

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AND INSTRUCTIONS

- I The preferred application method is online at www.specialoperations.org. Applicants may also mail the application and documents to: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE PO Box 335461 N. Las Vegas NV 89033
- II **DOCUMENTATION** - Compiling documentation is solely the responsibility of the applicant. The SOA assumes no responsibility for finding documentation or sponsorship for any applicant.
- III **INSTRUCTIONS** - Read the Membership Criteria below before submitting the application.
1. Attach additional sheets as required. Provide enough detail for the Membership Committee to understand your qualifications.
 2. A \$35.00 **non-refundable** application fee, made payable to the SOA is required with the application.
 3. If you have any questions or need additional information:
 - Visit the SOA website www.specialoperations.org
 - Email the Committee: membership@specialoperations.org.
- V. **MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA** - The SOA By-Laws defines two types of SOA Members: General and Associate. Operational Associate is a distinction conferred on non-US Armed Forces members that support the General Member category.
- A. General Member
1. Basic requirements:
 - A Veteran or member of the U.S. Armed Forces
 - Served in a Special Operations Unit as approved by this Association
 - Has conducted Special Operations as an operational combat element or provided direct support to the operational combat element in an operational role within an assigned Area of Operations.
 - Routine or normal duty while on this assignment must have placed the applicant in direct threat/exposure to hostile fire
 2. Documentation includes, but not limited to, Sponsorship by a General member of the SOA; DD214, Awards, Orders.
- B. Associate Member
1. Basic requirements
 - A Veteran or member of a U.S. Armed Forces
 - Supported the conduct of an approved Special Operations unit in a non-operational support role.
 2. Documentation includes, but not limited to, Sponsorship by a General member of the SOA; DD214, Awards, Orders.
- C. Operational Associate
1. Basic requirements
 - Non-US Armed Forces members and Paramilitary personnel who serve or support the US Armed Forces Special Operations Units.
 2. Documentation includes sponsorship by a General member of the SOA and an abbreviated biography of the candidate.