

Membership Points System

To qualify for membership, applicants must earn 6 points from the criteria listed below, with at least 3 points earned in Section 1: Publishing Criteria Points.

	Points
Section 1: Publishing Criteria Points	
Full-length book published by a commercial or academic press	6
Full-length self-published book (will be reviewed for professionalism and commercial intent by TWUC Membership Committee) *	6
Contract offer from a commercial or academic press for full-length book	4
Prose published (or forthcoming with contract) in an anthology or recognized online or print periodical, minimum 5 published pieces, totaling at least 4000 words ***	4
Poems published (or forthcoming with contract) by at least 2 recognized online or print periodicals, minimum 8 poems, totaling at least 8 published pages ***	4
Spoken word pieces published (or forthcoming with contract) by at least 2 recognized online or print periodicals, minimum 5 pieces, totaling at least 5 published pages ***	4
Co-authored full-length book published by a commercial or academic press, for which the applicant contributed at least half of the content ****	3
Co-authored full-length self-published book, for which the applicant contributed at least half of the content (will be reviewed for professionalism and commercial intent by TWUC Membership Committee) *, ****	3
Chapbook published by a traditional publisher	3
Self-published chapbook (will be reviewed for professionalism and commercial intent by TWUC Membership Committee) *	3
Section 2: Additional Criteria Points	
Full-length produced spoken word audio or video recording, minimum 20 minutes (will be reviewed for professionalism by TWUC peer review committee) *	3
Recipient of federal, provincial, territorial, and/or municipal grant(s) for writing totaling \$1500 or more	2
Appearing as a featured writer and/or spoken word artist at a public reading and/or school visit (for which the writer was paid), minimum 5 readings or solo performances at significant venues ***	2
Completion of writer-in-residency program, minimum 21 days (consecutive or non-consecutive)	2
Completion of graduate degree in writing (e.g., creative writing, journalism)	2
Completion of undergraduate degree in writing (e.g., creative writing, journalism)	1
Letter of support from a current member of TWUC **	1
Completion of writing mentorship program including letter of support from mentor **	1
Member of national, provincial, or territorial writers' organization	1
Recipient of a juried writing award	1

* The Membership Committee is made up of 3-5 members of the Union who will review the materials submitted with the application and attest to the professionalism of the work.

** No individual can write more than one letter of support per applicant.

*** The Membership Committee maintains an evolving list of recognized periodicals, significant venues, and other criteria as per the requirements above.

**** If an applicant has more than one co-authored full-length book for which they contributed at least half of the content, each title is worth three points.