

# **ALASKA FOREST ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP PACKET**



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# HISTORY

The Alaska Forest Association (AFA) began on Friday, March 6, 1956, when a group of loggers met in Ketchikan to establish an association for the Alaska logging industry. At the conclusion of the meeting, they voted to affiliate with the Timber Operators Association and selected the name “S.E. Division of Timber Operators Association”. During the first year of operation, the group developed a worker’s compensation program and hired a safety engineer.

In 1957, the group withdrew from the Timber Operators Association and formed its own association, the “Alaska Loggers Association”. In 1960, they voted to admit as Regular members, sawmills and pulp mills that had logging operations. Not long following the start of Alaska Loggers, the founders realized that suppliers of equipment, goods and services to logging operations were interested in participating in the Association’s development. In May of 1960, the Associate member category with dues paying members was created.

This Association is one of the oldest in the State of Alaska and provides its Regular members the opportunity to participate in programs such as Tongass Timber Trust (group health plan). There is also a public information program that promotes the facts concerning Alaska’s forest products industry.

In the past, many changes have taken place in the industry resulting in the need to broaden AFA’s industry and scope. AFA no longer speaks only just for “loggers”, but for all facets of the timber industry. The Board of Directors has been enlarged to 24 members and the organization was renamed the “Alaska Forest Association” effective January 1, 1991. AFA Regular and Associate members are continually active in helping to promote and defend the industry in its trials and challenges. With letter writing, contacting legislative delegations and lobbying trips to Washington, D.C., members continue to contribute to the Association.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Alaska Forest Association is a high profile industry trade association. Its members hold in common general business interests in the timber industry of Alaska. AFA’s activities are directly related to the viability of Alaska’s forest products industry.

AFA’s Mission Statement commits the resources of the Association to advancing the restoration, promotion and maintenance of a healthy, viable forest products industry, contributing to the economic and ecological health in Alaska’s forests and communities. This commitment includes the following elements:

AFA will provide secure, reliable, cost effective group health insurance benefits and other services of value to its members.

- AFA management will strive to satisfy all legitimate member and constituent needs.
- AFA will be a productive and positive place of employment.
- AFA will strive to maintain an authoritative and professional public image.
- AFA will strive to provide accurate information and education concerning forest uses and forestry issues to AFA members, the public and the media.
- AFA will work to maximize public and private timber supply throughout the state and enhance private property rights.

## **MEMBER SERVICES**

**DON BELL ALASKA LOGGERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND** – The Alaska Loggers Association scholarship fund was established in 1971. In 1996 the name was changed to the Don Bell Alaska Loggers Scholarship Fund in honor of long time AFA Director, Don Bell. AFA is currently providing several scholarships a year to dependents of Regular members. Applicants are solicited from Regular member companies and a committee reviews the applications and selects the most qualified candidates.

**AFA ASSOCIATE MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP** – The AFA Associate Members are also providing an annual scholarship(s) to students who have a parent employed by an AFA Associate member company. Applicants are solicited among the Associate member companies and a committee reviews the applications and selects the most qualified candidate(s).

**AFA WEB SITE** – The Association maintains a web site to provide current information on issues affecting the Alaska forest products industry. This site is constantly being updated so let us know if you have any changes to your company info.

**AFA SPRING MEETING** – This meeting is held in March of each year in Juneau. It provides members an opportunity to get industry updates as well as meet with their legislators.

**AFA ANNUAL CONVENTION** – Every October AFA holds its annual convention alternating the location between Ketchikan and Anchorage. Speakers are invited and meetings are held to bring attendees up to date on the latest happenings in the forest products industry. The AFA General Membership and Board of Directors hold their annual meetings, seat new Board members and elect new officers at that time. This is a great opportunity for Associate members to meet other members and conduct business. Booth space is available to promote products and businesses. The Associate members sponsor the scholarship fund raiser, the “Red Suspenders Party” at this time.

# MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



## Regular Members

Regular members of the Association are businesses or individuals whose principal activity is in the forest products industry or who have substantial ownership in forest lands. There are two types of Regular membership available: Regular and Limited Participation Regular.

As a Regular member, your company is eligible for the following benefits:

- Full voting rights
- Serve on any committee(s)
- Participation in AFA Board of Director meetings
- Eligible to nominate members to the Board of Directors
- Eligible to stand for election as an AFA officer or director
- Participation in the health insurance program
- Participation in the Retirement Plans
- Full listing in the AFA Membership Roster
- Listing on the AFA web site
- Reduced fees for participation in the Alaska Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program
- Dependent children and grandchildren can apply for the annual scholarship

The Regular member dues structure is divided into several categories:

- A onetime initiation fee of \$175.00 and a minimum rate of \$180.00 per month.
- Logging and Road Construction – The rate is \$0.17 per work hour. This category includes all supervisory, engineering, clerical, shop, sort, tow, etc. or everything up to delivery at a mill or point of sale.
- Mills – Production and log sales are at the rate of \$0.40 per MBF (net Scribner plus utility). For sawmills, this includes all logs into the mill from any source and all log sales, i.e., pulp logs, cedar, etc.
- Log Sales – Sellers will pay at \$0.40 per MBF whether pulp, saw logs or cedar, wherever the transaction takes place and whether for domestic production or export.
- Large Landowners (holding more than 30,000 acres in Alaska) not producing logs and other large landowners pay \$6,500.00 per year.
- Small Landowners (holding 30,000 acres or less in Alaska) not producing logs and other small landowners pay \$3,300.00 per year.
- Non-profit forestry organizations pay \$1,500.00 per year.
- Municipalities and Boroughs pay \$1,000.00 per year.

Tongass Timber Trust (health insurance) is available to Regular members. Please see the attachments for information regarding this plan. If you qualify for the plan and would like to enroll, you can contact the Trust offices at [ttt@vimly.com](mailto:ttt@vimly.com) or call 425-771-7359 for specific information and enrollment forms.

## Limited Participation Regular Members

Limited Participation Regular Members of AFA are businesses or individuals whose principal activity is in the forest products industry and who employ no more than seven (7) full time employees at any time during the year.

As a Limited Participation Regular member, you enjoy the same benefits as a full Regular member with the exception that you cannot participate in the health insurance plan. You have the option to upgrade to full participation Regular membership at any time and will be required to do so if you exceed the seven employee limit.

Limited Participation dues are as follows:

- A onetime initiation fee of \$50.00.
- \$450.00 per year payable in two installments due January 15 and July 15.

## Associate Members

Associate members include those businesses or individuals who service the forest products industry and/or wish to support the mission of the Alaska Forest Association. Your Associate member benefits include:

- A listing in and copies of the AFA membership roster
- A listing on the AFA web site
- Booth space at the annual convention trade show
- Eligible to be elected as an Associate Board officer or director
- Eligible to elect Associate member officers
- Eligible to be elected as the Associate member on the AFA Board
- Attendance at all AFA Board of Director meetings
- Dependents are eligible to apply for the Associate scholarship

Associate member dues are broken down into several categories:

- **Category A** - \$175.00 per year Smaller companies with less than 10 employees
- **Category B** - \$350.00 per year Medium sized companies of 10-25 employees
- **Category C** - \$450.00 per year Large companies of over 25 employees
- **Benefactor** - \$500.00 per year Companies wishing to support the Alaska Forest Association

# ALASKA FOREST ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ Limited Participation Regular Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ Associate Membership
- Category A \_\_\_\_\_
- Category B \_\_\_\_\_
- Category C \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT or OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ WEB SITE \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF OPERATION (REGULAR MEMBER COMPANY) AND LOCATION

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DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES (ASSOCIATE MEMBER COMPANY)

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**Regular Members** – Return the completed application to AFA with your initiation fee (\$175.00 for full membership, \$50.00 for limited participation membership). Check here if you would like information on health insurance \_\_\_\_\_.

