LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV

MEMBERSHIP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

What is the Commission on HIV?

The Los Angeles County Commission on HIV is the County's legislatively established planning body responsible for planning, developing recommendations, and community input for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and other HIV prevention, care, and treatment efforts in Los Angeles County. The Commission makes recommendations on policies, funding priorities, and service needs—ensuring decisions are informed by community voice, lived experience, and public health data. *The Commission is not an advocacy or activism body and does not directly fund or contract with agencies to provide HIV services. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP), oversees contracting with agencies to provide HIV services for people living with HIV/AIDS.*

What does it mean that the Commission is a public body?

The Commission on HIV operates as a public body and follows the Brown Act and other applicable governance and parliamentary requirements. This ensures meetings are publicly noticed, open to the public, and conducted transparently, with opportunities for public comment. Commissioners and committee members receive orientation and staff support. Prior experience with these processes is not required.

Why does the Commission matter?

Because decisions about HIV services should be informed by the people and communities most impacted. Serving on the Commission means having a real seat at the table.

How large is the Commission?

Beginning March 2026, the Commission will consist of 32 members, including required 15 Ryan White seats, 11 unaffiliated consumers, 5 Board of Supervisors representatives, and an HIV researcher/scientist.

Who should apply?

Community members who live or work in LA County and are passionate about HIV equity, including people living with HIV, advocates, providers, researchers, and public health professionals. No prior Commission or government experience required.

Are there different ways to participate?

The Commission offers committee-only membership opportunities for subject-matter experts and individuals with lived experience who want to contribute without serving as a full Commissioner. Committee-only members do not require appointment by the Board of Supervisors.

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What is the time commitment and general expectations?

On average, approximately 10 hours per month.

- Commissioners: Commission meetings, committee meetings, and training
- Committee-only members: Committee meetings and related work

Members are expected to attend meetings in person, consistent with Brown Act requirements. Reasonable accommodations, including limited remote participation when permitted by law, may be available. Members must also have regular access to email, as most Commission communications are shared electronically.

Will I receive compensation for my time?

Stipends of *up to* $500 may be available for unaffiliated consumer members, contingent upon funding availability and participation requirements. Unaffiliated consumers are individuals with lived experience who are not employed by or representing a funded agency.

How are members selected?

Full Commissioners complete an application, interview process, Livescan background check, and are appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Committee-only members complete an application and interview process, but do not require Board appointment.

How long is my term after becoming a member?

Commissioners and committee-only members serve two-year terms and may serve a maximum of three terms. After completing three terms, members must take a one-year break in service before reapplying.

I've submitted my application. When will I be notified that my application has been selected?

After applications close, submissions are reviewed for eligibility and alignment with the Commission's membership needs. All applicants will be notified and selected applicants will be invited to participate in a brief virtual interview in early January. Final recommendations will be presented to the Commission in February, and submitted to the Board of Supervisors for final appointment to be seated in March.

I am interest in applying but my current schedule will not allow me to participate. Is membership open year-round?

Yes. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until all seats are filled. Priority consideration is given to applications received by the stated deadline.

How do I apply?

Application details and the submission link are available on our website https://hiv.lacounty.gov/membership-and-recruitment/ or you may email us at hivcomm@lachiv.org to request a paper version.