What is ACCA?

The American College Counseling Association is an association for people working or studying in higher education who have a professional identity in counseling and whose purpose is fostering student development.

ACCA works to:
• Support and enhance the practice of college counseling.
• Provide leadership and advocacy for the profession of counseling in higher education.
• Promote ethical and responsible professional practice.
• Promote communication and exchange among college counselors across service areas and institutional settings.
• Encourage cooperation with other organizations related to higher education and college student development.

ACCA Mission

The mission of the American College Counseling Association is to be the interdisciplinary and inclusive professional home that supports emerging and state-of-the-art knowledge and resources for counseling professionals in higher education.

Who Joins ACCA?

Any professional who has an interest in the field of counseling and student development in higher education is encouraged to join ACCA. Students engaged in graduate counseling and student development programs are also welcome. ACCA members are employed by universities, community colleges, vocational-technical schools and other institutions of higher education. In addition, ACCA members are engaged in college counseling in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, counseling center positions.

Benefits of Joining ACCA

• ACCA members receive the highly acclaimed publication Journal of College Counseling, the ACCA journal that contains both practitioner-oriented and scholarly articles related to college counseling (published three times per year). All members receive electronic access to the journal, which includes the full digital archive going back to 1998(1).
• ACCA members have access to ACCA-L, the electronic network for college counselors and related professionals. Members also have full access to the members-only section of the ACCA website and enjoy 24/7 connections and conversations with college counseling professionals through ACCA’s social media.
• ACCA members enjoy the following professional benefits:
  1. Opportunities to define the profession of counseling in higher education by becoming a member of an ACCA national committee.
  2. An identity as a member of a national organization that promotes the profession of college counseling and provides networking opportunities with other professional college counselors.
  3. Promotion of the development and recognition of professional standards for college counselors.
  4. Continuing Education opportunities specific to college counseling.
  5. Grant opportunities to support college mental-health research. Emerging Leader Grants (in the form of ACCA or ACA Conference registration awards) are also available to masters’ and doctoral level graduate students.
  6. National recognition through professional awards for meritorious service and other significant contributions to the field of college counseling.
  7. Discounted registration to the ACCA annual conference, which offers members a chance to network and obtain CEU’s for psychologists, counselors and social workers.

Types of Membership

Professional: Individuals who hold a master’s degree or higher in counseling or a closely related field from a college or university accredited by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Regular: Individuals whose interests and activities are consistent with those of ACA, but who are not qualified for professional membership.

New Professional: A New Professional is someone who has graduated with a masters or a doctorate within the past 12 months. Status is good for one year.

Student: Individuals who are enrolled at least half-time in a college or university program.

Retired: Members who are retired from the counseling profession and have been active ACA members for the past 5 consecutive years.

Division Processing Fee: To join ACCA without joining ACA, a processing fee of $10 will apply.

Are You Taking Advantage of All That ACA Has to Offer?
ACA is the leading advocate for you and your career. When you become a member of ACA, you become part of the largest network of counseling professionals in the world. That means direct access to the resources and education you need to stay at the top of your game, unlimited ways to connect with other counseling professionals for guidance and support, and powerful representation on the topics and issues that affect your career.

Professional Development

Career Advancement Resources
Take advantage of ACA’s Career Central, where you have access to free resume critiques, mock interviews, job listings, search strategies and much more. ACA members also have opportunities to nominate and be recognized with more than 20 members-only awards.

Continuing Education
ACA makes earning your CE credits easy in our affordable, quality online courses available for you to take at your convenience. Presented by experts in a variety of subject areas, you can learn in webinars, book chapters, journal articles, practice briefs and much more.

Members Get FREE CE! ACA membership quickly pays for itself, as you earn one FREE CE credit each month (members are notified of opportunities in our email newsletter). That’s a $264 value.

ACA Conference & Expo
No other event gives you access to the education and networking you need to learn and grow in your counseling career. Each spring, you can access more than 30 hours of in-person CEs in hundreds of unique sessions created specifically for counseling professionals.

News, Information & Inspiration
Whether it’s the monthly Counseling Today magazine, quarterly electronic counseling research journal, Journal of Counseling & Development (print copies available for a fee), or the weekly updates in our free Counseling Insider and Member Minute email newsletters (special focus editions also available), you have access to countless, timely resources at your fingertips.

ACA Bookstore
Keep up with your professional reading in hundreds of titles all at a special member discount. ACA members enjoy discounts of up to 30% off the list price on books written for counselors by counselors.

