



AACC Membership Package

I. AACC Membership Background Information:

Membership of the Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) comes from all regions of Afghanistan and the United States as well as from other Central Asian market nations including: Dubai, UAE, India, Turkey and other nations. Over 250 member organizations and individuals are represented by the AACC in its bilateral and regional program activities. Our membership is composed of:

- U.S. companies interested in trading, investing or doing business in Afghanistan;
- Afghanistan companies interested in trading, investing or doing business in the U.S.;
- U.S. companies owned by Afghan-Americans and doing business both inside Afghanistan and the U.S. or regionally; and
- Governmental, non-governmental, private, legal, academic and research organizations, institutions and individuals interested in U.S. - Afghanistan economic relations and Afghanistan's economic development as a market-oriented, private sector-led economy.

II. AACC Membership Benefits:

AACC Membership benefits are based on the particular "Membership Level" that each member selects. Generally speaking AACC membership benefits may include:

- On-the-ground guidance for doing business in Afghanistan and the U.S. and business liaison and translation assistance with business leaders, government officials, and business and thought leadership networks;
- Opportunities to meet with influential Afghanistan and U.S. Government officials as well as Provincial Afghanistan government and national or regional business leaders;
- Conferences and seminars that highlight major business opportunities (e.g. for trade, investment, contracting, procurement, etc....);
- Discussions about business development strategies for winning U.S. Government contracts, grants, and creating joint ventures and partnerships leading to new business;
- Access to growing network of Afghan and U.S. companies and institutions providing access to financial, business, legal and consulting resources needed and to identify possible business partners on the ground;
- Guidance on financing and funding through agencies such as: The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), IFC, Development Credit Authority (USAID), USTDA, World Bank, "Frontier Investors", Afghanistan Commercial Banks and Government Agencies, etc....
- Opportunities to contribute ideas and concerns directly to U.S. and Afghanistan Government officials, decision-makers, and U.S. Congressional and Administration policymakers in order to effectively promote a pro-business, pro-economic growth, pro-job creation economic reform agenda for Afghanistan;
- Access to members-only information and resources on the AACC website and through AACC leadership informational reports and e-newsletters;
- Providing important business and economic updates and key trade, investment and policy information about Afghanistan and the U.S.-Afghanistan economic relationship.



AFGHAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (AACC) MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

BENEFITS BASED ON MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND TYPES

INVESTMENT & BUSINESS SERVICES	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Small Business	Non-Profit	Individual	Student
Guidance for doing business in Afghanistan	√						
Investment/Business Meetings with U.S. or Afghan Corps	√						
Special Investment & Business Services	3	2	1				
Guidance on financing & funding through governmental agencies	√						
Meeting with influential and relevant Afghan and U.S. officials	√						
Access to a growing network of AACC Members and Friends	√	Limited	Limited				
Special Meetings with AACC Board of Director Members	3	2	1				
Assisting with Investment License & Business Process	√						
Business Referral Service to ACCI Officials & Staffs	√	√					
LEADERSHIP & STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Small Business	Non-Profit	Individual	Student
Nomination for Board of Directors vacant positions*	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Assist organizing AACC Conferences & Networking Events	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Engagement in the Annual U.S.–Afghanistan Business Matchmaking Conference	√	√	√				
Membership at AACC Working Groups	√						
Increased Representation by having votes in in Annual General Assembly Meetings	3	2	2	1	1	1	1
MARKETING & ADVERTISING SERVICES	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Small Business	Non-Profit	Individual	Student
Logo placement on AACC website	1 Year	6 Months	3 Months				
Logo placement on monthly newsletter	1 Year						
Recognition as AACC member on AACC's website	√	√	√	√	√		
Regulatory E-mail alerts & announcement	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Organization web link on AACC website	√	√	√				
Subscription to AACC monthly newsletter	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
SAVINGS & DISCOUNTS	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Small Business	Non-Profit	Individual	Student
Preferential Opportunities for Event Sponsorship at special discounted fee	√						
Complimentary registration for AACC's Annual U.S. - Afghanistan Business Matchmaking Conferences	2	1	1				
Participation in AACC Sponsored Events at Reduced Rate	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
AWARDS & CERTIFICATES	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Small Business	Non-Profit	Individual	Student
AACC's Businessperson of the Year Award – Afghan Owned Companies	√	√	√	√	√		
Membership Certificate	√	√	√	√	√	√	
EDUCATION & INTERNSHIP	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Small Business	Non-Profit	Individual	Student
Internship Opportunities. Board of Directors approval is required							√

III. Options for AACC Membership

There are multiple options for you or your organization to become an AACC member:

Option One: Complete an “AACC Membership Application” and submit it online at: info@a-acc.org.

