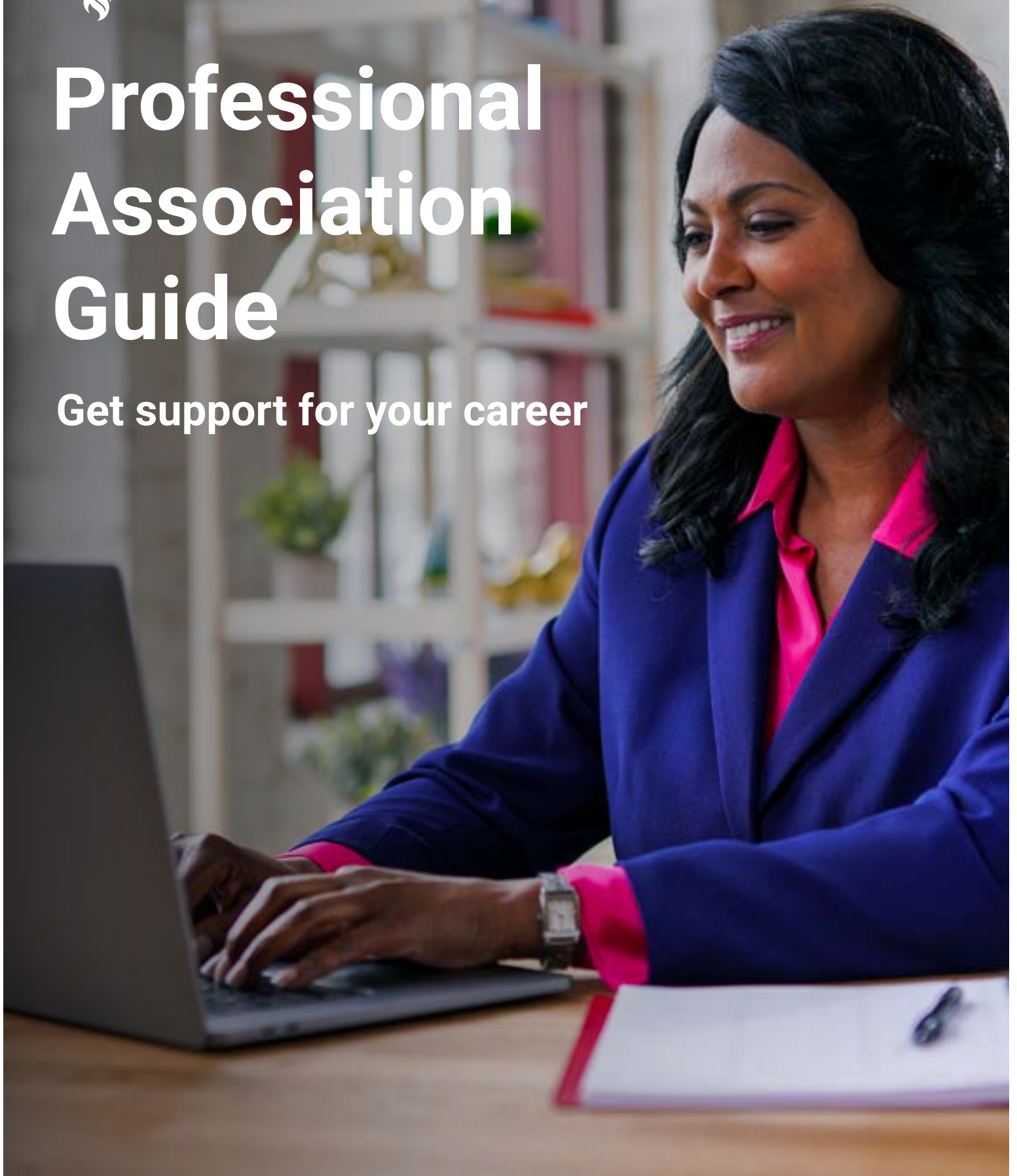




University of Phoenix®

# Professional Association Guide

Get support for your career



As a professional, you're constantly looking to advance your skills and knowledge. Being a member of a professional association can benefit your career growth by helping you network, find opportunities and more.

