

UNIC INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NETWORK ON CLIMATE MEMBERSHIP CHARTER

February 2022



OVERVIEW

The greatest challenge of our time is resolving the global climate crisis. The scientific community agrees that we must act now. The climate crisis is global, complex, and affects all disciplines. That means we all—governments, the private sector, universities, and students—have a role to play in the collective project of transitioning to a low-carbon society. Thanks to their scientific excellence, creativity, drive, and courage, students are key players in the fight against climate change.

All over the world, students are taking action not just on campus, but in the broader community. Through their courses, research projects, and business and social initiatives, they are playing an increasingly active role in promoting climate-friendly behaviours. They want things to change, and they want to be part of that change.

By becoming UniC Network members, university students can join a dynamic, united, and proactive international community motivated by the shared desire to meet current climate challenges and transform campuses and societies.

This Charter provides for two types of membership: regular and leader. Leader status is in addition to regular member status. Leader members are therefore full regular members, but they enjoy premium benefits and must fulfill additional commitments specific to leader member status.

This Charter sets out the membership criteria, benefits, and commitments, as well as how to join and renew membership in the Network as a leader or regular member. It also explains how and why a member's status may be revoked or lost and covers everything you need to know about joining the UniC Network.

1. Regular UniC membership

1.1 Membership criteria

To become a regular member of the UniC Network, you must:

- Be 18 years old when you apply
- Be able to speak and write in one of the Network's languages (French or English)
- Be enrolled as a student at an institution of higher learning
- Complete the membership form
- On demand, be able to show a proof that you are currently a student, such as a photo of your diploma, a certificate, transcripts, or any other proof of student status. For documents in a language other than French or English, you must also provide an official translation in French or English.

1.2 Benefits

Regular members enjoy the following benefits:

- Access to the UniC web platform, exclusive for UniC members. Once you have been admitted as a regular member, you will be invited to join the platform and given the information you need to do so.
- Access to the UniC programming of activities (conferences, workshops, training sessions, and other events).
- Eligibility to respond to UniC Network calls for projects.

1.3 Commitments

By joining the UniC Network as a regular member, you undertake to:

- Update your UniC membership information (e.g., change of address, phone, or university)
- Follow UniC Network netiquette

1.4 How to apply

To apply for membership:

- Complete the online membership form

You may send an application at any time. Unless indicated otherwise, new membership applications will be reviewed within 15 business days by the UniC Network Secretariat, and all applicants will be notified of the outcome.

1.5 Membership term and renewal

Regular members automatically join the UniC Network for three years.

If you lose your student status in the three years following the date you join the UniC Network, your membership will be valid until the end of the three-year period.

Provided you are still a student, you must renew your membership three years after the date you filed your previous membership application. On demand, student must be able to proof its student status.

1.6 Revocation of regular member status

Regular member status may be revoked immediately if:

- You fail to fulfill the commitments listed above (see Section 1.3)

OR

- You use the UniC Network for purposes other than its stated purposes or you harm the UniC Network and/or the UniC Network community and/or of partner universities and/or other partners' reputation.

OR

- You are found to have made false representations or false statements

OR

- You are unable to proof your student status on demand

2. Leader UniC membership

2.1 Membership criteria

To become a leader member, you must:

- Meet all regular UniC membership criteria (see Section 1.1) and have been a regular UniC member for at least six months

OR

- Meet all regular UniC membership criteria (see Section 1.1) and be recommended for leader status (see Section 2.4.3)

AND

- Complete the leader member application process (see Section 2.4)

2.2. Benefits

Leader members enjoy all the benefits of regular members (see Section 1.2).

They also enjoy the following additional benefits:

- Access to exclusive events such as training sessions, workshops for leader members, interviews with key leaders in the international fight against climate change, and mentoring
- Eligibility to the UniC International Student Summit on Climate and the opportunity to actively help organize it
- Eligibility to respond to calls for projects reserved for leader members
- Eligibility to actively contribute to Network activities (e.g., suggest, organize, or facilitate an event)
- Eligibility for research internships and virtual and in-person mobility

2.3 Commitments

Leader members enjoy premium Network benefits. By joining as a leader member, you therefore undertake to actively help make the Network a vibrant community and fulfill the regular member commitments to:

- Update your UniC membership information (e.g., change of address, phone, or university)
- Follow UniC Network netiquette

You also undertake to fulfill the additional commitments expected of leader members, namely to:

- Regularly attend meetings of the committees of which you are a member
- Actively participate in one or more joint Network projects
- Attend Network events
- Actively network with other Network members and help them build relationships with each other
- Encourage your fellow students to join the Network and take part in Network activities
- Help organize and energize your university's local UniC branch
- Make a difference in the UniC community

2.4 Application and selection

2.4.1 Application

To apply for leader membership:

- Attach a video to your application explaining how you will fulfill the leader member category commitments (see Section 2.3) and expectations to:
 - Work for the climate as part of your study plan by taking action on campus, conducting research, developing a professional or business plan, or having a civic action plan (for more information, see the five dimensions of the UniC student experience)
- Complete the online form
- Join a proof of your student status

You may apply at any time. However, except for applications from recommended candidates, applications will be processed only during annual evaluation periods (see Section 2.4.3). Evaluation periods will be announced on the UniC Network website.

All membership applications will be reviewed, and all applicants will be notified of the outcome.

2.4.2 Selection

Leader members are selected according to official evaluation criteria.

Details regarding the selection process and the composition of the evaluation committee are available on the UniC Network website.

2.4.3 Recommended candidates

As an exception, candidates for leader member status may be recommended to the UniC Network Secretariat outside annual evaluation periods.

Recommended candidates must meet the membership criteria set out in Section 2.1.

2.5 Membership term and renewal

See Section 1.5.

2.6 Revocation of leader member status

Leader member status may be revoked immediately if:

- You fail to fulfill the additional commitments and expectations specific to leader members listed in Section 2.3

OR

- You use the UniC Network for purposes other than its stated purposes or you harm the UniC Network and/or the UniC Network community and/or of partner universities and/or other partners' reputation.

OR

- You are found to have made false representations or false statements

OR

- You are unable to proof your student status on demand