- Please click on the [AACC Membership Benefits and Application Package](#) and complete the application and [email it to AACC’s Membership Department \(\[info@a-acc.org\]\(mailto:info@a-acc.org\)\)](#) or fax it to: +703-440-4002.
 - *This is the preferred option for many members, if an individual, non-profit or small business/organization.*

Option Two: Agree to sponsor AACC’s Annual “Business Matchmaking Conference” (BMC) where your AACC membership is built-in to your sponsorship package price.

- For updated information on BMC Sponsorship Packages, please contact info@a-acc.org.
 - *This is our most popular “membership-sponsorship package” if your business is interested in attending the annual BMC held in Washington or the smaller Pre-BMC event held in Kabul or Dubai. This option can include: one-year complimentary AACC Membership at the same level as Sponsorship Package, one-year membership at AACC [Working Groups](#), complimentary passes to the conference, company logo placement on AACC website and newsletters, booth-table reserved at the AACC Trade Fair during the conference, and more.*

Option Three: Agree to sponsor a major AACC program activity or special event in the U.S. in Afghanistan or in Central Asia and your AACC membership is built-in to your sponsorship package price.

- For updated information on Option Three Membership packages, please contact info@a-acc.org.
 - *As AACC increases program activities in the U.S. and regionally in 2017-18 this option allows an organization to support a specific, themed or sector-focused program activity and can help shape the planning and implementation of that program. Note: some organizations may be able to use USG or other donor program funding/contract vehicles for this type of activity.*

Option Four: Agree to fund a major component of AACC business operations as a capacity building initiative for the organization and for our Afghanistan business association partners. Your AACC membership is built-in to your project funding price.

- For updated information on Option Four Membership packages, please contact info@a-acc.org.
 - *The AACC is actively seeking funding for the following operational activities:*
 - *Urgent upgrade to the AACC website including our CRM and CRS systems;*
 - *Full time Executive Director (contract position);*
 - *Two DC-based full time staff associates (one with Pashtun and Dari competency);*
 - *Two Kabul-based full time staff associates (both with English, Dari and Pashtun competency)*

Option Five: Agree to fund a major AACC thought leadership initiative which can be used to educate, improve capacities or make AACC and our partner programs more effective, efficient and/or accountable.

- For updated information on Option Five Membership packages, please contact info@a-acc.org.
 - *We strongly encourage foundations, non-profits, economic development organizations and research groups to join AACC to take advantage of this option and help secure a well-managed, impactful private sector development program activity which can then be used by that funder/partner for major thought leadership impact in the U.S.-Afghanistan bilateral government, economic, commercial or civil society communities.*

III. Membership Application:

- Please click [Click Here](#) for the AACC online “Membership Application Form.” Once completed please email it to: info@a-acc.org or fax to: +703-440-4002. Please [Click Here](#) to download the PDF version of AACC’s Membership Application.
- Please see the Membership Application or contact info@a-acc.org for a better understanding of the AACC membership dues structure.
- Membership dues have been established by the Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and are reviewed annually.
- AACC annual dues are not refundable and reflect the term or period of one year from the date payment is received at AACC.
- Annual Membership dues are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deductible as a business expense.

IV. Membership Levels and Costs:

- **Platinum Membership:** \$10,000 (51 plus employees)
- **Gold Membership:** \$5,000 (16-50 employees)
- **Silver Membership:** \$2,500 (6-15 employees)
- **Basic Small Bus. Membership:** \$1,000 (1-5 employees)
- **Basic-Indiv. Membership:** \$250
- **Basic-Non-Profit/Academic Org.** \$150 ** *Provide copy IRS letter of determ. showing 501(c) (3) designation.*
- **Basic-Student Membership:** \$50* * *Provide proof of enrollment in academic or vocational institution.*

The Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) welcomes your membership and participation in our program efforts for 2017-18. Thank you for your support and commitment to the people of Afghanistan and for improving the U.S. - Afghanistan bilateral economic relationship.

Afghan American Chamber of Commerce (AACC)

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