## In this guide...

**YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO USE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS TO AID AND ENHANCE YOUR CAREER**

- 1 What are professional associations?**
- 2 How to join**
- 3 Explore different types**
- 4 Maximize your experience**
- 5 Enhance your network**



# 1 What are professional associations?

## AND WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN ONE

At their core, professional associations are groups of people with common career interests. You can imagine them as clubs filled with professionals aiming to grow in their careers. Members typically pay a yearly fee (dues) to join. Here are a few ways you could benefit:



### Connections

While each association differs, they universally aim to connect members of a profession and give them opportunities for career enhancement.



### Resources

Professional associations may offer continuing education units (CEUs), job boards, workshops, conferences, publication opportunities, scholarships, grants, fellowships and more.



### Discounts

Some features may be available to non-members, but being a member often entitles you to discounted rates.



# 2 How to join

## DECIDE WHICH ASSOCIATION IS RIGHT FOR YOU

There are thousands of associations with specific goals and interests. Determine which are worth your time and would benefit you most. You can do this a few ways:



Talk to others in your field. Ask which associations they are members of.



Look online. A quick search for “professional association + [your profession]” is likely to give many results.



University of Phoenix students and alumni can check out [\*\*Professional Associations Resource\*\*](#) for suggested options by college.



# 3 Explore different types

## ACADEMIC AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

While there are many types of professional associations, they can be broadly categorized into two groups:



### Academic professional associations

#### *Focus:*

This type of association is for students or trainees. Academic associations often require high academic standing or a minimum GPA to be invited — which can show that you're doing well and focused on your studies.

#### *Opportunities:*

- **Network** with people who share association connection.
- **Scholarships, fellowships and grants** can be respected additions to your CV or resumé while also helping you pay for skill development.



### Industry professional associations

#### *Focus:*

This type of association aims to connect people in an industry. They can be longtime professionals and trainees alike. Industry associations can help you grow your skill sets, understand the latest industry changes and increase your professional credibility through professional connections.

#### *Opportunities:*

- **Conferences** can be a great way to network with other members of your industry. Presenting at conferences can help you make your name recognizable.
- **Webinars, trainings and workshops** help members stay up to date in their field and develop new skills.
- **Magazines or journals** are where members can publish articles about their work.



#### TIP

Use the [Directory of Associations](#) to search over 35,000 local, regional and international associations.

# 4 Maximize your experience

## YOU'VE JOINED AN ASSOCIATION – NOW WHAT?

It's important to get the most out of your experience by getting involved. Here are some potential action items and their benefits, listed from basic to advanced:

- ✔ **Get started as a student or recent alum**  
*Benefits:* Connect to your industry early, get help with job searches and networking, and potentially save on membership costs.
- ✔ **Sign up for email communications**  
*Benefits:* Stay up to date on opportunities within your association and what's going on in your industry.
- ✔ **Explore the association's website**  
*Benefits:* Discover what's offered to someone at your level, like CEUs, trainings, scholarships or early professional resources.
- ✔ **Sign up and attend webinars on relevant topics**  
*Benefits:* Increase your knowledge and understanding of your industry. Connect with industry experts and their insights.
- ✔ **Engage, follow or join the group on its website or LinkedIn**  
*Benefits:* Network, interact and consult on message boards when you need questions answered in your job or industry.
- ✔ **Interact with fellow members or leaders**  
*Benefits:* Connect one-on-one with others in your industry to gain insights and guidance and build your professional reputation.
- ✔ **Take part in networking events**  
*Benefits:* Connect and expand your professional network and get your name out there.
- ✔ **Attend a conference run by your association**  
*Benefits:* Learn more about specific topics and trends in your industry to gain new expertise and insights.
- ✔ **Volunteer for industry-related projects or committees**  
*Benefits:* Gain experience that you can put on your resumé and pull from during interviews.
- ✔ **Take on a leadership role**  
*Benefits:* Add new relevant responsibilities to your skill set and increase your reach in an industry.



