



Becoming a member of the Global Campaign for Education

About GCE

What is the Global Campaign for Education?

The Global Campaign for Education (GCE) is a civil society movement that aims to end the global education crisis. Together we hold governments to account for their promises repeatedly made to provide Education for All. The GCE's mission is to make sure that governments act now to deliver the right of everyone to a free, quality, public education.

Since our formation in 1999, over 20 million people have united to call for Education For All. Civil society organisations, teachers' unions, child rights campaigners, teachers, parents and students have joined together to demand universal education.

Why Education?

Education is a fundamental human right, yet 61 million children are still out of school. Over 700 million adults are unable to read and write. The majority of these children and adults are female. Not only is education a right and entitlement, but it is also crucial to tackling global poverty, improving health, halting the spread of HIV and AIDS and enabling people to play a full, active part in their communities.

Where are we now?

GCE has grown from year to year, there are now education coalitions in over 90 countries. Our annual Global Action Week has seen millions around the world join together to take action on education. Campaign activities have been attended by globally-renowned figures including Nelson Mandela, Angelina Jolie, Mick Jagger and Graca Machel and we have involved dozens of heads of state in our campaign events.

GCE members have also helped secure numerous policy changes. Overall we have seen the number of children out of school decrease from 100 million in 2000 to 61 million now. We have seen increases in aid to education from most developed countries. Countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America have announced policy decisions following our national campaigning activities including new teacher recruitment, increased education budgets, abolition of fees and special programmes to increase enrollment of girls.

Why should we join GCE?

There are many benefits to becoming a member of GCE:

- your organisation will be part of a truly international movement with members in 96 countries
- access to a network of like-minded organisations and professionals working for the same objectives, with opportunities to develop skills, share knowledge and increase the impact of your work
- support for national and international advocacy campaigns through access to resources and materials as well as news on breaking campaign work sent directly to you
- GCE is led by its members: the way the campaign develops is down to you.

GCE Members must subscribe to our Principles and Demands and agree to uphold our constitution, both of which can be found at www.campaignforeducation.org.

Fully-subscribed member organisations and coalitions can participate in GCE's General Assembly, vote for the policy positions of the Global Campaign for Education, stand for election to the governance structures of GCE, use the GCE logo on materials, and are eligible to apply for funding for Global Action Week and other advocacy activities.

We believe in uniting civil society in the common pursuit of the right to education - therefore **only one education coalition is recognised in each country**. Individuals, national organisations or trade unions are encouraged to join their national education coalition, but are not eligible to join GCE as an international member. If you represent an organisation in a country which already has a GCE member, please feel free to contact them to discuss joining the national coalition.

What's involved in being a GCE Member?

What rights do GCE Members have?

- Participate fully in a global recognised and respected movement for Education for All.
- Participate in Decision Making on the Global Campaign for Education at the World Assembly
- Stand for election to the management structures of GCE
- Use GCE logo on materials, documents and resources (with permission from the secretariat)
- Receive e-mail updates and news on developments in education
- Receive campaign materials, publications including GCE's Big Book, School Report, Posters, DVD and Action Week resources.
- Eligible to apply for funding for Global Action Week Grants and other advocacy activities.
- If short of resources members will receive sponsorship to attend the World Assembly.

What obligations do GCE Members have?

- Members are committed to advocate for Education Rights during Global Action Week.
- Members must report back their advocacy work on education to the secretariat so they can be shared with other members across the world.
- Members must pay their annual membership fees to be delegates to the World Assembly (it varies according to your size – it is only \$100 for a national coalition – see the GCE constitution on the campaign website or contact Yunus@campaignforeducation.org for more information)
- Members should monitor the success of campaigning on education and the implementation of the EFA goals at local, national, regional and international levels.

How do we become GCE Members?

1. Decide which category of membership you are applying for

Membership of GCE is open to independent and democratic national and regional coalitions of civil society organisations, and international networks and non-governmental organisations working for quality public education for all.

There are four types of membership:

- International Organisation
- Regional Network
- National Coalition
- Associate Member

You need to choose which of those types of membership you wish to apply for.

The first three are full members of GCE. Associate members are special organisations and corporate institutions which pledge to respect the principles and mission of the GCE. A non-civil society organisation may also be admitted as an associate member of the campaign if it commits itself to the mission and principles of the campaign, and it undertakes practical actions in support of the GCE. Any civil society organisation, which is already part of a GCE member national/regional/international coalition, can become an associate member in its own right. However, associate members have no voting rights in the GCE General Assembly.

2. Call a meeting of your coalition/network/organisation

Invite all those who are involved as this needs to be a joint discussion. It is helpful if you can notify the GCE secretariat of this meeting in advance; we can then ensure that other education campaigners who have contacted the GCE in the past from your country/region/constituency are informed about the meeting. It might also be possible for a member of the GCE Board or secretariat to attend your meeting if you would like them to.

3. At the meeting make a joint decision on if you want to become formal members of GCE

You will need to jointly fill in the membership application form found in the Members' section of our website www.campaignforeducation.org

You need to confirm you subscribe to the GCE's principles and demands and agree to uphold our constitution. You also need to agree how the small but important membership fee will be paid.

4. Send the completed form to the GCE secretariat

Please send the form to Yunus Dhoda at GCE HQ:
Yunus@campaignforeducation.org
Fax: +27 (0)11 447 4138 or e-mail it to

We will then present the application to the next board meeting and let you know when membership has been approved.

We offer certain members financial support for participation in democratic structures, in particular the General Assembly. To be able to receive financial support to travel to the next General Assembly you need to send in an application for membership by 30th July of the given year or you need to notify us that you are preparing an application.

Please note one education coalition per country is recognised and this should include a teachers' union. Individuals, national organisations or trade unions are not eligible to apply on their own – they must join via their national coalition.

More information

For more information please see the members pages of our website. Alternatively, please contact Yunus Dhoda:
Yunus@campaignforeducation.org
+27 (0)11 447 4111