Building the Party:
Pledges, Quota, and Dues

September 2026

What are Party dues?

Dues are a fixed financial contribution paid to the Central Committee through the branch. They are set by congress as required and are a constitutional requirement of Party membership.

What are Pledges?

Pledges are a regular financial contribution made by Party members to their branch. The value of the pledge is not mandated or fixed; the constitution leaves it to each member to assess their own circumstances. Party members contribute what they can.

Party pledges are also a constitutional requirement for membership but differ from dues as they are not a set amount. Party members pledges are paid to and used by the branch.

For waged Party members this may start at $1 per day or even $0.50 for members who are unemployed, on a pension or who are students. If you are able to contribute more, then you should choose an amount which reflects your situation.

Each member should discuss their pledge with their branch treasurer and decide on an amount fitting their personal circumstances.

What is quota?

Quotas are a financial obligation on all party organisations and branches allocated by the Central Committee each year. They take the size of a party organisation and their capacity to organise local activity into account to build the party and its activity.

Party organisations use pledges and local fundraising to fulfil their quota allocation each year.

Why do we pay?

Party dues and pledges are a crucial part of being a member of the Communist Party of Australia. Not only are they a constitutional requirement on all members, but they also embody the spirit of solidarity that connects us all to the shared cause of a socialist Australia.

When we join the Party, we are first introduced to the core principles and foundations that bind us together. The first words we read with our comrades as prospective members are:

> ***"The Communist Party of Australia is a political organisation established for the purpose of changing the order of society in Australia from capitalism to socialism. It is a voluntary union of people who support and actively work for this objective."***

We are a voluntary union of people who have all chosen to be here to fight for the establishment of a socialist Australia. We are here for one simple purpose, to support and actively work together to achieve this core task; to build an Australia which is of and for the working class.

Party dues and pledges are central to this support. Together we know the value and strength of solidarity and collective work. No one can carry a revolution alone, together we form a movement which can build the political and class consciousness of the working class and the strength of the common cause for socialism.

The value of the pledge is not a measure of a comrade, but a reflection of their ability to support the cause at this given time. It is the disciplined and regular act of contribution which forms part of our role in the ongoing struggle for socialism in Australia. Just because the value is not fixed, does not make the pledge merely symbolic; it is an active commitment to the collective goal of building a Marxist-Leninist Party within Australia, and supporting the work needed to create a socialist future.

Each week/fortnight/month we commit ourselves to pay a pledge, whether it is $1 or $100, because we believe in the power of the collective, of working-class people giving what they can to support changing the order of our society. We know the value of a well organised and ideologically consistent workers movement, and we work together to ensure that there is such a movement here in Australia.

What do pledges and dues do?

Party dues and pledges allow the Party to do Party work. The Party has no big corporate funders, no sponsors, no financial obligations to the capitalist class. We fund ourselves with the power of the many, not the money of the few. Every Guardian printed, banner made, and flag produced was done so with the contributions of Party members.

We are only able to have Party facilities, to pay for the running of the party, to support the people who work in the main office or on the *Guardian*, and to organise a unified fight for causes and campaigns as they arise because of the contributions of the many. Our work as a Party is only possible because of the collective will to end capitalism and support the fight for socialism in Australia. Not relying on corporate funding means that we can hold true to the ideological and collective foundations of the Party; a grass roots Marxist-Leninist movement founded in democratic centralism.

Our dues and pledges are an important part of building and sustaining the party in the struggle for socialism.

Steps to make your pledge

Consider your circumstances and the amount you are able to contribute as an ongoing pledge. Remember, it is about ensuring that this amount will be fitting your circumstance, don't put yourself in hardship and give what you think is reasonable.

Think about the payment method which would most suit you. Some members bring pledges in person to meetings, but most arrange theirs as a direct debit to make it easier to keep your pledge if you miss a meeting or lose track of things during busy periods.

Talk with your branch treasurer about an amount and frequency for your pledge. This discussion will be something you lead given that it is your pledge, your branch treasurer is there to help you but not direct you.

Arrange the pledge and revisit the amount or frequency if your circumstances change.

Note: Don't forget that Party dues are separate and will be requested from party members when they become a member or in the lead up to renewing their membership at their branch AGM.

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