### TIP

Check out our [Professional Networking Guide](#) to learn five steps to build your network.

# 5 Enhance your network

## CONNECT WITH LIKE-MINDED INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

Using professional associations to strategically build connections can create new and exciting opportunities. Below are some tips to help build your network:



### **Professional associations often have both national and local chapters.**

- National chapters usually provide more conferences, presentations and larger-scale events and experiences.
- Local chapters often focus on connecting more closely in your community as a way of networking.
- Before joining an association, consider what your career goals are and whether a national or local chapter would be a better fit. For example, if you are looking to increase your expertise in a specific industry or share your knowledge to promote your professional reputation, a national chapter would be a good fit. If you are focused on building a network in your community or finding jobs, a local chapter could be a better option.



### **Many associations offer mentoring programs that can help prepare you for advancement or even help connect you with open positions.**

- A mentor can offer guidance on support to help prepare you for career advancement opportunities.
- Consider your career goals when seeking or choosing a mentor and consider working with more than one mentor. You may want to choose a mentor with expertise in your current job or industry to deepen your knowledge. If you are looking to change your career or have other areas of interest, seeking a mentor in a different or related career field could help you gain valuable information in a new area.



### **Some associations have an electronic directory, allowing you to easily connect with other members.**

- If your association does not have a directory, you can use LinkedIn to find other members who are in specific jobs or work for organizations you are interested in.
- By starting a conversation or requesting an informational interview, you can learn more about a job or company and build a professional connection.



#### **TIP**

A successful informational interview has several key components. Use our [informational interview guide](#) for sample email templates, questions to ask and how to follow up.

# Check out more guides on these topics:

- ✓ [Resumé](#)
- ✓ [Cover letter](#)
- ✓ [LinkedIn](#)
- ✓ [Professional networking](#)
- ✓ [Personal branding](#)
- ✓ [Interviews](#)

## Still need help?

### OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO CAREER SERVICES FOR LIFE®

At University of Phoenix, our commitment to you doesn't end at graduation. Whether you're actively pursuing a degree with us or graduated long ago, you'll have access to career advisors and resources – from your first class to your last job.

You'll get access to personal career coaching, including job search planning, resumé fine-tuning, interview prepping and more.

See all your options at [phoenix.edu/career-services](https://phoenix.edu/career-services).



# List of Professional Associations by College

College of Health Professions

College of Behavioral Sciences

College of Nursing

College of Business

Information Technology

College of Education





# College of Health Professions



## Professional associations

### **Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)**

HIMSS is a global advisor, thought leader and member-based society committed to reforming the global health ecosystem through the power of information and technology. As a mission-driven nonprofit, HIMSS offers a unique depth and breadth of expertise in health innovation, public policy, workforce development, research and digital health transformation to advise leaders, stakeholders and influencers across the global health ecosystem on best practices.

### **Association for Healthcare Administrative Professionals (AHCAP)**

AHCAP is a not-for-profit healthcare association dedicated to executive assistants, administrative assistants and other professionals who support our nation's healthcare leaders. By supporting healthcare leaders, we support the industry – and strive to enhance the healthcare experience on every level. AHCAP is the only national association dedicated exclusively to administrative excellence in healthcare.

### **American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM)**

AAHAM is a professional organization in healthcare administrative management. It acts as a one-stop resource center for information, education and advocacy in the areas of reimbursement, admitting and registration, data management, medical records, patient relations and so much more. They are dedicated to the revenue cycle and provide education, certification, networking and advocacy for healthcare revenue cycle professionals.

### **American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE)**

ACHE is the professional society for healthcare leaders committed to improving health.

### **Medical Group Management Association (MGMA)**

MGMA serves members, customers and the healthcare community as a trusted partner by delivering insights, solutions and advocacy to achieve medical practice excellence.

## Professional associations

### **American Public Health Association (APHA)**

APHA champions the health of all people and all communities. They strengthen the public health profession and speak out for public health issues and policies backed by science. They are the only organization that combines a 150-year perspective, a broad-based member community and the ability to influence federal policy to improve the public's health.

