

# TEMPLE OF HMONGISM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

P.O. Box 600601  
Saint Paul, MN 55106  
Web: [www.hmongism.org](http://www.hmongism.org)  
Tel: 651-666-5620

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Member No: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to the Temple of Hmongism. We are delighted that you have chosen to become a part of our Temple of Hmongism and its community. We hope that you will find the services provided by Hmongism to be beneficial. We encourage you to explore the new and diverse opportunities of the Temple of Hmongism. All information in this application will be treated confidentially.

## Personal & Contact Information

### APPLICANT

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Other \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date (m/d/yr): \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Place (city, state, country): \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

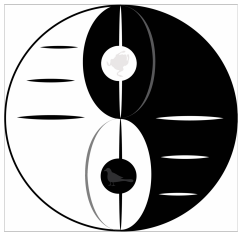
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook Account: \_\_\_\_\_

## Religious Background

Religious background in which you were raised?	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional	<input type="checkbox"/> Christianity	<input type="checkbox"/> Hmongism	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Which religion do you currently believe in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional	<input type="checkbox"/> Christianity	<input type="checkbox"/> Hmongism	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
Were you a former member of Hmongism?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Start _____ End _____		

## Lineage Information

	Applicant	Spouse/Partner
Great Grand Father		
Great Grand Mother		
Grand Father		
Grand Mother		
Father		
Mother		
Siblings		
Nyuj Dab (txim/ntsau)		
Npua Dab (txim/ntsau)		
Npua Tai (txim/ntsau)		
Other		



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**Other Family Members**

No.	Name	Sex M/F	Birth Date (m/d/yr)	Birth Place City/State/Country	Marital Status S, M, P*	Relationship to Applicant	Current Faith T, H, C, O*
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							

Attach extra sheet if more space needed

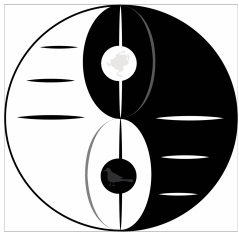
\*: S=single, M=married, P=partnered, T=Traditional, H=Hmongism, C=Christianity, O=Others

**Membership Policies, Benefits, & Termination**

Under Article 3 of the Bylaws of the Temple of Hmongism, all decent persons of 18 years of age or older, or under the parent(s), interested in and faithful toward Hmongism are eligible to become members of the Temple of Hmongism. Membership is granted after completion and receipt of a membership application and annual dues. Membership may be denied if the membership committee decides that this person may be detrimental to the Temple of Hmongism.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- (1) Be 18 years of age or older or under the parent(s);
- (2) Believe in Hmongism's Statement of Faith in Article II;
- (3) Have good moral and humble character, not seeking personal gain;
- (4) Live within serviceable area of the Temple of Hmongism and those living outside of serviceable area shall pay for traveling expenses;
- (5) Returning membership of a person who had not been serviced by the Temple before leaving the Temple of Hmongism;
- (6) Returning membership of a person whose family had been serviced by the Temple before leaving the Temple of Hmongism has to pay his or her fee(s) set by the Temple of Hmongism, which is equaled to the current non-member servicing fee, in order to regain full membership of the Temple of Hmongism, and/or his or her application will be decided on a case by case basis by the membership committee; and
- (7) Other qualification(s) to be determined by the Board.



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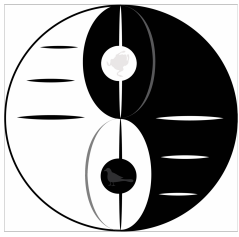
## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- (1) Members are not expected or required to attend the Temple on every Sunday or on a regular basis. They can come to the Temple during business hours to worship at their own free will;
- (2) Members are expected to pay their annual membership fee before or by the due date on January 1 each year;
- (3) Only members whose membership is paid for the current year will be members in good standing. Membership dues and privileges are determined by the Board of the Temple of Hmongism;
- (4) Members in good standing are entitled to attend general and special meetings, to vote on all questions coming before the membership, and to hold office and serve on standing or special committees;
- (5) Members are welcome to attend meetings of the Board and to participate in discussions on matters before the Board, but without a vote on matters before the Board;
- (6) The Board may, at its discretion, terminate the membership of any person deemed detrimental to Hmongism at any time by returning that person's remaining current dues;
- (7) An annual meeting of the membership shall be held each year on the second weekend of the month of October for the election of Officers and Board members at large and the transaction of any necessary business. If there is no election held, or a failure, to elect the next term of Officers and Board members, the current term shall continue to serve the Temple until the new Board is elected;
- (8) Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President at his or her discretion, or at the direction of the Board, or at the written request of at least 10% of the membership. Notices of special meetings shall state the matters to be considered;
- (9) At least one month's notice of the annual or any special meeting shall be given;
- (10) A majority vote of those voting is necessary to transact any business brought before the membership, including the election of officers, except as otherwise noted in these Bylaws;
- (11) Any members of the Temple of Hmongism, once signed the application and disclaimer on the form can not and shall not bring any legal claim against the Temple of Hmongism or any of its members so long as the Temple and its officials conduct the Temple's business within the guidelines spelled in the Bylaws and other guidelines or practices that the Temple officially adopted; and
- (12) Any non-member of the Temple of Hmongism can not and shall not bring any legal claim against the Temple of Hmongism or any of its member on behalf of his/her spouse, siblings or family members who is/are members of the Temple of Hmongism.

