



Special membership 'Start-Up' at German Association for the Digital Economy

Startup members

Startup members are companies with the intention of making a profit, which have at least one business area in the digital economy and have been active for a maximum of 4 years at the time of the application for membership. Special membership as a start-up member is only possible at the beginning of the membership relationship.

1. Period of validity

Membership for start-ups is limited to a period of 24 months. When this period has elapsed, membership changes automatically to become a regular membership with full rights and duties. This automatic transfer to regular membership can be contested up to 4 weeks before the 24 months have elapsed. The Executive Committee can also submit an objection. In both cases the special membership ends after 24 months.

2. Subscription and its calculation

The subscription fee amounts to 50 percent of the regular subscription, depending on the turnover category. If no closing accounts are available to calculate the turnover, the turnover will be categorised using the projected figures from the business plan. If this projected turnover is exceeded, the category increases to a higher level and payment is backdated. If the turnover is below the projected figures, the category is set lower, and the excess subscription amount is refunded.

3. Restrictions on the work of organisational bodies

The deployment of staff among the organisational bodies is limited to a max. of 2 representatives, who can simultaneously work in the various bodies and perform their usual role. Special members have no right to vote or stand in the election for the head of an organisational body.

4. Voting rights at a members' meeting

Special members, in common with sponsoring members and honorary members, have a right to speak, make applications, and submit proposals, but however have no voting right.

5. Restriction of service portfolio

All the same special conditions available to members can be accessed, with one exception. The free-of-charge professional journal is only available after automatic transfer to ordinary membership.