### **Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE)**

SOPHE is a nonprofit, independent professional association that represents a diverse membership of nearly 4,000 health education professionals and students in the United States and 25 international countries. SOPHE members work in schools, universities, voluntary organizations, healthcare settings, worksites, and local, state and federal government agencies.



# College of Behavioral Sciences



## **Professional associations**

### **American Psychological Association (APA)**

APA is the leading scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States, with more than 133,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students as its members.

### **The American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS)**

APAGS builds a better future for psychology by serving as a united voice to enrich and advocate for graduate student development. APAGS aspires to achieve the highest quality graduate training experience for the next generation of scientific innovators, expert practitioners and visionary leaders in psychology.

### **Psi Chi (International Honor Society in Psychology)**

Psi Chi was founded in 1929 with a mission to encourage excellence in scholarship and advance the science of psychology. More than threequarters of a million lifetime members have joined, including distinguished members such as Drs. Albert Bandura, B. F. Skinner and Philip Zimbardo. Lifetime membership is available for undergraduate and graduate students.

### **Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP)**

As the premier professional association dedicated to advancing the field of I-O psychology, SIOP has more than 10,000 members worldwide.

### **Society for Media Psychology and Technology**

The society for Media Psychology and Technology seeks to advance psychology in the practice and science of media communications and technology. The society is a community of researchers, psychologists and other mental health providers, consultants, educators and communications professionals actively involved with all forms of traditional and evolving media and emerging technologies. The society supports the study and dissemination of information related to the impact of the media on human behavior, as well as the development of media literacy essential to the public and profession.

### **National Organization for Human Services (NOHS)**

NOHS is a nonprofit organization representing human service practitioners, educators, students and future human service professionals. NOHS works to support all human service professionals in their primary purpose to assist individuals and communities to function as effectively as possible in all major domains of living.

## Professional associations

### **American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)**

APHSA is a bipartisan, nonprofit membership organization representing state and local health and human service agencies through their top-level leadership. Through their member network and three national Collaborative Centers, APHSA seeks to influence modern policies and practices that support the health and well-being of all children and families and that lead to stronger communities.

### **Council for Standards in Human Service Education (CSHSE)**

CSHSE was established in 1979 to give focus and direction to education and training in mental health and human services throughout the country. CSHSE is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

### **American Counseling Association (ACA)**

ACA is a not-for-profit, professional and educational organization that is dedicated to the growth and enhancement of the counseling profession. Founded in 1952, ACA is the world's largest association exclusively representing professional counselors in various practice settings.

### **American School Counselor Association (ASCA)**

ASCA members lead, advocate and collaborate to promote equity and success for all students by connecting the school counseling program to the school's academic mission and school improvement plan. They uphold the ASCA ethical and professional standards and promote the development of the school counseling program based on the ASCA National Model. ASCA members include practicing school counselors as well school counseling students and higher education faculty. School counseling supervisors at the school, district and state level are also members of ASCA.

### **National Career Development Association (NCDA)**

NCDA provides professional development, publications, standards and advocacy to practitioners and educators who inspire and empower individuals to achieve their career and life goals.

### **Association for Adult Development & Aging (AADA)**

AADA serves as a focal point for sharing, professional development and advocacy related to adult development and aging issues and addresses counseling concerns across the life span.

## Professional associations

### **Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (ACES)**

ACES is the premier organization dedicated to quality education and supervision of counselors in all work settings.

### **National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC)**

NBCC is the premier credentialing body for counselors, ensuring that counselors who become board certified have achieved the highest standard of practice through education, examination, supervision, experience and ethical guidelines.

### **Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP)**

CACREP accredits over 905 master's and doctoral degree programs in counseling and its specialties offered by 420 colleges and universities across the United States.

### **American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)**

AAMFT is the professional association for the field of marriage and family therapy. It represents the professional interests of more than 50,000 marriage and family therapists throughout the United States, Canada and abroad.

