# Ypsilanti Food Cooperative
# 2026 NEW Member Owner Agreement
## Memberships in good standing are eligible for one (1) vote in each election

**Please Fill Out Completely**
**Not valid without Driver License State/Number and Signature**

**NEW MEMBER:**

Name_____
First Last

Mailing Address _____

_____
City State Zip Code

Telephone: _____ Email:_____

Birth date: _____/_____/_____ Driver's License State/Number_____

(You are agreeing to become part-owner of a business with a license to sell alcohol; therefore, we must keep record of your birth date and DL#)

**Required Information:**

**Are you under 21:** ☐Yes☐ No **Do you have interest in another alcohol license:** ☐Yes☐No **Are you involved in law enforcement:** ☐Yes☐No

(Any individual who: a) is under age 21, b) has an interest in another alcohol license, or c) is involved in law enforcement may not become a member owner; however, they may join as an associate member with the same responsibilities and privileges but not entitled to a vote.)

**Please acknowledge:**

☐ There is a one-time $10 non-refundable administration fee due with this application (new memberships only)

**Choose one of the following investment plans:**

☐ Full: Invest $200, receive a "gold card" (no exp. date) receive full member discount at the register on discountable items.
☐ Standard: Invest $20 receive annual membership through end of the calendar year to receive member discount on discountable items.

**DESIGNATED SHOPPER:**

You may name one **person at your same address** who may receive your discount through your member card, but who may not vote.

Name: _____

Birth date: _____/_____/_____Email:_____ Telephone: _____

How long have you been shopping at the Co-op? ☐ Less than 1 year ☐ 1 to 5 years ☐ more than 5 years

How did you learn about joining the Co-op? ☐ Store/Cashier ☐ Friend/Family ☐ Co-op flier ☐Other: _____

What made you decide to become a member owner? _____

Are you interested in volunteering? ☐Yes ☐No ☐ Maybe
If so, what are your skills and your interest? _____

The Ypsilanti Food Co-op desires to be a diverse and equitable organization. Please supply the following information for the purposes of understanding our member owners:

Gender: ☐Woman ☐ Man ☐ Non-Binary☐ Prefer Not to Answer ☐Other: _____

Race: ☐ Black/African American☐ Asian American☐ Indigenous American/Alaskan Native ☐Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander ☐ White ☐ Other: _____

Ethnicity:☐ Hispanic/Latine ☐ Non-Hispanic/Latine

If desired, please provide us with any other pertinent demographic information: _____

**Membership is invalid without member signature present on the backside!**

Ypsilanti
Food Co-op

As a member owner of the Ypsilanti Food Co-op, I understand and agree to the following:

1. The Ypsilanti Food Cooperative is a member-owner consumer cooperative corporation.
2. Members are owners and are entitled to **one vote** in the affairs of the cooperative, as designated in our bylaws.
3. Members may name one Designated Shopper (same address) who may shop but may not vote.
4. The Co-op provides opportunities for and benefits from the active participation of its owners and associate members. Please see the General Manager if you are interested in volunteering.
5. Shares are generally refundable upon written request for withdrawal and approval by the General Manager.
6. Ypsilanti Food Cooperative Articles are available upon written request. You will receive the bylaws in your new member packet.

Fair Shares, Refunds, and Discounts (from YFC by-laws and policies):

1. The required member equity, or **Fair Share**, is determined by the Board.
2. Members are informed that equity investments are a) at risk, and b) generally refundable, though the Board retains the right to withhold refunds when necessary to protect the Cooperative's financial viability.
3. Equity will not be refunded if such refunds would lead to a net decrease in total member paid-in equity, or would risk, cause or exacerbate non-compliance with any Financial Condition policy of the Co-op.

## Confidentiality Notice

The co-op will:

1. Keep member owners gathered personal and financial records confidential.
2. Not share nor sell names, addresses, emails, or other contact information.
3. Limit the number of staff members who have access to the membership database, and will store membership information in a secure office.
4. Use your name or member number to apply your member discount to each purchase you make at the co-op. The co-op does not use its system to monitor your purchases, but they are in the POS for patronage purposes.
5. Email you our weekly newsletter for educational and business purposes.
6. Mail or email you notification of the Annual Membership Meeting & any Special Meetings (The Annual Meeting and board election are held in May every year).
7. Mail you coupon books and sale fliers & Marketing Information on occasion.

The Ypsilanti Food Cooperative sometimes has to share its owners' information as part of running the business. For example, as an owner, your name and address maybe be listed along with all the other owners' names when the co-op is applying for or maintaining its State of Michigan Dept. of Agriculture License, or its Alcohol Retail Sales License.

**I agree to the terms of this agreement and understand the needs my co-op has for the information requested:**

**Required - Member Signature _____ Date Paid _____**

**Thank you for your continued support of the Ypsilanti Food Coop!**

Cashier:
Payment Method_____ Admin Fee $_____ F.S. Paid $ _____ Staff _____