



**GREEN CHEMISTRY &  
COMMERCE COUNCIL**

**GC3 MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT AND GUIDELINES**

Revised: March 2020

Thank you for becoming a member of the Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3). We appreciate your support and recognize your desire to advance the field of [green chemistry](#).

## WHAT IS THE GC3?

### Background

The Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3), established in 2005, is a multi-stakeholder collaborative that drives the commercial adoption of green chemistry by catalyzing and guiding action across all industries, sectors and supply chains. The GC3 is a currently project housed at the [Lowell Center for Sustainable Production](#) at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. However, membership with the GC3 does not constitute affiliation with the Lowell Center or the University of Massachusetts Lowell and members have no voting and/or other rights in the governance of either.

The GC3 provides an open setting for companies to share information as well as experiences about challenges and opportunities for safer, more sustainable chemicals/products.

The GC3's strategic approaches are to:

- Develop and promote tools, policies, and business practices to drive the adoption of green chemistry throughout the supply chains.
- Foster communication and collaboration among businesses, government, non-governmental organizations, and academic researchers.
- Identify and engage enablers of green chemistry adoption.

### Structure

GC3 staff manage all organizational activities in partnership with the GC3 Advisory Committee. The [GC3 Advisory Committee](#) is a made up of member representatives who help guide the GC3 in decision making and goal orientation.

### *What we do*

The GC3 convenes diverse project groups that offer value across supply chains, hosts webinars as well as member calls, hosts an annual Innovators Roundtable and helps facilitate dialogue as well as involvement amongst its members.

### Project Groups

Current GC3 project groups consist of:

- Collaborative Innovation Work Groups
- Supply Chain Working Group
- Retailer Leadership Council
- Startup Network

The purpose of GC3 project groups is to help advance the mission of the GC3; these groups allow individuals involved to focus on specific areas of work within the field of green chemistry. The number and focus of projects undertaken each year is decided after our annual Innovators Roundtable with

input from the Advisory Committee. Throughout the year, those involved in project groups participate in calls to collaborate and further group missions. Project group outcomes are presented annually at the Innovators Roundtable.

While all GC3 members are encouraged to participate and take leadership in project groups, non-members may participate in these groups as invited guests.

### Research & Reporting

To address the gaps of knowledge in research identified by project groups or at the Annual Innovators Roundtable, the GC3 periodically develops short-term Strategic Research Initiatives with the goal of producing a public report. These initiatives are established in consultation with the GC3 Advisory Committee and are generally carried out by expert consultants.

### GC3 Innovators Roundtable

The annual [GC3 Innovators Roundtable](#) is a conference in which GC3 members and non-members from across the supply chain gather to share new research, information, and experiences that can advance the implementation of green chemistry. It is our hope that attendees from the Innovators Roundtables make meaningful connections and assist/collaborate with each other moving forward in the development of safer chemicals, materials, and products.

Roundtables are hosted by a GC3 member organization that commits to covering the direct meeting costs of the meeting. GC3 staff work closely with Roundtable hosts to establish a local planning committee which will provide input to the Roundtable agenda, determine local sites to visit/pre-meeting locations, and ensure the Roundtable has a positive impact on the local green chemistry community. Annual Roundtable locations are varied to encourage participation by businesses from different regions of the country.

Roundtables are open to the general public and we encourage all GC3 members to help get the word out about the Innovators Roundtable.

## GETTING THE MOST OUT OF MEMBERSHIP

View current [GC3 members](#) here.

### Membership

Organizations from any sector can join the GC3 as long as they have read and agree with the [vision](#) of the GC3, are working toward advancing the [12 Principles of Green Chemistry](#), and pay membership dues annually. Industry and trade associations are not permitted to join the GC3; but, may ask to join project groups. To maintain the business-to-business nature of the GC3, the majority of GC3 members at any time are individual companies. A limited number of representatives from non-governmental organizations, state, and federal government agencies, as well as consultants may be invited to join. New members are accepted into the GC3 after review.

