



**ABP** is the Association of B-BBEE Professionals, a Non-Profit Company (NPC) established to lead the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) Verification and Consultancy industry as it takes up a vital role in the transformation of the South African economy. As the first and only Industry Professional Body of its kind, the ABP aims to facilitate the accreditation of qualifying BEE Verification Agencies as set out in the Codes of Good Practice.

**ABP** is the only Professional Body for the BEE industry and as such registered with South African Qualification Authority (SAQA) with the registered professional designation – Economic Empowerment Professional (EEP).

**ABP** represents **Economic Empowerment Professionals (EEP)**; Verification Agents, BEE Consultants, BEE Practitioners in corporate companies (Transformation Managers, HR Practitioners, Procurement Officers), who have completed the B-BBEE MDP programme. And we represent all those other Professionals who engage in the BEE landscape, whom we welcome as Associate Members.

For over 16 years, **ABP** has been a pioneer in the South African BEE landscape, contribution to the advancement of the BEE profession, influencing legislation and constantly transforming to keep abreast of business, financial and social developments in the country.

Representing the interest of you the Member has been a strength of the **ABP** from inception and this has always been on the mandate of membership. The **ABP** engages with all statutory structures as they relate to the sector being the Department of Trade and industry (**'the dti'**) and relevant structures within **the dti**, the B-BBEE Commission, SANAS and the Sector Charter Councils. The **ABP** is formally recognised by these structures as representing Members. The ABP is therefore at the cutting edge of all developments in the sector and able to keep Members abreast at all times.

The **ABP** works closely with Industry Associations such as SAIPA, where their member interests with regard to B-BBEE are addressed through the **ABP**, strengthening sectoral representation. We share common values.

The **ABP** is a recognised brand in the market place, this allows for clients of our Members having a level of comfort knowing that they are dealing with service providers who subscribe to a Code of Conduct and values and that in the rare event that a Member transgresses, there is a means of recourse. The **ABP** logo, however, is only authorised for use by Practice and Corporate Members.

## Become a Member

ABP has a number of different categories of membership tailor-made just for you, covering various fields of specialisation, including:

5 types of membership;

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. B-BBEE Verification Professionals | Verification Managers, Technical Signatories, Analysts etc   |
| 2. B-BBEE Consulting Professionals   | Consultants  |
| 3. B-BBEE Practising Professionals   | Private and Public Practitioners   |
| 4. Practice membership               | Verification Agencies and BEE Advisory practices   |
| 5. Corporate Company                 | Employer of Practising Professionals i.e. Transformation Managers dealing with B-BBEE in the company |

### Verification Industry Members:

SANAS through Statement 005 has its requirements for verification accreditation, which includes annual CPD. Section 5 of Statement 005 states: ... *To have completed training on B-BBEE Verification Services and Certification offered by Higher Education Institution as prescribed by **the dti** and to maintain relevant Continuing Professional Development (CPD)...*

As a Professional Body, **ABP** is by law required to ensure that their Members adhere to **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** and obtain a minimum number of hours/points per annum. (See CPD policy on website).

### Economic Empowerment Professional Members:

For those Members who hold our much respected **EEP** designation, CPD is a prerequisite in order to maintain this title, you will have to complete **40** CPD points annually (20 verifiable and 20 non-verifiable). Please check ABP's CPD webinar calendar on our website.

### Four of the many benefits you can enjoy by joining a Professional Body.

- ❖ Recognition: When you become a Member of your Professional Body, you become truly recognised as a qualified Professional in your field.
- ❖ Continuous Professional Development: Most Professional Bodies conduct training sessions from time to time and they offer discounted fees to their Members. By joining our Professional Body, you will directly enjoy this benefit. This will greatly enrich your CV, make you current and relevant in competences and skills.
- ❖ Leadership development: When you become a Member of your Professional Body, you have the opportunity to volunteer towards helping organise their events and conferences, towards membership development and so on.
- ❖ Networking: Being a Member of your Professional Body gives you a great opportunity to network with numerous people in your profession. This is one of the easiest ways to quickly and greatly expand the reach of your networking.

## The many other benefits of membership

- ❖ Receive EAP targets and Industry Norms;
- ❖ Kept up to date with pertinent information;
- ❖ Attendance at training workshops, seminars and Annual General Meeting (AGM);
- ❖ You may stand for election and be voted to become part of the ABP Board at ABP's elective AGM every two years;
- ❖ Listing on the ABP website in the appropriate category;
- ❖ Access to the ABP Members only certificate database (once a Member, you will receive a username and password that allows you to upload your own client's BEE certificate onto our certificate database);
- ❖ In addition, queries that are technical or interpretive in nature, can be submitted to the ABP who will raise these, in the approved format with **the dti** and SANAS to provide support in respect of requests for clarification and the management of these with **the dti**;
- ❖ The ABP will co-ordinate Members' interests to better serve the interests of transformation by formally requesting clarity, consultation or participation in key strategic events, policies or pronouncements relating to transformation;
- ❖ Greater emphasis on access to information, centralised databases and shared data will support our Members;
- ❖ Stronger lobbying on issues that create uncertainty and legal conflict;
- ❖ Ethics and disciplinary committee to address professionalism and governance ;
- ❖ Regular events, training and information sharing; and
- ❖ Co-ordinated emphasis on Professionalisation as a means to reduce confusion within the industry, conflict amongst the Member groups and most importantly to root out bad business practice.

The Association of B-BBEE professionals, a good choice!

For more information and memberships forms please contact [info@abp.co.za](mailto:info@abp.co.za) or call 011 788 6819.

Check website [www.abp.org.za](http://www.abp.org.za)