

Policy: Complimentary Membership for New Call Sign Holders**Purpose**

To encourage new amateur radio operators to engage with the Association, while ensuring fairness and consistency for all members regardless of when they join during the membership year.

This policy applies to individuals who are newly issued with an amateur radio call sign and are eligible for a complimentary introductory membership.

Policy Statement

New call sign holders may be granted a **one-time complimentary membership for a defined introductory period**. This benefit is structured to ensure fairness with existing members who pay full annual subscriptions.

- Complimentary membership runs:
 - **Minimum of 3 months**, and
 - Up to the **end of the financial year**, whichever is longer.
- If issued late in the year (e.g., within last 3 months), the membership will extend into the following year to ensure a meaningful benefit.

Advantages:

- Avoids very short complimentary periods.
- Maintains alignment with annual cycle.
- Seen as equitable and welcoming.

Transition to Paid Membership

- At the conclusion of the complimentary period:
 - Members are invited to renew at the **standard annual subscription rate**.
 - Renewal date aligns with the Association's financial year.

Communication

- Clearly communicate:
 - The **duration** of the complimentary membership.
 - The **renewal date and cost**.
 - The **benefits of continued membership**.

Transparency is essential to avoid perceptions of unfair advantage.

Review

This policy is to be reviewed annually to ensure:

- It remains fair to existing members.
 - It supports recruitment and retention goals.
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Summary

This approach:

- Encourages new entrants into amateur radio.
 - Maintains fairness with existing paying members.
 - Keeps administration straightforward and predictable.
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Student Exam/Call Sign Allocation Fee's Set to ZERO

Carried over from 2019 Policy – Zero Fees for Students under

NZART Executive Council has agreed to lower the cost of Students sitting the Amateur Exam and the issuing of a Call Sign to no cost or ZERO.

Purpose of this new policy to encourage new younger members into amateur radio where the cost of the exam and issuing of a new call sign was deemed a barrier in doing so.

Upon a successful pass the student will be allocated a call sign in the normal way via the NZART ARX. The student will also be given a year's complimentary* membership to NZART. *(Receive one-year free membership to NZART from 1 Jan to 31 December in the same year. If joining after 1 July, membership will expire 31 December the following year, meaning eighteen months of membership.)

Rules:

1. This Policy only applies to NZART Supervised Exams.
2. It applies to anyone under the age of twenty-five (25) years who is in full time study.
3. The Exam Supervisor(s) are to vet each applicant to ensure that each applicant is a bona fide student and where possible provide the Student ID.
4. The policy is restricted in the first twelve months to a maximum of twenty (20) applicants, dealt with on a first come basis.

Complimentary Membership with Call Sign applications (2026)

5. This new policy will come into effect from 1 September 2019 and will be reviewed prior to the roll over on 1 September 2020. There is no guarantee that the policy will continue after this date, or that the number of applicants be increased or decreased.
6. The 2026 NZART Council have agreed that no changes will be made to this policy for Students at this time.
7. There is nothing stopping a Branch requesting from an exam candidate a donation to the club for providing this service.

This policy was approved by the NZART Council on 3 June 201 and remains in place as at July 2026.