

STATE BODY FUNCTION

(updated M Thomas, Vice President, 07 November 2025)

Since the Branches of the RQAS were separately incorporated, they hold the tenure of the respective galleries (variously by ownership, lease or licence) and carry out all the significant functions such as exhibitions, classes and art talks. Since then the State, parent, or “umbrella” body’s **main** reason for existence is simply that there needs to be a “trunk” for branches to be branches **of**.

However the State body still has three functions:

1. Under s 12 of both the Management Committee constitution and each of the Branch constitutions, the (State) Management Committee is the only body that has power to terminate or suspend a person’s membership or censure a member. So far this is an entirely theoretical power, never used: when branches have had somewhat troublesome members they tend to leave, sooner or later, of their own accord. (Footnote added 07/11/2025: However it should be noted that branches have sought the advice and support of the State Management Committee when they have had issues with members)
2. Fellowships of the RQAS are a statewide form of recognition awarded by the State Committee.
3. The State Association was registered as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) but this was revoked in 2020 because it did not meet the requirements to qualify for DGR status.

So, when members join, they apply to a branch for membership and when accepted they become members (at the same level of membership) of both the relevant branch and the overall body. They may find themselves attending general meetings of one or the other, and electing office-bearers of one or the other. Most of the time, however, their interactions with the RQAS will be with the local branch that they have joined and the only reminder that they are in a statewide group will be the word Queensland in the name.