Practice Support

Professional Liability Insurance
ACA members are offered a full line of professional liability insurance products through the Healthcare Providers Service Organization (HPSO). Benefits include complimentary coverage for Master’s students with ACA student membership, up to a 60% discount for new professionals individually insured through HPSO, a 10% discount for all other individually insured ACA members, an opportunity for an additional 10% off with completion of CEs at the ACA conference, and up to a 15% risk management orientation discount for private practices or incorporated entities.

Health Insurance Programs
ACA provides assistance with dental, life, disability and long-term care insurance through special plans.

Ethics Consultations
Get the support you need when you need it. Consultations are available at no cost exclusively to ACA members 5 days a week with a 72-hour inquiry response time.

Advocacy

From advocating for critical legislation on Capitol Hill to promoting the value of professional counselors and counseling to the public, ACA is leading the charge to ensure that you receive the respect and support you deserve.

A Community of Your Own

ACA Connect
This online members-only networking tool allows you the opportunity to find friends and colleagues with similar interests, contribute practical tips and ideas, ask questions and get answers in real time, share powerful education resources, see who is attending events, watch brief instructional videos and so much more.

Social Media
ACA is highly engaged on Facebook (@American.Counseling.Association), Twitter (@CounselingViews) and Instagram (@AmericanCounselingAssociation). Like and follow us to get news, deadline reminders, information about special promotions, contests, deals and more.

ACA Divisions & Branches
Take your membership to the next level. Divisions and Branches represent the best opportunity to stay connected with colleagues working in your specific interest and practice areas or gain access to other counselors in your own neighborhood.

ACA Discounts
Members receive exclusive discounts on auto, home and personal insurance products as well as savings from industry leaders in travel, hotel, credit cards, office products and much more.

Find out more about all that ACA membership has to offer at counseling.org/membership.
Applicant Information (Fill out if paying by check or money order)

If ACA Member, please provide your membership number

Full Legal Name

Mailing Address

City ____________________________ State/Province ___________ Zip ____________

Country

Organization

Work Ph _____________________________ Home Ph _____________________________ Cell Ph _____________________________

Fax _____________________________ Email _____________________________

Membership Desired

Division Dues Proration: Division dues are prorated to coincide with your ACA membership expiration date. To join a Division only, or to add a Division to your ACA membership, visit counseling.org/Division to view the prorated dues amounts.

Joining ACCA and ACA, check one

[ ] Professional $70.00 + $185.00 = $255.00
[ ] Regular $70.00 + $185.00 = $255.00
[ ] New Professional* $45.00 + $102.00 = $147.00
[ ] Student* $40.00 + $102.00 = $142.00
[ ] Retired (see qualification) $45.00 + $102.00 = $147.00

Joining ACCA only, check one

Without joining ACA a $10 processing fee is applied.

[ ] Professional $70.00 + $10.00 = $80.00
[ ] Regular $70.00 + $10.00 = $80.00
[ ] New Professional* $45.00 + $10.00 = $55.00
[ ] Student* $40.00 + $10.00 = $50.00
[ ] Retired $45.00 + $10.00 = $55.00

*New Professionals please indicate date of graduation (month/year) ___/____ and institution ________________________________.

*Students please indicate expected date of graduation (month/year) ___/____ and institution ________________________________.

ACCA/ACA Membership Dues: Membership in ACA means that you will abide by ACA’s Bylaws and other governing documents and are qualified for the membership category selected. By becoming an ACA member, you are agreeing to be subject to the rules and regulations terms of the ACA Code of Ethics which can include appropriate sanctions up to suspension or expulsion from ACA and public notice about any such action. The ACA Code of Ethics is available at counseling.org.

Journal print fee (optional)

All ACCA/ACA members receive electronic access to the Journal of Counseling & Development (JCD) and Journal of College Counseling, which includes the full digital archive going back to 1921(1). To receive a print copy of these journals, please check below and add the annual print fee to the total amount due. All members should update their email address in the space provided above, regardless of how you wish to receive your journal.

[ ] Journal of Counseling & Development (JCD) $35
[ ] Journal of College Counseling $25

Payment Method

[ ] Check or money order, payable to ACA in U.S. funds.

AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ ____________________________

Credit Card Payments: To join using a debit/credit card, log on to counseling.org/membership to pay online, or contact an ACA Engagement Specialist at 800-347-6647 x222, M–F 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, ET, to pay by phone.

Three-month Payment Plan Option (by phone using a Debit/Credit Card Only) A $2 processing fee will be charged on both the 2nd & 3rd installments. To sign up for the payment plan, contact an ACA Engagement Specialist at 800-347-6647 x222, M–F 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, ET.

Mail application to: American Counseling Association
Attn: Accounting, 6101 Stevenson Avenue, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22304

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There shall be no discrimination against any individual on the basis of ethnic group, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, and/or disability.