GC3 member's benefits include (but, are not limited to) the following:

- Opportunities to collaborate with a nationally recognized organization taking a hands-on approach to overcoming barriers and who is committed to raising the visibility of green chemistry.

- Priority access to the Innovators Roundtables and special discounted registration rates for two participants from a member’s organization to attend the annual [GC3 Innovators Roundtable](#).
- Access to the [Members Area](#) of our website, which includes the [Member’s Directory](#).
- Opportunities to network with a [network of leading companies](#) and become involved with [project groups](#), research, and other member exclusive activities.
- Opportunities to provide feedback in our occasional member’s surveys and outreach calls.
- Permission to participate in Member Update calls and Member-only webinars.
- Recognition on the GC3 website.

## RULES & REGULATIONS

### What is Expected

GC3 members are expected to:

- Participate in annual GC3 Innovation Roundtables and relevant project group calls.
- Work cooperatively and constructively to advance the GC3 mission (see above) and green chemistry within their own organizations and sectors as well as to promote the GC3 to peer companies and their supply chain.
- Allow the listing of their organization on the GC3 public website and in GC3 publications (except where prior arrangements have been made).
- Allow inclusion of contact information for one or more individuals in their organization for other members to access on the GC3 member- only website.
- Respond in a timely manner to staff requests for information that helps advance the GC3 mission
- Pay annual membership dues in a timely fashion at or above the required minimum amount.

### Membership Dues

In order to maintain membership status with the GC3, dues must be paid annually. Payment methods for membership renewals remain the same and are accepted online, by check via mail, and wire transfer. Please email, [gc3info@greenchemistryandcommerce.org](mailto:gc3info@greenchemistryandcommerce.org) for more information on renewals.

Member Tier	Organization Type	Annual Dues Cost
5	For-profit entities with annual revenue or operating budgets at or exceeding \$1 billion	\$10,000
4	For-profit entities with annual revenue or operating budgets between \$10 million and \$1 billion	\$6,000
3	For-profit entities with annual revenue or operating budgets of less than \$10 million	\$2,500
2	- Consultants and small businesses with less than 10 FTE* - Startup companies that have received venture capital funding (Series A or higher)	\$1,000
1	- Not-for-profit entities (includes government agencies, academic institutions, and non-government organizations)* - Startup companies that have not received venture capital funding	\$400

*\*GC3 Membership is available to consultants and not-for-profit entities provided a 75% business majority has been met.*

Members are responsible for notify the GC3 of any changes in contact/billing information. Invoices will be sent to company contacts electronically approximately 30 days prior to their annual renewal date. GC3 Members have 60 days from the date of invoicing to renew their dues, which may be paid concurrently with registration fees for the annual Innovators Roundtable and/or other GC3 projects.

For organizations leaving the GC3 before the end of a membership year, no portion of dues will be refunded following a 30-day period after dues are paid. Members not renewing membership are requested to provide notification to GC3 staff at least 30 days before the dues renewal period of their intentions to not renew membership.

## Group Projects

Project groups often have significant resource needs for facilitation and research. The GC3 runs two types of projects: **General Interest** and **Targeted**. General Interest projects are directly relevant to all GC3 members and all member may participate. An examples of a General Interest projects is the [Mainstreaming Project](#). At times, we invite non-members to participate in these projects, particularly when they have relevant technical expertise.

Targeted projects are focused on specific issues and are likely of direct interest to only a subset of member organizations. For these targeted projects we invite specific GC3 members to participate and we may, for strategic reasons, invite non-members to join the group if the work and the outcome of the effort will be strengthened through their participation. Two examples of Targeted projects are the [Retailer Leadership Council](#) and the [Collaborative Innovation Project on Preservatives in Personal Care and Household Products](#). If Target projects have additional resource needs not envisioned in GC3 dues, additional fees may be requested to cover project costs.