## BENEFITS:

Members in good standing of the Temple of Hmongism would enjoy the following privileges and benefits.

- (1) Member(s), after twelve months from the date of acceptance of his/her or their membership or within twelve months in the case of death as a result of an accident occurred after the date of acceptance, shall receive full funeral services provided free of charge by the priests or txiv plig of the Temple of Hmongism. If a death occurred within six months from the date of acceptance, member(s) shall pay \$2,500 servicing fee to the Temple. And if a death occurred between six months and a year from the date of acceptance, member(s) shall pay \$1,250 servicing fee to the Temple;
- (2) The twelve-month policy for full coverage of Section 3 (1) above shall apply to all new member(s) added to an existing family of Hmongism;
- (3) In the event that a family's membership fee is not received before the end of the grace period and that a death occurs between the end of the grace period and the official termination notice from the Temple, the family has to pay all of the outstanding membership fee(s) and \$2,500 servicing fee, equal to one half of the current servicing fee for non-members, before the Temple can provide services for the deceased;
- (4) Services for shamanism, khawv koob, wedding, and other non-funeral rituals shall be paid by the member(s), and their servicing fees are reduced and standardized (see chart for details);
- (5) Member(s) can have peace of mind, no longer have to wait for, kowtow to, or please relatives (kwv tij neej tsa) and traditional religious practitioners (thawj lwm tub ncig) to help them with the rituals in line (1) above;
- (6) As long as they remain good standing members by paying their dues, when in need, they simply notify the Temple and full services will be performed for them free of charge (in the case of a funeral);
- (7) While services are provided by the Temple, members have to pay for (1) food, animal(s), spiritual papers, incense, candle, and small service fee in the case of rituals of birth, shamanism, and wedding, and (2) funeral home and related expenses (before we have our own), food, spiritual papers, incense, candles, coffin, vault, grave, fee in line (1) above if applicable, and others in the case of a funeral;
- (8) If we have our own facilities, members can use the facilities free of charge;
- (9) While the Temple's facilities are open to non-members who have to pay non-membership cost (to be set by the Board), members of the Temple always enjoy the first priority;
- (10) The Temple will help document and preserve the history, lineage or family tree, both print and digital, of each member, and, if needed, help produce eulogy and visual documentary for its members in the case of death;
- (11) Members shall receive print, electronic or digital copies of materials of Hmongism;
- (12) Members are welcomed and respected as one religious denomination;
- (13) Members are guaranteed to save more time and money with Hmongism;



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- (14) With the huge savings of both time and money with Hmongism, members can better invest them toward life, not death; and
- (15) Other privileges and benefits deemed appropriate as the Temple grows in the future.

**TERMINATION:**

Membership in the Temple of Hmongism ends when one or more of the following occur.

- (1) A written or verbal request by the member;
- (2) Member has left the Temple of Hmongism or is attending another temple or church on a regular basis;
- (3) Membership has been suspended in accordance with Article 3, Section 2 (5);
- (4) Member no longer meets the qualifications for membership listed in Article 3, Section 1;
- (5) Member no longer believes in and is not faithful toward Hmongism's Statement of Faith in Article II;
- (6) Membership is not renewed by paying annual dues when due;
- (7) Annual membership fee is not received within the 60 days grace period after the due date on January 1 (provided that a payment notice was mailed to the member's last known address via first class United States mail within 30 days after the fee is due and unpaid) and member's failure to provide reasonable excuse, verbal or written, for not being able to pay and when to pay the fee (see Article III Section 3 (3) in the case of death occurs between end of grace period and termination by the Temple);
- (8) Death; and
- (9) Member who either cancels his or her membership or being removed by the Temple shall receive his or her remaining current dues.