**Associate Members** – Return the completed application to AFA with your annual dues for the category your company falls in.

# TONGASS TIMBER TRUST HEALTH INSURANCE SUMMARY

Tongass Timber Trust is a non-profit subsidiary of the Alaska Forest Association and provides major health insurance to Regular members and their employees. The medical program is offered through Premera BCBS Alaska and the Trust partners with Vimly Benefit Solutions to ensure seamless and efficient administration of the entire benefit program. Through these partnerships, the Trust is able to provide exemplary service to all members and their employees.

Employers that opt to join Tongass Timber Trust give the following benefits to their employees:

**Health insurance** (non-occupational):

- Medical & Retiree Medical

Premera Plans Offered	2023 Base Plan	2023 Buy Up Plan
Individual Deductible	\$2,000	\$750
Family Deductible	\$4,000	\$1,500
Individual Out of Pocket Maximum	\$6,000	\$3,000
Family Out of Pocket Maximum	\$12,000	\$6,000

- Dental
- Vision
- Prescription
- Hearing

**Life insurance:**

- \$25,000 employee life benefit
- \$5,000 spouse life benefit
- \$5,000 dependent life benefit over six months of age
- \$500 dependent life benefit over 14 days and less than six months of age
- \$25,000 accidental death employee benefit

**The employer is required by the Trust to pay the monthly premium for every qualified employee.** An eligible employee cannot waive coverage. To be an eligible employee, he or she must be a regular and active employee of the group who regularly works a minimum of 130 hours per month and completes a 60-day probationary period in order to gain coverage that will become effective on the first day of the third work month. Thereafter, the employee must continue to work at least 130 hours each month to continue to qualify. If a qualified employee fails to work 130 hours, employers have the options of (1) paying up to three consecutive months for a covered employee, or (2) issuing a COBRA notice to the employee which offers the chance to self pay directly to the Trust until the employee requalifies for employer paid coverage. It is the employer’s responsibility to track the hours required for employee’s eligibility.

Employees have the option to choose which (if any) dependents they enroll in the plan. Dependent coverage premiums are an optional employer expense. Employers may choose to pay all, part, or none of the premium for their employee’s dependents. If employers choose to pay none of the employee’s dependent premiums, they must treat the dependent premiums as a payroll deduction and report and pay the premiums on your monthly report.

## 2023 Monthly Premium Rates

- Tongass Timber Trust funding rates for the year 2023

### Base Plan

Rates for Active employees that earn coverage:

Employee Only:	\$ 874.00		
Spouse or 1 Child:	\$ 874.00	=	\$1,748.00
Two or more dependents	\$1,748.00	=	\$2,622.00

Maximum premium for employee plus any number of dependents is \$2,622.00

### Buy Up Plan

Rates for Active employees that earn coverage:

Employee Only:	\$981.00		
Spouse or 1 Child:	\$981.00	=	\$1,962.00
Two or more dependents	\$1,962.00	=	\$2,943.00

Maximum premium for employee plus any number of dependents is \$2,943.00

- COBRA rates for the year 2023

Rates are increased to the maximum allowed by law

#### Base Plan COBRA Rates (Medical, Dental & Vision):

Employee or dependent:	\$ 891.48		
Spouse or 1 Child:	\$ 891.48	=	\$ 1,782.96
Two or more dependents	\$1,782.96	=	\$ 2,674.44

#### Buy Up Plan COBRA Rates (Medical, Dental & Vision):

Employee or dependent:	\$1,000.62		
Spouse or 1 Child:	\$1,000.62	=	\$ 2,001.24
Two or more dependents	\$2,001.24	=	\$ 3,001.86

- Tongass Timber Trust Retiree rates for the year 2023

### Non Medicare Retiree Plan:

Retiree under 65	=	\$ 889.00
One dependent	=	\$ 889.00
Two or more dependents	=	\$1,778.00

### Medicare Retiree Plan:

Retiree Over 65	=	\$ 556.00
One Dependent	=	\$ 556.00
Two or more dependents	=	\$1,112.00