Members of the GC3 may freely participate in project groups. Non-members, invited into project groups for strategic reasons, **may participate in a project for up to three months without joining the GC3**. After the three month trial period, the organization must either join the GC3 or contribute an equivalent amount of money based on the GC3 [membership dues schedule](#) to the GC3 Project Fund to continue participating.

## Membership Termination

GC3 membership may be terminated for the following reasons:

- (1) voluntarily deciding not to renew membership
- (2) failure of a member to pay membership dues in a timely manner
- (3) behavior of a member that harms the GC3, violates the GC3 mission and/or activities, or is insulting/disrespectful to other GC3 members

If your membership is terminated for offense (3) stated above, no refund of membership dues will occur. The GC3, with support from the Advisory Committee, may refuse to allow the renewal of any organization's membership.

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

Any intellectual property developed as part of the GC3 remains the property of the Lowell Center.

### **Use of Materials**

The GC3 and the Lowell Center, including all Lowell Center projects, neither permits the use of its name, logo, or written materials for commercial purposes, including advertising, nor allow the suggestions of any endorsement, affiliation, or sponsorship with any third party's product or service without its prior written consent. Members of the GC3 may indicate that they are a member of the GC3, provided there is no indication of certification or endorsement of their product or service.

Members must request permission from GC3 staff to use the GC3's logo. Our logo may be reproduced with permission from GC3 staff provided that:

1. Any use of the logo follows the GC3 branding guidelines available from GC3 staff
2. The use of the name and logo will be beneficial to the GC3 as well as participating entities
3. The use of the name and logo does not in any way suggest endorsement of commercial products or services of particular businesses/individuals
4. The use of the name and logo shall not misrepresent the membership guidelines stated in this document
5. The use of the name and logo is not overlaid with other graphics

GC3 members have permission to use GC3 PowerPoint presentations, reports, and other materials for outreach/educational purposes as long as the GC3 is accurately referenced and GC3 branding guidelines are followed (please obtain branding guidelines from GC3 staff). Any questions about use of GC3 materials should be directed to GC3 staff.

The GC3 periodically issues reports and papers that reflect research and dialogues of GC3 members as well as other stakeholders. These reports are publications of the GC3 and are not intended to represent the positions of individual GC3 members or their organizations. If, as a result of a project group effort or recommendations from the GC3 Advisory Committee, the GC3 decides to issue a statement endorsing a particular government or non-governmental policy/action, members may be requested via email to endorse the statement. A disclaimer will accompany the document indicating that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the entire membership.

### **Communication**

GC3 staff regularly communicates with members through electronic newsletters, questionnaires, email, and telephone calls. Newsletters include announcements of upcoming meetings, updates on project group activities, and more. GC3 members can submit announcements to be featured in newsletters and/or submit questions to GC3 staff at [gc3info@greenchemistryandcommerce.org](mailto:gc3info@greenchemistryandcommerce.org).

### **Privacy**

Group activities by competitors' entail risks under federal and state antitrust laws. GC3 members and other participants in GC3 activities are expected to be familiar with their obligations under antitrust laws and should consult their attorneys if there are any particular questions or concerns. For project group meetings involving competitors, GC3 staff provide a written agenda in advance, adhere to the agenda during the meeting and read a statement in regard to antitrust issues to ensure shared understanding of the GC3's antitrust policy.

In general, all information shared with GC3 members is considered as publicly available and non-confidential. GC3 staff and GC3 members will keep information confidential when members explicitly identify it as such. GC3 members may talk openly with the media about the work of the GC3.

The GC3 follows the [Chatham House Rule](#) which states that participants are free to use the information received; however, the identity, the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant may be revealed unless specific permission is given.

***These guidelines and policies are subject to modification by GC3 staff in consultation with the GC3 Advisory Committee. Please consult GC3 staff at [gc3info@greenchemistryandcommerce.org](mailto:gc3info@greenchemistryandcommerce.org) if you have any questions or concerns.***