

# The Perks of Association Membership for Young Professionals

For young professionals, association membership matters. A lot.  
Today's organizations are innovative, technologically savvy, and offer an incomparable list of benefits.



## Resume Diversity

Associations offer members the opportunity to include substantive elements in their resumes. Leadership roles, industry awards, and committee volunteerism are all examples of experience that help build professional credibility.



## Exclusive Information

Members have the ability to quickly access data such as legislative policy updates, original research, innovative trends, industry predictions, articles from thought leaders, proprietary content, seminars, newsletters, and best practices.



## Job Searches

Many associations provide access to job opportunities. Online job boards, career centers, job fairs, and exclusive openings are common benefits.



## Benefits & Discounts

Members often qualify for benefits and discounts. These may include savings on products and services, group health care, travel discounts, and access to mentoring programs, young professional groups, exclusive conferences, trade shows, and events.



## Training & Education

Education paves the road to success in any industry. Associations host workshops, online training, peer-to-peer learning, etc. designed to help members to develop professionally.



## Strength in Numbers

Associations provide the benefits of political clout without the pressure. They work tirelessly to influence legislation by shaping policy and regulation decisions, swaying public opinion, and lobbying, all in an effort to further the goals and ideals of the industry they represent.



## Giving Back

Associations provide endless opportunities for volunteerism on all levels. Whether it's participating within the association itself or helping out other charitable organizations, members can easily find ways to give back.



## Networking

Members make meaningful connections through associations. There are LinkedIn groups, private online association networks, exclusive access to membership directories, exposure to thought leaders and influencers, and endless programs and events.



## Certifications & Designations

Whether required or optional, association-provided certifications and designations offer ongoing opportunities for professional development and a diversified skill set.



## Best Practices

Industry best practices require complying with industry updates, adhering to ethical standards, and working to improve the industry as a whole. Associations ensure their members meet (or exceed) the requirements in order to protect the reputation of the industry as a whole.



## Reputation Building

Associations help members create a name for themselves. Membership builds credibility, indicates a commitment to the field, signals a commitment to professional and ethical standards, and assures knowledge of industry trends and developments.



## Leadership Skills

Members can participate in programs that help them with the steps to become a recognized industry leader. From the smallest engagement (answering questions in an online forum) to major participation (speaking at an event), taking advantage of any opportunity helps with professional development.