

# ALARA membership information and article submissions

## ALARA membership categories

Membership of ALARA takes two forms: individual and organisational.

### ALARA individual membership

The ALAR Journal is available to members of the Action Learning, Action Research Association Inc (ALARA). Members obtain access to two issues of the ALAR Journal per year.

ALARA membership also provides information on special interest email and web based networks, discounts on conference/seminar registrations, and an on-line membership directory. The directory gives details of members around the world with information about interests as well as the ability to contact them.

### ALARA organisational membership

ALARA is keen to make connections between people and activities in all the strands, streams and variants associated with our paradigm. Areas include Action Learning, Action Research, process management, collaborative inquiry facilitation, systems thinking, Indigenous research and organisational learning and development. ALARA may appeal to people working in any kind of organisational, community, workplace or other practice setting, and at all levels.

ALARA invites organisational memberships with university schools, public sector units, corporate and Medium to Small Business, and community organisations. Such memberships

include Affiliates. Details are on our membership link on our website.

### **For more information on ALARA activities**

Please visit our web page:

[www.alarassociation.org/pages/about-us/joining-alar](http://www.alarassociation.org/pages/about-us/joining-alar)

or email [secretary@alarassociation.org](mailto:secretary@alarassociation.org)

### **Journal submissions criteria and review process**

The Action Learning and Action Research Journal (ALARj) contains substantial articles, project reports, information about activities, creative works from the Action Research and Action Learning field, reflections on seminars and conferences, short articles related to the theory and practice of Action Learning, Action Research and process management, and reviews of recent publications. ALARj also advertises practitioners' services for a fee.

The journal aims to be of the highest standard of writing from the field in order to extend the boundaries of theorisation of the practice, as well as the boundaries of its application. *This purpose represents a recent change in policy.*

The journal aims to be accessible for both readers and contributors while not compromising the need for sophistication that complex situations require. Where previously our commitment was to publish new practitioners as a way of developing the field, while also introducing novice practitioners presenting creative and insightful work we now encourage experienced practitioners and scholars to contribute.

Accordingly, our rate of rejection has increased. We will only receive articles that have been proof read, comply with the submission guidelines as identified on the journal's website, and that also meet the criteria that the reviewers use, also available on

the journal website. We are unlikely to publish an article that describes a project simply because its methodology is drawn from our field.

The intention of the journal is to provide high quality works for practitioners and funding bodies to refer to in the commissioning of works, and the progression of and inclusion of action research and action learning concepts and practices in policy and operations.

*ALARj* has a substantial international panel of experienced action research and action learning scholars and practitioners who offer both double blind and transparent reviews at the request of the author.

### *Making your submission and developing your paper*

Please send all contributions in Microsoft Word format to our Open Journal Systems access portal: <http://journal.alara.net.au>

You will need to register as an author to upload your document and work through the four electronic pages of requirements to make your submission. ALARA's Managing Editor or Issue Editor will contact you and you can track progress of your paper on the OJS page.

If you have any difficulties or inquiries about submission or any other matters to do with ALARA publications contact the Managing Editor on [editor@alarassociation.org](mailto:editor@alarassociation.org).

For the full details of submitting to the ALAR Journal, please see the submission guidelines on ALARA's web site [www.alarassociation.org/pages/publications/submission-guidelines](http://www.alarassociation.org/pages/publications/submission-guidelines)

### *Guidelines*

The journal is devoted to the communication of the theory and practice of action research and related methodologies generally. As with all ALARA activities, all streams of work across all disciplines are welcome. These areas include action research, action learning, participatory action research, systems thinking, inquiry process-

facilitation, and process management and all the associated post-modern epistemologies and methods such as rural self-appraisal, auto-ethnography, appreciative inquiry, most significant change, open space technology, etc.

Our reviewers use the following criteria, which are important for authors to consider:

1. Criteria 1: How well are the paper and its focus both aimed at and/or grounded in the world of practice?
2. Criteria 2: How well are the paper and/or its subject explicitly and actively participative: research with, for and by people rather than on people?
3. Criteria 3: How well do the paper and/or its subject draw on a wide range of ways of knowing (including intuitive, experiential, presentational as well as conceptual) and link these appropriately to form theory of and in practices (praxis)?
4. Criteria 4: How well does the paper address questions that are of significance to the flourishing of human community and the more-than-human world as related to the foreseeable future?
5. Criteria 5: How well does the paper and/or its subject aim to leave some lasting capacity amongst those involved, encompassing first, second and third person perspectives?
6. Criteria 6: How well do the paper and its subject offer critical insights into and critical reflections on the research and inquiry process?
7. Criteria 7: How well do the paper and/or its subject progress AR and AL in the field (research, community, business, education or otherwise)?
8. Criteria 8: How well is the paper written?

