1. MEMBERSHIP BYELAW

This Byelaw defines who the student members are in JMSU, associate membership, and all respective rights and access to services. It also outlines how members can leave the Union and re-join.

STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE UNION

1. Student Members are defined within the Constitution (11.1) as follows:

> "11.1.1 each and every Student who has not opted out by notifying Liverpool John Moores University or the Union of their wish not to be a Student Member; and
>
> 11.1.2 the Sabbatical Officers."

1.1 Membership is derived from student status. A Student Member is someone who is enrolled on a programme of study at Liverpool John Moores University, provided they have not opted out of membership as described in clause 11.1.1 of the Constitution and the provisions within 12-18 of these byelaws.

1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, any student on a leave of absence, suspended pending disciplinary investigation, suspended by their professional body (meaning they are unable to study) and expelled from the University does not hold current student status at that time.

2. The Student Members are entitled to:

2.1 Attend, vote, speak, and propose amendments to motions at Student Forums and All Student Members meetings, subject to the provisions of the respective byelaws;

2.2 Vote in any Union election or referenda, except for positions where the Elections and Democracy Byelaw restricts voting to a particular section of the student body or university campus;

2.3 Stand as a candidate in Union elections, except where the Elections and Democracy Byelaw set out the eligibility criteria for candidates and the Student Member does not meet these criteria;

2.4 Request information regarding the Constitution and Byelaws, opting out, membership, budgets, and financial reports relating to any prior financial year,

their rights as a Student Member, or any other matter concerning the activities and policy of the Union. Such information shall not be unreasonably withheld.

2.5 Apply to join all Student Groups registered with the Union and participate in activities organised by the Union, subject to any eligibility criteria that may be applied to any such student group or activity e.g. BUCS

3. Student Members are required to adhere to the Union's Code of Conduct, as outlined in the Code of Conduct and Disciplinaries Byelaw at all times. Failure to do so may result in Student Membership being removed.

4. Membership entitlements are also codified in the Students' Union Code of Practice: https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/-/media/sample-sharepoint-libraries/policy-documents/184.pdf

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE UNION

5. The Trustees can establish different classes of Associate Membership with such description and with such rights and obligations as they think fit and may admit and remove such associate members in accordance with this Byelaw.

6. Following a review of the Union's safeguarding responsibilities, governance arrangements and overall risk management, the Trustee Board resolved on 1st August 2026 to discontinue Associate Membership. The Trustees concluded that maintaining Associate Membership was no longer in the best interests of the Union and its members.

7. As a result, no new Associate Members will be admitted, and any existing Associate Membership will end. The individual will cease to have any rights or benefits associated with that membership.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' ENTITLEMENTS

8. Associate Members are entitled to make use of the services provided by the Union on the same terms as Student Members.

9. Associate Members are not entitled to participate in the Union's democratic activities detailed in Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 of this Byelaw.

10. The admission of Associate Members to any club or society registered with the Union shall be subject to the rules of the relevant club or society in conjunction with the Union's Student Activities Policy.

11. Associate members will be unable to participate in British Universities Colleges Sport (BUCS) or student events/competitions.

OPTING OUT OF MEMBERSHIP

12. Student Membership status is conferred automatically on all Students meeting the criteria set out in Section 1 above, but the Education Act 1994, Part 2, section 22(c)(i) specifies that students have the right to opt out of Student Membership by giving written notice to the Union or via the My LJMU (Manage Your LiverpoolSU membership) and opting out.

13. To opt out of Student Membership, a student may at any time give notice to the Union, by emailing the SU CEO via studentsunion@ljmu.ac.uk or in writing to the Union's offices marked FAO The SU CEO.

14. A Student may also give notice of their decision to opt-out of Student Membership to the University in writing to the Academic Registrar.

15. If an opt-out notice is served, the student will cease to be a Student Member for the remainder of the then current Academic Year. Should the Student wish to continue to opt out the following Academic Year, a further opt-out notice is required to be served.

16. Opting out of Student Membership will remove access to the entitlements detailed in clauses 2.1 to 2.4 of this Byelaw with immediate effect, from the date of receipt of the opt-out notice.

17. A Student Member who has opted out will not be able to vote, stand, or make a complaint in any democratic process including Student Forum, Executive elections, All Student Members Meetings, and committees of student groups.

18. For avoidance of doubt students who have opted out of student membership may still be subject to the Union's code of conduct, policies, and byelaws when accessing services.

19. A Student can opt back into Student Membership at any time by either giving notice to the Union, by emailing the SU CEO via studentsunion@ljmu.ac.uk, or in writing to the Union's offices marked FAO The SU CEO or by opting in via My LJMU App. Student Membership status and access to all Student Member entitlements shall be restored immediately from the date of receipt of the opt-in notice.

APPROVED BY TRUSTEE BOARD:	27/07/2026
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:	27/07/2027