

EC3 MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Full Benefits by Tier & Frequently Asked Questions

EC3's core tools – EPD Repository, Find and Compare Materials (including Pilot Categories), and core Project Planner functionality – remain free and publicly accessible to everyone, member or not. The free, rate-limited API tier likewise remains available to everyone regardless of Membership. Membership adds benefits; it never gates existing free access. A 50% discount applies across all Member tiers for government agencies, U.S. 501(c)(3) organizations, and nonprofits outside the U.S. (not applicable to Student Membership). Bespoke, one-off work remains available only through the separately priced Fee-for-Service Partnership track. Contact membership@buildingtransparency.org to discuss which tier is right for you.

	Registered Users	Individual Member \$250/yr (\$50 students)	Community Member \$1,000/yr	Practitioner Member \$5,000/yr	Sustaining Member \$10,000–\$25,000/yr*
Annual dues	Free	\$250/yr (\$50 students)	\$1,000/yr	\$5,000/yr	\$10,000–\$25,000/yr*
Seats with access to Membership benefits**	0	1	Up to 5 (+\$250/seat/yr)	Up to 10 (+\$250/seat/yr)	Unlimited
Recognition	–	–	Named	Logo	Logo
Annual EC3 Trends Report	High-level	Detailed	Detailed	Detailed	Detailed
Annual Member Briefing	–	Included	Included	Included	Included
Annual roadmap survey (advisory, non-binding)	–	Included	Included	Included	Included
Webinars, convenings & technical working groups (advisory, non-binding, no vote)	–	Included	Included	Included	Included
Quarterly EC3 Office Hours	–	–	Included	Included	Included
Early visibility into releases (informational only)	–	–	Included	Included	Included
EPD data view/usage insights (own data only)	30-day history	30-day history	90-day history	All-time history	All-time history
Project Planner capabilities	5 projects/yr	10 projects/yr	20 projects/yr	50 projects/yr (portfolio analytics & advanced project structure coming early 2027)	Unlimited; +sharing; +custom fields/tags (portfolio analytics & advanced project structure coming early 2027)
Increased EC3 API rate limits	Free tier (rate limited)	Free tier (rate limited)	Free tier (rate limited)	100 tokens/min	1,000 tokens/min
Response time for EPD data-quality correction requests***	7 business days	3 business days	3 business days	1 business day	1 business day
"White Label"/"Build Your Own" EPD catalogue (coming March 2027)	–	–	–	Included	Included
Full SOC 2 report access (under NDA)	–	–	–	–	Included
10% discount on select Technical Partnerships	–	–	Included	Included	Included

* Sustaining tier dues are self-selected within the range shown. ** Additional seats available at \$250/year. *** Batches including more than 5 EPDs reported on the same day may take longer to process. Response-time commitments affect only how quickly BT processes correction requests. Membership never affects EPD content, data-quality standards, ranking, or visibility in EC3.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does membership change access to EC3's core tools?

No. The EPD Repository, Find & Compare Materials (including Pilot Categories), Project Planner, and Declare Your Product remain free and open to everyone, member or not.

Can I add more seats to my organization's membership?

Community and Practitioner tiers can add seats for \$250/year each. Sustaining tier includes unlimited seats.

Is a discount available for nonprofits or government agencies?

Yes — a 50% discount applies across all Member tiers for government agencies, U.S. 501(c)(3) organizations, and nonprofits outside the U.S. It doesn't apply to Student Membership, which is already discounted.

How is the Sustaining tier priced?

Sustaining members self-select their annual dues within the \$10,000–\$25,000 range, based on their capacity to support BT's mission.

Does membership come with voting rights or a seat on the Board?

No. EC3 Membership is a non-voting membership class. It doesn't confer governance rights, Board representation, or a vote on BT decisions.

Is my membership dues payment tax-deductible?

Membership dues support BT's charitable mission. Because Members receive benefits, only the portion of dues above the fair market value of those benefits may be deductible as a charitable contribution; many organizations treat dues as a business expense instead. Your dues acknowledgment will include a good-faith estimate of the fair market value of member benefits. Please consult your tax advisor.

I already give as a supporter/donor — do I need to become a Member too?

No. Membership and Supporter giving are separate ways to engage with BT, and you're welcome to do either or both — whichever combination best fits how you want to support the organization.

My organization already has an Enterprise Instance or Fee-for-Service contract — does membership replace that?

Enterprise Instance and Fee-for-Service Partnership agreements continue alongside membership; membership doesn't change or replace them. Increased API rate limits are now offered through membership, so if your organization has an EC3 API agreement, our team will reach out about how it fits.

How does API access work with membership?

Everyone can use the free, rate-limited EC3 API under the EC3 API Terms of Service. Practitioner and Sustaining Members receive higher rate limits and rights for commercial and production use. Academic, nonprofit, and research users who need increased API access may apply for a discretionary, time-limited fee waiver through our API Access page.

Is membership billed annually, and does it auto-renew?

Yes. Membership is billed annually and renews automatically for one-year terms. At least 60 days before your renewal date, we'll send a reminder with your dues amount and give you the option to adjust tiers. You can cancel anytime before renewal by emailing membership@buildingtransparency.org.

Can I upgrade or downgrade my tier later, and is it prorated?

Yes. You can upgrade to a higher tier at any time, with the difference prorated for the rest of your term. Downgrades take effect at your next renewal.

How do I pay?

We accept payment by invoice, credit card, or ACH.

What counts as a "seat," and can I reassign one during the year?

A seat is one named individual with access to your tier's membership benefits beyond the core free tools. Yes, seats can be reassigned mid-year.

Can benefits change during my term?

We'll keep improving the program, but we won't materially reduce your tier's benefits during a term. Any changes take effect at renewal, with advance notice.

My organization doesn't cleanly fit one of the tiers — can we talk about a custom arrangement?

Yes — reach out to membership@buildingtransparency.org and we'll work with you to find the right fit.

Who do I contact with questions before joining?

membership@buildingtransparency.org