### **California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT)**

CAMFT is an independent professional organization of approximately 34,000 members representing the interests of licensed marriage and family therapists. It is dedicated to advancing the profession as an art and a science, to maintaining high standards of professional ethics, to upholding the qualifications for the profession and to expanding the recognition and awareness of the profession.

### **American Correctional Association (ACA)**

For more than 152 years, the American Correctional Association has championed the cause of corrections and correctional effectiveness. Founded in 1870 as the National Prison Association, ACA is the oldest association developed specifically for practitioners in the correctional profession.



## **Professional associations**

### **American Jail Association (AJA)**

AJA is a national, nonprofit organization that supports the professionals who operate our nation's jails. It is the only national association that focuses exclusively on issues specific to the operations of local correctional facilities.

### **ASIS International**

ASIS is a global network of 34,000 passionate members who together are driving industry standards and guidelines, specialized training and certifications to advance security worldwide.

### **Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA)**

HAPCOA assists in recruiting, training, mentoring and promoting qualified Hispanic American men and women in the criminal justice arena and serves as an advocate for Hispanic law enforcement issues.

### **International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)**

IACP is the world's largest and most influential professional association for police leaders. With more than 32,000 members in over 168 countries, the IACP is a recognized leader in global policing, committed to advancing safer communities through thoughtful, progressive police leadership. Since 1893, the association has been serving communities by speaking out on behalf of law enforcement and advancing leadership and professionalism in policing worldwide.

### **National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)**

NOBLE was founded in September 1976 during a three-day symposium to address crime in low-income urban areas. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Police Foundation and the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA). The Joint Center for Political Studies (JCPS) coordinated this unprecedented event in which 60 top-ranking Black law enforcement executives representing 24 states and 50 major cities gathered in the Washington, D.C. area to participate. They exchanged views about the critically high rate of crime in the Black urban communities and the socioeconomic conditions that lead to crime and violence.

## **Professional associations**

### **National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA)**

NLPOA was founded in the early 1970s by John Parraz, Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, and Vicente Calderon, California Highway Patrol, San Jose Office. Since then the organization has become one of the largest Latino officer associations in America, with NLPOA chapters across the nation.

### **National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA)**

NNALEA is a nonprofit organization founded in 1993 in Washington, D.C. and incorporated under the state of Delaware. The mission of the NNALEA is to promote and foster mutual cooperation between American Indian law enforcement officers/agents/personnel, their agencies, tribes, private industry and public.

### **National Association of Asian American Law Enforcement Commanders (NAAALEC)**

NAAALEC is a national nonprofit law enforcement leadership organization committed to fostering leadership, fraternal enrichment and advancement.

### **National Association of Social Workers (NASW)**

NASW is a membership organization that works to enhance the professional growth and development of its members, to create and maintain professional standards for social workers, and to advance sound social policies.

### **National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW)**

NABSW is comprised of people of African ancestry and is committed to enhancing the quality of life and empowering people of African ancestry through advocacy, human services delivery, and research.

### **North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW)**

NACSW is a nonprofit Christian social work member organization. Members of NACSW represent a rich diversity of Christian denominations and traditions.

## Professional associations

### **American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)**

APSAC envisions a world where all maltreated or at-risk children and their families have access to the highest level of professional commitment and service. As a multidisciplinary group of professionals, APSAC achieves its mission in a number of ways; most notably through expert training and educational activities, policy leadership and collaboration, and consultation that emphasize theoretically sound, evidence-based principles.

### **International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)**

IFSW is the worldwide body for professional social work. It comprises 141 professional social work associations representing over 3 million social workers.

### **Organizational Development Network**

International association for individuals practicing in the field of organization development. Members lead the profession and its practitioners in creating effective, healthy organizations.



# College of Nursing



## Professional associations

### **American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)**

AACN is the national voice for academic nursing. AACN works to establish quality standards for nursing education; assists schools in implementing those standards; influences the nursing profession to improve healthcare; and promotes public support for professional nursing education, research and practice.

