



CITY AND REGIONAL MAGAZINE ASSOCIATION (CRMA) MAGAZINE MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

To qualify for membership in the CRMA, a magazine must:

1. Be published at twice a year with general interest content focused on life and living in a specific city, state, or region.
2. CRMA has adopted the 2015 ASME editorial guidelines as the editorial guidelines for CRMA. Member publications must comply with those guidelines which among other standards requires publications to exhibit a clear distinction between editorial and advertising in typography and the conspicuous labelling of special advertising sections and avoid the placement of advertising pages adjacent to related editorial materials in a manner that implies editorial endorsement of the advertised product or service.
3. The applicant publication's editorial content shall be free of undue influence from other business interests of its ownership. Advertiser-supplied content must be clearly labeled. Editorial content may not be provided in exchange for advertising dollars. The applicant's core editorial content or feature stories in magazines should follow high ethical and journalistic practices such as using multiple sources, data and research to explore people and issues of importance to their community.
4. Be audited or have circulation verified by an independent entity acceptable to CRMA* within 15 months of becoming a member of CRMA and to obtain an updated circulation audit not less than every two years thereafter.
5. CRMA member publications may not have more than 25% of total audited distribution by way of unrequested hotel copies, unrequested waiting room copies or through free rack distribution, unless they are invited to join by 5 members in good standing and 1 associate member in good standing.
6. Remit membership dues in a timely manner.
7. Submit copies for review by members of the Membership Committee and Board of Directors for adherence to content guidelines every two years following acceptance.
8. CRMA members are required to donate up to 1 full page, 4-color ad in each calendar year to the association. This ad can be used for promotions, public service announcements or resold by a member or by the association with the proceeds going to benefit the management and operation of CRM

Failure to comply with the membership guidelines of the City and Regional Magazine Association may result in the following remedial actions by the Board of Directors.

A warning letter explaining non-compliance with recommended remedies and a time frame for effectively addressing these issues.

1. Prohibition from submitting any entries for consideration in the CRMA Annual Awards of Excellence and participation in Publishers' meetings.
2. Termination based on a vote of three-fourths of the Board of Directors.

All recommendations of the Membership Committee regarding membership are subject to final approval by the CRMA Board of Directors.

*Circulation audits shall be performed by an approved firm. For publications located outside the US, firms providing equivalent audit services may be accepted at the discretion of the Membership Committee.

Adopted by the CRMA Board of Directors, May 30, 2026

CRMA APPROVED AUDIT FIRMS

Circulation Verification Council

383 S Kirkwood Road, Ste. 102 St. Louis, MO 63122

Alliance for Audited Media

48 W Seegers Road Arlington Heights,
IL 60005

BPA Worldwide

100 Beard Sawmill Road, 6th Fl. Shelton,
CT 06484

Verified Audit Corporation

900 Larkspur Landing Circ #295
Larkspur, CA 94939

