

GPF Membership and Attendance Policy

Attendance Policy

Who Should Attend GPF:

GPF events are designed for professionals/network engineers directly involved in interconnection operations. Appropriate attendees include:

- Decision makers responsible for interconnection activities within their organization
- Technical staff and non-sales technical managers, such as those working with internet exchanges, cloud service providers, enterprises, cross-connect/optical exchange platforms, other interconnection services supporting participants.
- Sponsor representatives, as outlined in sponsorship agreements
- GPF board members, event staff, and invited speakers

Not appropriate for GPF:

Roles focused primarily on sales, account management, business development, consulting services, product marketing, or similar commercial functions.

Individuals who maintain only limited infrastructure (e.g., only a route server rather than full IX infrastructure) are generally not considered appropriate for attendance.

Attendance Limits:

Each organization may register up to two attendees.

Exceptions may be granted by the board with supporting justification.

- Global networks with interconnection managers across multiple regions may request additional registrations.
- Sponsors may bring additional representatives as permitted by their sponsorship package (these attendees do **not** require approval and may include commercial roles).

Registration and Approval Process

- Registration opens in November prior to the event.
- All attendees must register and wait for approval from GPF Directors.
- Approval is based on:
 - The attendee criteria listed above
 - The number of registrants from the same organization
- Because roles can overlap between technical and commercial functions, the Board will make final determinations based on multiple factors.
- Non-sponsor attendees are strongly encouraged to provide an ASN and a current PeeringDB record.

If an attendee is not approved, they may submit an appeal.

Attendee Guidelines

All attendees must follow the [GPF Attendance Charter](#), which outlines activities prohibited for legal or anti-discrimination reasons.

Membership

Membership and attendance are separate:

- You do not need to be a member to attend GPF.
- Being a member does not guarantee conference attendance. You still need to register and be approved.

How to Become a Member

To qualify for membership, you must have attended at least one qualifying event within the past three years.

To be a member, you will need to accept the membership offer (opt-in). This is sent each June to eligible community members. Membership must be accepted during the membership window. Notifications are sent via email and social media.

Benefits of Membership

- Discounted GPF conference registration fees
- Participation in an international peering community
- Eligibility to stand for election
- Voting rights
- Access to the members-only section of the website

Committees

A delegate on a GPF committee will receive the membership offer for the following fiscal year. This will allow them to run for board and attend the conference as a member. A person on the election committee is not eligible to run for the board unless they resign from the committee prior to the set up of the election committee and/or any discussions on election set-up.

Conference Speakers

- Approved attendees will need to pay the registration fee to attend the conference. This will give them access to all aspects of the conference.
- A speaker who does not qualify to attend will be subjected to board approval where any and all conditions for attendance will be stipulated.

Registration Fees

Conference registration rates are based on the date the registration fee is paid, not the date the delegate registers.