**DISCIPLINE OF A MEMBER:**

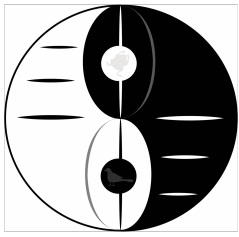
Conduct contrary to the beliefs of Hmongism shall be sufficient grounds upon which any person may be disqualified as a member.

- (1) There shall be a discipline committee consisting of the member(s) of the Board and member(s) of the general membership. This committee shall have the authority to correct the members of the Temple where acts of immoral or improper behavior occur, doctrinal error, heresy, or promoting division in the Temple. If a member is the subject of a disciplinary matter, he or she shall not sit as a member of the discipline committee. He or she shall be entitled to the same steps as other Temple members and be subject to the same discipline;
- (2) Members are expected to demonstrate special loyalty and concern for one another. When a member becomes aware of an offense of such magnitude that it hinders spiritual growth and testimony, he or she should not share the offense with others. He or she is to go alone to the offended party and seek to restore the matter with a spirit of humility;
- (3) If reconciliation is not reached, a second member is to accompany the one seeking to resolve the matter. This second step should also be done in a spirit of humility with the goal of restoration;
- (4) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in sections (2) and (3) have been taken, the discipline committee, as the Temple representative responsible for settling disputes, shall hear the matter. If the matter is not resolved during the hearing before the discipline committee, the committee shall bring the matter before the Board that the Board may speak to the person and seek that member's restoration. The purpose is not to judge or condemn him or her, as a trial in court, but to win him or her. It is not to humiliate, but to reconcile that member;
- (5) If the matter is still unresolved after the steps outlined in sections (2), (3), and (4) have been taken, such members who refuse to repent and be restored are to be removed from the membership of the Temple and treated as unbelievers;
- (6) If an unrepentant person is removed from the Temple membership, all contact with him from that point forward must be for the sake of restoration (except for family members);
- (7) No matter may be heard by the discipline committee or the Board unless the steps outlined above have been taken. The purpose of discipline is restorative and remedial. However, if a person is separated from the Temple, they may not be re-instated until there has been genuine repentance and reconciliation, which will be attested to by the head of the discipline committee and confirmed by the Board of the Temple.

**Membership Fee**

The current membership fee is set as shown below, guaranteed to be the least costly with the highest benefits for its members. In order to be considered or covered as a valid household member, a member should be an official resident of the named home, unless he or she is a single working or studying away from home.

Number of Members	Monthly Fee	Payment Options	Annual Fee	Amount Collected	Balance
1-5	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually (x12) <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-annually (x6)			
6-10	\$25				
11 and more	\$30				



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**Emergency Contact Information**

Doctor's Name & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relative Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agreement and Signature**

**By signing this application, I (we) acknowledge and agree to abide by and comply with the following legally binding statements or policies:**

**That I (we) have received, understood and agree to the terms, conditions, and policies of the membership application and the Bylaws of the Temple of Hmongism, and that if needed, these terms, conditions, policies of the membership application and the Bylaws of the Temple of Hmongism were properly interpreted to me (us) in Hmong or other language \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ (interpreter);**

**That I (we) agree that the Temple of Hmongism and its priests are the only institution and/or persons allowed to perform any or all of my (our) religious services and ceremonies;**

**That in the case of death, I (we) agree that the living spouse who is a member of the Temple of Hmongism has the final say about the funeral of the deceased, and that the child or children have the final say if both parents were dead;**

**That I (we) agree that a relative of the deceased or of the living spouse has no rights to intervene in any ways or forms unless permitted by the living spouse or by the child or children if both parents were dead;**

**That I (we) agree that if I (we) violate the terms, conditions, and policies of the Temple of Hmongism we may or will lose some or all benefits and/or rights offered to the members of the Temple of Hmongism; and**

**That I (we) hereby certify that the information provided in this application is correct to the best of my (our) knowledge and that I (we) agree to abide by the above statements or policies.**

**Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_, (print name)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse:** \_\_\_\_\_, (print name)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_ an officer of the Temple of Hmongism

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_