### **American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)**

AANP is strengthened by the support of more than 121,000 members. Together, they are working to improve patient care and advance NP practice. AANP empowers all NPs to advance accessible, person-centered, equitable, high-quality healthcare for diverse communities through practice, education, advocacy, research and leadership.

### **Association of Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nurses (AAPPN)**

AAPPN is Washington state's professional home for advanced practice psychiatric nurses. With more than 300 clinical and student members—from Bellingham to Richland, from Vancouver to Spokane, AAPPN is the only organization specifically dedicated to the profession in Washington state.

### **American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APRN)**

APRN represents the second-largest group of behavioral health professionals in the U.S. They work in a variety of settings and provide comprehensive care to individuals, families, groups and communities. Psychiatric mental health nurses form strong therapeutic relationships with individuals across the life span — becoming familiar with their stories and challenges — to transform lives in a positive way.

### **American Public Health Association (APHA)**

APHA champions the health of all people and all communities. They strengthen the public health profession and speak out for public health issues and policies backed by science. They are the only organization that combines a 150-year perspective, a broad-based member community and the ability to influence federal policy to improve the public's health.

## Professional associations

### **Association of Public Health Nurses (APHN)**

APHN has a rich history. It began as the Association of State & Territorial Directors of Nursing in 1935 as an advisory group of state health department nurses. The organization has grown over the years and continues today as an active organization of public health nurses from across the United States and its territories. APHN is an affiliate of the Association of State & Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and is a member of the Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations.

### **Association of California Nurse Leaders (ACNL)**

ACNL is the professional association for nurse leaders, consisting of approximately 1,200 nurse managers, nurse directors, chief nursing officers, nurse educators and others across California.

### **American Organization for Nurse Leaders (AONL)**

AONL is the national professional organization of more than 11,000 nurse leaders and the voice of nursing leadership.

### **Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)**

CCNE is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public's health. CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate and residency/fellowship programs in nursing.

### **Doctors of Nursing Practice Organization (DNPO)**

DNPO is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity corporation formed by a group of advanced practice nurses to enhance the profession and Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to improve healthcare outcomes.

### **National League for Nurses (NLN)**

NLN offers professional development, networking opportunities, assessment services, nursing research grants and public policy initiatives to its nearly 45,000 individual and 1,100 institutional members. NLN members represent nursing education programs across the spectrum of higher education, healthcare organizations and agencies.

## Professional associations

### **National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF)**

NONPF is the only organization specifically devoted to promoting high quality nurse practitioner (NP) education. NONPF has evolved from humble beginnings to the leading organization for excellence in NP education. Today, the organization represents a global network of NP educators.

### **Sigma International Nursing Honor Society**

Sigma is the second-largest nursing organization in the world with approximately 135,000 active members. Omicron Delta is the University of Phoenix affiliated chapter.



# College of Business





## Professional associations

### **American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)**

AICPA is the national professional organization of Certified Public Accountants in the United States, with more than 428,000 members in 130 countries.

### **National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA)**

Since 1908, NASBA has served as a forum for the nation's 55 State Boards of Accountancy, which administer the Uniform CPA Examination, license more than 650,000 Certified Public Accountants and regulate the practice of public accountancy in the United States.

### **Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)**

IMA is the worldwide association of accountants and financial professionals in business. Founded in 1919, they are one of the largest and most respected associations focused exclusively on advancing the management accounting profession. They are committed to empowering their 140,000+ members – and those throughout the rest of the profession – to strengthen on-the-job skills, better manage companies and accelerate careers.

### **American Accounting Association (AAA)**

AAAHQ is the largest community of accountants in academia. Founded in 1916, they have a rich and reputable history built on leading-edge research and publications. The diversity of their membership creates a fertile environment for collaboration and innovation. Collectively, they shape the future of accounting through teaching, research and a powerful network, ensuring their position as thought leaders in accounting.

### **Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB)**

FASB is the independent, private-sector, not-for-profit organization that establishes financial accounting and reporting standards for public and private companies and not-for-profit organizations that follow Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

### **International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA)**

IIBA is a professional association formed in October 2003 with the stated goal of supporting and promoting the discipline of business analysis. IIBA offers help and information to business analysts in order to develop their skills and further their careers.

