

Join the Center and Invest in Your Future

More than 85 percent of Americans live in metropolitan areas and that number is growing. The Western Center for Metropolitan Extension and Research is committed to increasing Extension's effectiveness in this complex socio-economic environment by exploring new models for engaging urban decision makers. Membership in the Center provides tools for maintaining an impactful presence for your Extension organization in cities and metropolitan areas.

Along with our vision to align programs with the needs, issues, and interests of your metropolitan constituency, the Center provides professional development for Extension faculty and staff, as well as opportunities to engage in applied research. Center members receive: access to additional staff capacity to scope, manage, and conduct multi-disciplinary applied research projects; support for marketing metropolitan activities; and access to the exciting new [Hot Shot](#) model to increase Extension's ability to respond quickly to emerging issues.

About the Center

The Center was established in 2014 by six founding western land-grant universities to increase the internal capacity of Extension programs to address metropolitan issues and to elevate the stature and value of Extension to metropolitan audiences. In response to input about the value of Center activities, membership is now being offered to all Extension organizations. Expanded membership increases professional development, project and funding opportunities for metropolitan serving faculty, and provides a broader forum for advancing effective models of working within metropolitan regions. To learn more about the Center and its current activities visit <http://metroextension.wsu.edu>.

Membership Options

Extension organizations can join the Center at either the **Platinum** or **Silver** level. For a detailed listing of member benefits, see the table below.

Platinum Investor Level - \$5,000 – institutions have access to the full suite of benefits: access to state-specific evaluation of your metropolitan extension activities; priority registration and discounts for all Center activities; initiate, lead, or participate in exclusive professional development and applied research activities; host Center activities; and membership on the Center's Advisory Board.

Silver Supporter Level - \$2,000 – institutions have access to a select set of benefits: discounted registration for all Center activities and the ability to participate in a select set of the Center's professional development and applied research activities.

Annual membership is based on a July 1-June 30 fiscal year. Membership fees will be pro-rated for new or up-grading members. To become a WCMER member, please contact Brad Gaolach, WCMER Director, at Gaolach@wsu.edu or 425-405-1734.

Benefits of WCMER Membership	Membership Level	
	Silver \$2,000/yr	Platinum \$5,000/yr
<i>Capacity Building</i>		
WCMER grant and contract development and project support as detailed in the Hot Shot Applied Research projects.		X
Evaluation of your state’s metropolitan Extension program (being developed in FY2017) and input on its development (see pg. 3).		X
<i>Opportunities for Faculty</i>		
Invitation to prepare pre- & post- Invitational Forum white papers / scholarly products and be a presenter at Workshops and Webinars .	X	X
Discounted registration fees.	10%	20%
Participation in Staff Exchanges (stipends to support travel – being developed in FY2017).	X	X
Faculty members may initiate Hot Shot Applied Research projects.		X
Opportunities for faculty members to participate in Hot Shot Applied Research projects.	X	X
Opportunity to author and post blogs on WCMER website.	X	X
May apply to be a WCMER Fellows (funded)		X
<i>Marketing your state’s metropolitan activities</i>		
Host WCMER Workshops in your state, with logistics support provided by WCMER	X	X
Host an Invitational Forum in your state, with logistics support provided by WCMER.		X
Photos of your Extension program featured on the WCMER home page (limit 10 total).		X
Page with metropolitan related content for your state featured (e.g.: http://metroextension.wsu.edu/about-us/partnering-institutions-locations/ and http://metroextension.wsu.edu/wsu/).		X
<i>Access to WCMER resources</i>		
Access to complete WCMER Best Practices literature database (includes PDF files of many citations).	X	X
Opportunity to promote local events through the WCMER email list.	X	X
A representative on WCMER Advisory Board, which sets priorities for Center activities.		X

Non-member opportunities

- Faculty can participate in live webinars and have access to the archived webinars.
- Faculty can attend Center workshops on an as-available basis.
- Faculty can participate in applied research projects and other professional activities when invited by the Center.