchases, fundraiser tickets</i>)	✓
All Members Asked to "Touch" Current Project Once within JLC Year	✓
Completion of New Member program (<i>in place of committee service expected by Actives</i>)	10
Complete a Total of 30 Additional Points from the Following:	
General Membership Meetings	5
Annual May Meeting	7
Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank Volunteer Shift	5
Fundraising Volunteer Shift	5
JLC Office Assistance	5
Training Program or Event	5
CandO Volunteer Event	5
Optional Committee Placement or other events as both approved by the President	Up to 5

New Members not meeting 40 points will be reviewed by Board and New Member chairs, and those not achieving 40 points may be asked to repeat New Member year.

Application Submission

By submitting an application, prospective members acknowledge that they understand the above expectations required of them to become an Active member of the Junior League of Cincinnati and agree to fulfill them. Application submission also indicates that the Flexible Points System has been reviewed and that prospective New Members understand that they must accumulate a minimum of 40 points during their New Member year in order to gain membership in the Junior League of Cincinnati.

**Note: This is our new member curriculum for the current year. We value feedback from members, so these requirements are subject to change for the 2019-2020 year based on that feedback. The general structure should remain the same but the specifics may change to better serve our members.*