### *Article preparation*

Journal submissions must be original and unpublished work suitable for an international audience and not under review by any other publisher or journal. No payment is associated with submissions. Copyright of published works remains with the author(s) shared with ALARA Inc.

While *ALARj* promotes established practice and related discourse *ALARj* also encourages unconventional approaches to reflecting on practice including poetry, artworks and other forms of creative expression that can in some instances progress the field more appropriately than academic forms of writing.

Submissions are uploaded to our Open Journal System (OJS) editing and publication site.

The reviewers use the OJS system to send you feedback within a 2-3 month period. You will receive emails at each stage of the process with feedback, and if needed, instructions included in the email about how to make revisions and resubmit.

### *Access to the journal*

The journal is published electronically on the OJS website.

EBSCO and InformIT also publish the journal commercially for worldwide access, and pdf or printed versions can be purchased from Sydney University Press at <http://fmx01.ucc.usyd.edu.au/jspcart/cart/Category.jsp?nParentID=42>




For further information about submitting to the ALAR Journal, please see the submission guidelines on ALARA's web site <http://www.alarassociation.org/pages/publications/submission-guidelines>.



### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

*This form is for the use of individuals wishing to join ALARA Inc  
Please complete all fields*

**I wish to apply for Individual Membership of ALARA**

<b>Name</b>		
Title	Given Name	Family Name
<b>Residential Address:</b>		
Town / City	Postcode / Zip:	Country:
<b>Postal Address</b>		<b>Town / City</b>
<b>Postcode/Zip:</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Telephone</b>		<b>Mobile Telephone</b>
Country Code	Telephone Number	Country Code    Mobile Number
<b>Email</b>	<b>Experience</b> (Please tick most relevant)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> No experience yet <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years' experience <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years' experience	
<b>Interests</b> (Please tick all relevant)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Community / Social Justice	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Organisational Development
<p><b>Are you eligible for a concessional membership fee?</b> If you are a student, pensioner or individual earning less than \$AU 20,000 per annum then you can apply for the concessional membership fee.</p> <p><b>Do you belong to an organisation that is an Organisational Member of ALARA Inc?</b> If you are a member of such an organisation, you can apply for the reduced membership fee. If you are uncertain if your organisation is an Organisational Member, please pay the full fee and enter 'Uncertain' in the Organisation's Name box below. We will advise you if a discount is available and refund the difference.</p>		
<b>Annual Membership Fees</b> (Please select one type of membership)		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$AU 145.00 Full membership fee		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$AU 95.00 Concessional membership fee (see above)		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$AU 72.50 Reduced membership fee, as I belong to an Organisational Member of ALARA: Organisation's Name:		
<p><b>By submitting this membership form, I acknowledge that I have read, understood and accept ALARA's Privacy Policy</b> (<a href="http://www.alara.net.au/privacy">http://www.alara.net.au/privacy</a>)</p>		
<p>We offer a range of payment options. Details are provided on the Tax Invoice that we will send to you on receipt of your membership application</p>		   
<p><b>Remember: If you want to join and pay online, just go to</b> <a href="http://www.alara.net.au/alara_payments">http://www.alara.net.au/alara_payments</a> Alternatively, please return the completed form to us:</p>		
<b>By post to:</b>	PO Box 1748 TOOWONG Queensland 4066 AUSTRALIA	
<b>By FAX to:</b>	+ 61 (7) 3342 1669	
<b>BY email to:</b>	<a href="mailto:finance@alara.net.au">finance@alara.net.au</a>	

ALARA will email your invoice within 2 working days and normally process memberships 5 working days after receiving payment. You will receive an email confirming activation of your account, and details on how you can access website functions.

Please see ALARA's web site [www.alarassociation.org](http://www.alarassociation.org/) for an organisational membership application form.