

Application for Founding Membership

(page 2 of 2)

- Sign me up as a founding member. My \$100 equity payment is included.
- I would like to pay my \$100 membership in \$20 increments over the next five months. Here is my first payment.
- I'd like to contribute beyond the \$100 for my membership. I've included a total payment of:
 - \$250 \$500 \$1,000
 - \$5,000 \$_____
- I have a limited income & will be joining at the \$25 level. Here is my payment.
- I have a limited income and will pay my \$25 membership in \$5 increments over 5 months. Here is my first payment.

Member Equity Investment

I hereby apply for founding membership in the New Orleans Food Community. With my investment, I am becoming a part owner of my cooperative grocery store. Member equity is used for the development and operation of a cooperative storefront in New Orleans.

Founding member equity is always at risk and potentially not available for refund. After the store has been open for two years, equity investments may be refundable.

Signature

Date

Member Benefits include:

- ❖ Part ownership of the NOFC
- ❖ The right to vote in Board of Directors elections and on special issues
- ❖ Eligibility to serve on the Board
- ❖ Store-related benefits to be determined

We have set these goals:

- ❖ Create a network for local, regional, and organic food production and distribution by opening at least one cooperative grocery store in our city.
- ❖ Support Louisiana food culture and regional producers.
- ❖ Foster a sense of community and control of our food systems through joint ownership.
- ❖ Minimize our impact on the environment by focusing on bulk goods and minimal packaging.
- ❖ Make healthy eating affordable.

We will carry:

- ❖ Local and regional foods including fresh, local produce, seafood and meats
- ❖ Bulk foods
- ❖ Organic and natural foods and products
- ❖ Other goods determined by members

Further questions?

Send an e-mail to info@nolafoodcoop.org
or call us at 504-324-6849



***Healthy, Affordable Groceries
for Everyone!***

**Opening in early 2010,
with your help!!**

**Members Needed
Join Now!**

www.nolafoodcoop.org



What is a Cooperative?

A cooperative is an independent group of people united to meet their common economic, social & cultural needs & aspirations through a jointly-owned & democratically-controlled enterprise.

Co-ops are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity & solidarity as well as honesty, openness, social responsibility & caring for others.

The “**Seven International Cooperative Principles**” are guidelines by which co-ops worldwide put their values into practice.

1. Voluntary and open membership
2. Democratic member control
3. Member economic participation
4. Autonomy and independence
5. Education, training, and information
6. Cooperation among cooperatives
7. Concern for community

How is this different from a health food store?

Because cooperatives are jointly owned, operated, and controlled by their members, you decide what’s in your store, when it’s open, how it looks, and how it feels.

Where are you located?

We are actively searching for a location central New Orleans for our first storefront. If you are interested in joining our site search committee or have any information about a possible site for our co-op, please send information by e-mail to: sitesearch@nolafoodcoop.org.

When will you open?

Our target to open is 2009. To do so, we must raise the money required to renovate our space and to outfit, stock, and operate our store by enrolling founding members. We are also seeking grants and loans from members, banks, and other groups.

Because much of the work involved in a cooperative is performed by its members, everything depends on getting a critical mass of active founding members.

In the meantime, our Buying Club enables members to make discounted collective orders of natural foods and products on a monthly basis. See our website for details.

How can I join?

Membership is open to all. To join, you are required to make a financial investment in the co-op via paid Member Equity.

Submit the **Application for Founding Membership** & your payment to:

New Orleans Food Community
621B N. Rendon St.
New Orleans, LA 70119

Sign me up!

Application for Founding Membership

(page 1 of 2)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-Mail: _____

Preferred contact method:

e-mail phone mail

How did you hear about the NOFC?

Are you able to serve on an organizational committee? yes no

If yes, mark what interests you:

membership site planning
 finance supply

Have you ever been a member of a co-op?

If yes, which: _____

Do you produce a product that would be of interest to the NOFC?

If yes, what: _____

See reverse.