

Key Talking Points for Elimination of the Membership Requirement

1. The reasons we should drop the education requirement are simply:
 - **Because it is the right thing to do**
 - **Because it is in keeping with our mission to advance gender equity**
2. Eliminating the degree requirement will bring AAUW membership criteria in line with its mission – to advance gender equity.
3. Greater diversity can only strengthen AAUW and our ability to advance equity.
4. Times have changed and society has changed. AAUW strives to meet our mission and society's needs today.
5. AAUW empowers women. How does keeping the membership requirement help you empower women?
6. Just like our founding mothers, we can be role models for positive change in the world. But we cannot have the impact we seek when our membership criteria don't match our mission and values.
7. AAUW is unique due to our breadth of programming, research, policy and advocacy, fellowships & grants, and most importantly, a grassroots membership that can be mobilized to fight for what we believe in. We should open this powerful grassroots network up to all who want to join the fight.
8. Education comes in many forms. Those who do not have degrees can still be strong advocates for our mission.
9. AAUW must evolve to survive.