FAQ

Parlour Collective

Your questions answered.

(Check out the Parlour Collective Fine Print too.)

How does the Parlour Collective align with Parlour Inc’s values of inclusion?

From the beginning Parlour has aimed for radical inclusion – we are here for everyone and anyone who wants to be involved.

Put simply, by joining the Parlour Collective, you are helping to ensure that this inclusive approach can continue. This includes maintaining our outstanding editorial and event programs, and helping fund the ongoing development of new research, projects and initiatives.

The Parlour Collective pricing structure is broad – from $15,000+ at the very top to just $42 at the entry level. The Starter level is designed to be as accessible as possible, allowing anyone to join the Collective at minimal cost.

Plans for gift subscriptions and a 'pay it forward' program will increase accessibility further.

Why should I join the Collective when many Parlour activities are freely available?

The Parlour Collective is a part of our strategy to secure a long-term future and to ensure that we can continue providing a space for all, along with the research and resources needed to help shape the future of the built environment professions.

If enough people and practices join the Parlour Collective, we can keep going with the things that you know and love, and tackle more of the projects on the to-do list. As part of the Collective, you’ll get some great special benefits in recognition of your support and material contribution, along with the lovely feeling of knowing that you are contributing to the future for all.

Do I need to be an architect to join?

No! Parlour has always been for everyone who is interested, and the Parlour Collective is just the same. All are welcome!

Why are there so many levels?

We know it is a lot to digest – we thank you for persevering! Our community is very broad, and we want to accommodate all circumstances.

We have nine options so that everyone can find a level within their budget and that they feel comfortable with.

I am a sole trader. Should I join as an individual or under my business name?

The benefits will be the same either way, but if you sign up under your business name this will be listed on the Meet the Parlour Collective page – which might be best for your profile.

I am not based in Australia. Can I / my practice still join the Parlour Collective?

Yes! Please do. We greatly value our international friends and colleagues, and would love to have you join us on our latest adventure.

My practice has joined the Parlour Collective (yay!). Do I automatically have access to the Collective benefits as an individual?

No. Practices sign up to the Parlour Collective as an entity, not a group of individuals. The entity then has access to the benefits associated with the selected level. It can share these with individuals as it chooses.

We would love to have you join us as an individual too. This helps us stay in touch if you change jobs.

parlour.org.au/parlour-collective
Does Parlour endorse the practices that join the Parlour Collective?

Joining the Parlour Collective does not automatically confer endorsement. (But we greatly appreciate the support.) For practices, being part of the Parlour Collective is an excellent way to communicate values to staff, clients and the wider community, but it is up to the practice to ensure that it lives these values in its day-to-day operations.

Can Parlour help our practice with social procurement requirements?

Yes and no (and we are working on it!). Being part of the Parlour Collective is a credential that may be used to demonstrate commitments to gender equity in relation to social procurement requirements. But, as above, joining the Collective does not confer Parlour Inc’s endorsement.

One of our plans for the future is to develop the Parlour Collective Charter – in collaboration with the Collective participants. As a practice, signing up to the Charter will provide additional weight to the commitment to equity. The planned model policy library will also be a very useful resource.

At this stage, we are not in a position to provide an auditing service for a practice’s equity policies and processes. However, we are interested to explore this in the future – most likely as a separate fee-for-service offer to Parlour Collective practices.

Can I / my practice claim the cost of joining as a tax-deductible expense?

In Australia, the ATO states that you can claim a deduction for “subscriptions to trade, business or professional associations” for the industry you work in. As explained below, Parlour is not a professional association, but it does provide support, resources and tools relevant to the built environment professions.

For those not working in the field, “You can also claim up to $42 per income year for the cost of each subscription you incur for membership of a trade, business or professional association where it is not in direct relation to earning your employment income.” This is the basis of our $42 Parlour Starter level.

Those in other countries will need to check the relevant tax law.

Does this mean that Parlour is now a professional association?

No. Parlour Inc continues to be an incorporated association that aims to be of service to the entire community. A professional association is a different type of organisation, which predominantly serves the needs of its members. There are plenty of hardworking professional associations and institutes for the built environment professions in Australia. We provide a complementary program, and are pleased to collaborate with relevant professional associations where appropriate.

Sounds interesting, but it’s not for me at the moment. Can I still come along to Parlour events, read the website and have my profile on Marion’s List?

Of course! (But we do hope you might be interested to join one day.)

If you have more queries, please get in touch. We will add to the list of FAQs over time.

We look forward to working with you at the Parlour Collective. Sign up today!