## Professional associations

### **Data Science Association (DSA)**

DSA is a nonprofit professional association of data scientists that serves members, improving the data science profession, eliminating bias and enhancing diversity, and advancing ethical data science throughout the world. The DSA is committed to supporting the data science profession with practical resources for data professionals while improving the practice of data science, accrediting schools, and establishing model ethical codes. Membership is open to data scientists, scientists, students, academics and others interested in science and the data science profession.

### **American Bankers Association (ABA)**

ABA is a trade association for the U.S. banking industry, founded in 1875. They lobby for banks of all sizes and charters, including community banks, regional and money center banks, savings associations, mutual savings banks and trust companies.

### **Consumer Bankers Association (CBA)**

CBA is the only member-driven trade association focused exclusively on retail banking. Whether buying a home, financing an education or launching a small business, since 1919, their members have partnered with consumers to help achieve the American dream. Their corporate members include the nation's largest retail banks, with 85% holding over \$10 billion in assets.

### **Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards (CFP Board)**

CFP Board is the certifying and standards-setting organization that administers the Certified Financial Planner certification program and oversees more than 89,000 professionals using the CFP. certification in the United States.

### **Chartered Financial Analyst Institute (CFA Institute)**

CFA Institute is a global, not-for-profit professional organization that provides investment professionals with finance education. It aims to promote the standards in ethics, education and professional excellence in the global investment industry.

### **American Management Association (AMA)**

AMA is a nonprofit educational membership organization for the promotion of management, based in New York City. Besides its headquarters there, it has local head offices throughout the world. AMA offers help and information to business analysts in order to develop their skills and further their careers.

## Professional associations

### **American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI)**

AHLEI has training and education for all segments of hospitality. For more than 65 years, AHLEI has worked to provide hospitality organizations and schools with quality resources to train, educate and certify hospitality professionals, first as the educational arm of the American Hotel & Lodging Association and since February 2017 as part of the National Restaurant Association's Training & Certification Division.

### **National Restaurant Association (NRA)**

NRA is an industry business association, representing more than 380,000 restaurants. It also operates the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. The association was founded in 1919.

### **Association for Talent Development (ATD)**

ATD, formerly American Society for Training & Development, is a nonprofit association serving those who develop talent in the workplace.

### **Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)**

SHRM is a professional human resources membership association. SHRM promotes the role of HR as a profession and provides education, certification and networking to its members, while lobbying Congress on issues pertinent to labor management.

### **HR Certification Institute (HRCI)**

HRCI is the premier credentialing and learning organization for the human resources profession. For over 45 years, they have set the global standard for HR expertise and excellence through their commitment to the development and advancement of businesspeople in the people business. HRCI develops and offers world-class learning, as well as the administration of eight global certifications and is dedicated to helping professionals achieve new competencies that drive business results.

### **National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)**

NAM works for the success of the more than 12.8 million people who make things in America. Their work is centered on four values that make their industry strong and America exceptional: free enterprise, competitiveness, individual liberty and equal opportunity. Representing 14,000 member companies – from small businesses to global leaders – in every industrial sector, they are the nation's most effective resource and most influential advocate for these values and for manufacturers across the country.

## Professional associations

### **Manufacturing Institute (MI)**

MI has a goal to grow and support the industry's skilled workers for the advancement of modern manufacturing. MI's diverse initiatives support all American workers, including emerging workers, women, veterans and students, through skilled training programs, community building and career growth. As the 501(c)(3) nonprofit workforce development and education partner of the National Association of Manufacturers, the MI is a trusted advisor to manufacturers, equipping them with resources necessary to solve the industry's toughest challenges.

### **American Marketing Association (AMA)**

AMA leads an unparalleled discussion on marketing excellence. With content coming from unrivaled scholarly journals, like the *Journal of Marketing*, and award-winning publications, like *Marketing News*, the AMA offers a robust perspective that understands marketers are expected to provide both solutions for today and solutions for tomorrow. No other organization provides more ways for marketers and academics to connect with the people and resources they need to be successful.

