Nigeria Institute of Public Relations

WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT DOES
Established in 1963, The Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR), the professional body of qualified Public Relations Practitioners, attained charter status in 1990 with Decree 16 (now Act of the National Assembly.

The Law mandates NIPR to regulate the practice and direct the development of Public Relations as a profession in Nigeria. The law also makes it illegal to practice Public Relations, under any title, in Nigeria without NIPR certification.

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
As the centre of policy initiatives, NIPR’s 22member Governing Council which is elected every two years, directs the affairs of the Institute. Sitting as an electoral college, the Council elects the President and the Vice President of the Institute who respectively serve as its Chairman and Vice Chairman. Acting on behalf of Council as the Chief Executive (CEO) of the Institute, the President provides leadership in the management of NIPR business through the chapters, committees and the national secretariat.

NIPR branch organization in States and the Federal Capital Territory (Abuja) are called Chapters. Each has an elected executive council led by a Chairman.

The National Secretariat with the Registrar and departmental heads appointed by Council constitute the administrative hub of the Institute.

OBJECTIVES
Build a credible and dynamic professional institution that is responsive to Nigeria's needs.

Promote professional excellence through members upholding the Code of Ethics and a system of life-long learning as well as gaining stakeholders' commitment to professional standards.

Encourage a more reputation-sensitive society, by working with appropriate associations to generate sustained focus on the contributions of stakeholders in different sectors.

THE MEANING OF MEMBERSHIP
Membership of the Institute represents a statement that the holder is a qualified professional practitioner in Public Relations, subscribes to the Code of Ethics and the Professional Standards Guide.

The Institute provides opportunities for lifelong learning to assist members grow professionally.

Also, it helps members to specialize in different areas of PR. Every member is expected to be active as a member of a chapter.

Members are required to serve in various workshops, committees and assignments as may be necessary.
MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

Qualifications for membership of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations are periodically reviewed to meet the requirements by the public and the organized private sector (industry and commerce). In 1998, a decision was reached that all entrants must hold any of the following qualifications:

1) The Institute's Professional Certificate and Diploma in Public Relations;
2) CAM Foundation Certificate and Diploma in Communications Studies and Public Relations;
3) British Institute of Public Relations Membership Diploma;
4) Business Education Examinations Council (BEEC) Professional Certificate and Diploma in Public Relations; and
5) B.A., B.Sc., H.N.D., MA, MSc, or PhD in Public Relations; B.Sc., B.A. (Mass Communications), M.B.A. with major/specialization in PR; or any recognized equivalent qualification.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALISATIONS

i. Multicultural Communications
ii. Public Relations Campaign Planning
iii. Relations with special interest groups
iv. Community Relations/Community Liaison Joint Venture Relations
v. International Relations
vi. Federal, State and Local Government Liaison
vii. Political / Parliamentary Liaison
viii. Events Management
ix. Media (Radio, TV & Press) Relations/Press Secretaries
x. Protocol
xi. Exhibitions and Outdoor Campaigns
xii. Film or Audio-Visual Work
xiii. Print Production
xiv. Employee Relations
xv. Consumer Relations
xvi. Investor & Shareholder Relations
xvii. Issues Management & Trends Analysis
xviii. Planning, Budgeting and Managing PR Programmes
xix. PR Consultancy
xx. Stakeholder Relations
xxi. Corporate Affairs
xxii. Corporate Communications
xxiii. Corporate Communications
xxiv. Marketing Communications
CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership categories and awards depend on an individual's personal education and professional achievements in Public Relations as outlined below:

**FELLOW (FNIPR)**

Fellowship of the Institute is the highest level of professional recognition by the Institute. Procedure for award of Fellowship is constantly reviewed to project the highest professional standards.

A Fellow has voting rights in the affairs of the Institute and may use the letter FNIPR for so long as he/she meets all relevant obligations to NIPR.

**HONORARY FELLOW [FNIPR]**

Council may, at its discretion, confer Honorary Fellowship on leaders of non-government, corporate, political and other professional organizations, who have shown considerable and remarkable interest and contributed positively to the advancement of the core values of or the aims and practice of Public Relations in Nigeria.

**MEMBER (MNIPR)**

Persons who have been in Public Relations for at least five years and who are adjudged to be eligible by qualification and experience.

A member has voting right in the affairs of the Institute and may use the letter MNIPR for so long as he/she remains paid-up and active member at chapter/national level.
ASSOCIATE (ANIPR)

Persons who have been in Public Relations for at least two years and who are adjudged by Council to be eligible by qualification and experience.

An associate has voting rights in the affairs of the Institute and may use the letter ANIPR, for so long as he/she remains paid-up and active member at chapter/national level.

GRADUATE

Graduate category is available to persons having one or more of the approved qualifications but without the necessary practical experience required for associate grade. A graduate-member may not vote in the affairs of the Institute but has other rights and privileges.

A graduate member may use the letter GNIPR for so long as he/she remains paid-up and active member at chapter/national level.

STUDENT

Student-membership is open to all those who at the time of application are studying for an NIPR qualification or any of the approved qualifications. Student membership may not last for more than three years.

No membership certificate is issued; no designatory letter may be used; no voting right.
REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The following fees are currently being paid:

Registration Fee (payable on application) N10,000

i. Fellows (FNIPR) N25,000 per annum
ii. Fellows (Hon.) N25,000.00 per annum
iii. Members (MNIPR) N15,000 per annum
iv. Associates (ANIPR) N10,000 per annum
v. Graduates (GNIPR) N5,000 per annum
vi. Student N2,000.00 per annum

METHOD OF APPLICATION

- Application forms should be typed or handwritten in Capital Letters.
- Applicants should sign the declaration and affirm to Decree 16 of 1990, Bye-Law No. 1: Code of Professional Practice, the Professional Standards Guide and other regulations.
- Application should be channelled through the state chapter where the applicant is based.
- There must be two sponsors who must be recertified members.
- Application must be accompanied with the appropriate fee.
- Application forms to be submitted with copies of credentials and 2 passport photographs.
- An acknowledgement letter is written on receipt of membership application form, pending approval of application.
- Any false declaration/information renders the application invalid.