

World Coffee Research

Membership fee structure, 2027

World Coffee Research (WCR) unites the global coffee industry to drive science-based agricultural solutions to urgently secure a diverse and sustainable supply of quality coffee today and for generations to come.

WCR's membership fees are structured in four business categories. Explore the corresponding membership benefits in [this document](#). **New members have three years to reach the target investment level specified in this fee structure**; two years of increasing amounts to reach the target in the third year.

1) Brand Roasters/Manufacturers/Retailers are companies that primarily sell or serve their branded coffee to consumers, directly or via intermediaries such as grocery retailers and HoReCa, and may purchase and roast/manufacture coffee themselves or outsource this activity. Their membership fee can be calculated via: (A) participating in the Checkoff Program with their importers (see p3) or paying a Variable Rate based on current year volume, or (B) applying a Fixed Rate for annual contribution.

Category	Volume Bands	Option A) Checkoff/Variable	Option B) Fixed Rate
Brand Roaster/ Manufacturer/Retailer <i>(Pounds of Global Green Coffee Purchased Annually)</i>	0-50,000 pounds <i>(0-22 metric tons)</i>	n/a	\$250
	50,001-500,000 pounds <i>(23-226 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0100	\$500
	500,001-2,000,000 pounds <i>(227-907 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0050	\$6,200
	2,000,001-5,000,000 pounds <i>(908-2,267 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0045	\$15,000
	5,000,001-10,000,000 pounds <i>(2,268-4,535 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0040	\$30,000
	10,000,001-20,000,000 pounds <i>(4,536-9,071 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0035	\$52,000
	20,000,001-40,000,000 pounds <i>(9,072-18,143 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0030	\$90,000
	40,000,001-75,000,000 pounds <i>(18,144-34,019 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0025	\$143,000
	75,000,001-150,000,000 pounds <i>(34,020-68,038 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0020	\$225,000
	150,000,001-300,000,000 pounds <i>(68,039-136,077 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0015	\$337,000
	300,000,001-500,000,000 pounds <i>(136,078-226,796 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0011	\$440,000
	>500,000,000 pounds <i>(>226,797 metric tons)</i>	\$0.0008	\$560,000

2) Business-to-Business Roasters/Manufacturers are companies whose primary business activity (>95% of business volume) is roasting/manufacturing coffee for third parties or selling through intermediaries such as HoReCa, such that its brand is invisible to the end consumer. They are also known as private-label, own-label, white-label, toll/contract, food-service, and wholesale roasters.

Category	Volume Bands	Fixed Rate
Business-to-Business Roaster/Manufacturer (Pounds of Global Green Coffee Purchased Annually)	0-500,000 pounds (0-226 metric tons)	\$500
	500,001-2,000,000 pounds (227-907 metric tons)	\$3,100
	2,000,001-5,000,000 pounds (908-2,267 metric tons)	\$7,500
	5,000,001-10,000,000 pounds (2,268-4,535 metric tons)	\$15,000
	10,000,001-20,000,000 pounds (4,536-9,071 metric tons)	\$26,000
	20,000,001-40,000,000 pounds (9,072-18,143 metric tons)	\$45,000
	40,000,001-75,000,000 pounds (18,144-34,019 metric tons)	\$71,500
	75,000,001-150,000,000 pounds (34,020-68,038 metric tons)	\$112,500
	150,000,001-300,000,000 pounds (68,039-136,077 metric tons)	\$168,500
	300,000,001-500,000,000 pounds (136,078-226,796 metric tons)	\$220,000
	>500,000,000 pounds (>226,797 metric tons)	\$280,000

3) Green Coffee Suppliers/Traders are companies that are involved in the movement of green coffee from producing to consuming countries. **Decaffeinators** are companies that decaffeinate coffee.

Category	Volume Bands	Fixed Rate
Green Coffee Supplier/Trader/Decaffeinator (Bags of Global Green Coffee Traded Annually)	<50,000 Bags (<3,000 metric tons)	\$500
	50,001-100,000 Bags (3,001-6,000 metric tons)	\$2,900
	100,001-200,000 Bags (6,001-12,000 metric tons)	\$5,000
	200,001-500,000 Bags (12,001-30,000 metric tons)	\$9,000
	500,001-1,000,000 Bags (30,001-60,000 metric tons)	\$19,000
	1,000,001-2,000,000 Bags (60,001-120,000 metric tons)	\$32,000
	2,000,001-6,000,000 Bags (120,001-360,000 metric tons)	\$52,000
	>6,000,000 Bags (>360,001 metric tons)	\$93,000

4) Allied Companies include all other companies that participate in the coffee sector in roles such as equipment manufacturers, food and flavoring, producers, and consulting firms.

Category	Revenue Bands	Fixed Rate
Allied Company <i>(Coffee-Industry Revenue Generated Annually)</i>	<\$1,000,000 USD	\$500
	\$1,000,001-10,000,000 USD	\$1,000
	\$10,000,001-\$50,000,000 USD	\$8,000
	\$50,000,001-\$100,000,000 USD	\$30,000
	>\$100,000,000 USD	\$50,000

Guidelines:

- **Checkoff Program:** Contributions are assessed based on actual coffee purchase volumes. Minimum rate varies depending on volume bands. Typically administered by green coffee suppliers on behalf of roaster clients and tied to green coffee contracts. Suppliers may also participate in the Checkoff Program by matching roaster contributions, closing any “gap” to reach fixed rate minimum in the fourth quarter. For more information, visit our website ([link](#)).
- **Conversion to green:** To convert roasted, decaffeinated, liquid and soluble coffee to its equivalent green coffee volume, WCR utilizes the ICO’s published conversion factors ([link here](#)).
- **Transition to higher-volume band:** Placement in volume/revenue bands will be made using current year figures to determine membership rate for the following year. WCR membership will be on a calendar year basis. If a member company’s green coffee volume or volume-equivalent increases, such that the company moves into a higher membership band, the member will have two years to reach the new target level.
- **Contributions above target fee:** WCR welcomes commitments beyond the target investment level to support our research programs, including from members making 1% for the Planet commitments.
- **Payments:**
 - \$250 level – fee payable within 15 days to activate membership, no three-year step-up plan
 - \$500 level – fee payable as a single payment by June 30, or thereafter within 15 days, to activate membership
 - >\$500 level – membership fee may be split into multiple payments no smaller than \$500 increments, with 50% due by June 30 and balance by November 30 (Checkoff Program not applicable)

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