### **American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS)**

APICS is the premier professional association for supply chain and operations management and the leading provider of research, education and certification programs that elevate supply chain excellence, innovation and resilience. Their mission is fostering the advancement of end-to-end supply chain management through a body of knowledge, innovative research, systems, and methods to create value for customers, members and organizations.

### **Project Management Institute (PMI)**

PMI is the largest and most diverse international organization in the world dedicated to the profession of project management.

### **National Retail Federation (NRF)**

NRF is the world's largest retail trade association. Its members include department stores, specialty, discount, catalog, internet and independent retailers, chain restaurants, grocery stores and multi-level marketing companies.

### **Institute for Supply Management (ISM)**

ISM is the oldest, and the largest, supply management association in the world.

## **Professional associations**

### **Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM)**

ASCM is the global leader in supply chain organizational transformation, innovation and leadership. As the largest nonprofit association for supply chain, ASCM is an unbiased partner, connecting companies around the world to the newest thought leadership on all aspects of supply chain.

### **American Association of Procurement and Supply-Chain Management (AAPSCM)**

AAPSCM is the world's leading professional association for a growing community of millions of procurement, supply chain, and tourism management professionals and changemakers worldwide. AAPSCM is vendor-neutral, independent and a pioneer of a combined source of information on a wide range of management specialization topics which represent industry standards, best practices and policies, management development data, and workforce.

### **National Black MBA Association (NBMAA)**

The NBMAA is dedicated to serving Black professionals. Its vision is to lead in the creation of education, wealth building and growth opportunities for those historically underrepresented throughout their careers as students, entrepreneurs and professionals.

### **Financial Women's Association (FWA)**

The FWA is dedicated to advancing the leadership growth and accelerate the success of all women in the financial sector. The association promotes professional development and advancement of women through education, mentorship, scholarships, networking and alliances across the financial community.

# Information Technology



## **Professional associations**

### **ISACA**

In its IRS filings, it is known as the Information Systems Audit and Control Association, although ISACA now goes by its acronym only. ISACA currently offers eight certification programs as well as other micro-certificates.

### **(ISC)2**

(ISC)<sup>2</sup> is an international, nonprofit membership association for information security leaders. They're committed to helping members learn, grow and thrive. More than 168,000 certified members strong, they empower professionals who touch every aspect of information security.

### **CertNexus**

CertNexus is a vendor-neutral certification body, providing emerging technology certifications and micro-credentials for business, data, developer, IT and security professionals. CertNexus' mission is to assist closing the emerging tech global skills gap while providing individuals with a path towards rewarding careers in artificial intelligence (AI)/machine learning, data science, data ethics, internet of things (IoT) and cybersecurity.

### **CompTIA**

CompTIA is the industry standard for establishing a career in IT and the preferred qualifying credential for technical support and IT operational roles. It is the only industry-recognized credential with performance-based items to prove pros can think on their feet to perform critical IT support tasks in the moment. It is trusted by employers around the world to identify the go-to person in endpoint management and technical support roles.

## Professional associations

### **Certified Wireless Network Professionals (CWNP)**

CWNP is the only vendor-neutral wireless LAN certification program in the industry, covering the full range of technologies underlying all enterprise WLAN products. Their four levels of enterprise WLAN certification prepare IT professionals to specify, design and manage wireless LAN infrastructure and applications regardless of the vendor solution utilized.

### **Project Management Institute (PMI)**

PMI is the largest and most diverse international organization in the world dedicated to the profession of project management.





# College of Education



## **Professional associations**

### **National Education Association (NEA)**

NEA has 3 million members who bring their experiences working at every level of education to shape the organization and its impact. NEA supports students in all educational roles and responsibilities.

### **PDK International (Phi Delta Kappa)**

PDK honors educators as professionals who learn daily from their work and want to share their knowledge with others to transform the lives of their students and their specialized work.

### **Toastmasters International**

Toastmasters is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Membership exceeds 300,000 in more than 15,800 clubs in 149 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators and leaders.