

## Membership

The National PTA is the largest volunteer child advocacy organization in the United States. An independent organization of parents, educators, students, and other citizens active in their schools and communities, the PTA is a leader in reminding our nation of its obligations to children. Membership in the National PTA is open to anyone who is concerned with the education, health, and welfare of children and youth. For more information on National PTA membership, please call the Membership Department at (800) 307-4PTA (4782), or visit the National PTA's website at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org).

## The Objects of the PTA

- ▲ To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship
- ▲ To raise the standards of home life
- ▲ To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth
- ▲ To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth
- ▲ To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education

## How Can I Join?

Contact your state PTA for a listing of PTAs in your area. When you join a PTA, you join millions of others who care about issues affecting children. The National PTA has local, council, district, and state-level PTAs operating in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and in the U.S. Department of Defense Schools overseas.

If there's not a PTA already working in your community, you can organize one. Your state PTA will be able to give you information and guidance on how to organize a PTA.

## The Power of Association

The National PTA, for more than 100 years, has advocated before decision makers for children's rights to better health, education, and well-being, and has worked closely with other national education and health agencies and organizations.

Historically, the PTA and its members have been instrumental in:

- ▲ working to ensure that all children have access to quality public education
- ▲ creating hot meal programs in public schools
- ▲ enacting a juvenile justice system
- ▲ developing child labor laws
- ▲ standardizing school check-ups and immunization programs
- ▲ working for increased funding of public schools
- ▲ promoting comprehensive school health programs including HIV/AIDS education
- ▲ supporting the Family and Medical Leave Act
- ▲ establishing national standards for parent and family involvement programs
- ▲ developing a content-based television ratings system

None of the PTA's historic achievements could have been possible without the support, dedication, and involvement of parents, teachers, and people who care about children. Today's PTA members—nearly 6.5 million strong—know the power of association.

### National PTA<sup>®</sup>

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Chicago, Illinois 60611-3690  
Phone: (312) 670-6782 Fax: (312) 670-6783  
(800) 307-4PTA (4782)  
[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)  
e-mail: [info@pta.org](mailto:info@pta.org)

# The Power of Association



**PTA** Doing More For All Children

## Local PTA Benefits

### Resources

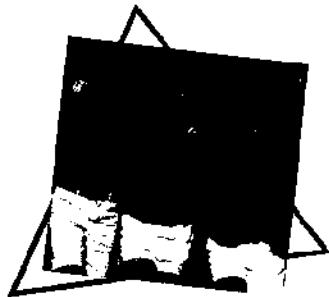
- ▲ Obtain materials and practical information on a variety of topics of interest to parents and families.
- ▲ Learn about important issues affecting the children and schools in your community.

### Networking Opportunities

- ▲ Share concerns, ideas, and experiences with other parents and educators in the community.
- ▲ Grow personally and professionally through leadership development opportunities and training.
- ▲ Be a voice for your children—and all children—by communicating and partnering with school and community leaders on important issues.

### Involvement

- ▲ Support school activities and enhance your child's academic environment.
- ▲ Learn about local and state legislation affecting education and health programs.
- ▲ Benefit from your membership in your state PTA and National PTA.



## State PTA Benefits

### Growing Network of PTAs

- ▲ Be a part of a statewide group of parents and educators all working on behalf of children.
- ▲ Count on council- and/or district-level PTAs to provide added support for local PTA efforts and programs.
- ▲ Connect with state PTA board members for speaking engagements, workshops, and advice.

### Workshop and Training Opportunities

- ▲ Take advantage of the workshops and training opportunities at state-sponsored orientation meetings, area conferences, and your state's annual PTA convention.

### Educational Materials and Publications

- ▲ Obtain materials to assist in planning and managing the work of your local unit.
- ▲ Find best practice ideas and information about what other PTAs are accomplishing around your state.
- ▲ Gather information on leading education, health, safety, and legislative issues.

### Awards and Honors

- ▲ Receive statewide recognition of your PTA's accomplishments and unique programs.

### Legislative Issues and Initiatives

- ▲ Stay informed of current state and federal legislative issues being monitored by your state PTA and National PTA.
- ▲ Learn how to be an advocate and a voice for children in your own community as well as at the state and federal levels.

### California State PTA

P.O. Box 15015  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-0015  
Phone: (213) 620-1100  
Fax: (213) 620-1411  
Website: [www.capta.org](http://www.capta.org)

## National PTA Benefits

### A Strong Partnership

- ▲ Benefit from the knowledge and support of a national leader in the fields of education, health, and safety issues affecting children and families.
- ▲ Be part of an organization that unites nearly 6.5 million parents, educators, and community members in efforts to ensure the educational, social, and physical well-being of children and youth.

### A National Resource

- ▲ Access important resources on the National PTA Children First and Children First Plus websites ([www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)).
- ▲ Keep abreast of parenting trends, ideas, and issues affecting all children by subscribing to *Our Children* magazine.

### A National Voice

- ▲ Count on the National PTA's office in Washington, DC, the toll-free legislative hotline: (888) 4-ALL-KDS, and *What's Happening in Washington* newsletter to provide information and analysis of federal legislative, judicial, and regulatory issues.
- ▲ Get involved in programs and access resources created in partnership with leading national organizations, businesses, foundations, and governmental agencies.

### National Recognition and Honors

- ▲ Be recognized for outstanding programs and achievement in the areas of membership, outreach, the arts, and diversity.
- ▲ Nominate and honor outstanding educators who have demonstrated professional excellence and commitment to the mission and work of the PTA.

### Training & Professional Development

- ▲ Build your leadership and management skills by participating in nationally sponsored workshops or the annual National PTA Convention and Exhibition.