

AMERICAN COLLEGE HEALTH ASSOCIATION (ACHA) SECTION

ACHA offers great resources and networking opportunities for college health professionals through service groups called **Sections**.

1. How to Get Involved

To join ACHA, visit <http://www.acha.org/Membership>. On this site, you can explore the different types of membership and download applications for membership.

To get involved in the Section of your choice, visit https://www.acha.org/ACHA/Networks/By_Discipline/ACHA/Networks/ACHA_Sections.aspx?hkey=f4d26ae0-3e47-4fbd-b4e7-91b385cfff9 and contact that Section chair.

2. Accessing Available Resources

Once a member of ACHA, you can access available resources on the ACHA [Sections](#) webpage, including:

- Section Announcements – learn more about ongoing and new Section events and activities, including volunteer opportunities
- Section Articles of Operation, minutes, Strategic Plan, Newsletter, Section needs assessment surveys and results, and professional development and networking opportunities.

You can also access other resources available to ACHA members. Visit the Volunteer Leader Learning Center, [here](#).

3. Communication Forums

ACHA has a Facebook page that can be viewed at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/American-College-Health-Association/184694151568162>. You can also follow ACHA on Twitter at https://twitter.com/ACHA_Tweets. We encourage you to check out the Facebook page often and tweet as much as you want!

ACHA Connect is another great way to connect with colleagues and review information in the resource library. You may sign up for different ACHA communities through ACHA Connect at <http://community.acha.org/home>.

4. Affiliates

ACHA has 11 affiliate organizations throughout six regions of the United States. The affiliates have their own officers, annual meetings, and can help you to network with colleagues in your local area. You can access information regarding what affiliate you belong to, when affiliate meetings are taking place, as well as who the current affiliate officers are at https://www.acha.org/ACHA/Networks/By_Region/ACHA/Networks/Regional_Affiliates.aspx.

5. Organizations and Associations

American College Health Association (ACHA). Baltimore, MD. (410) 859-1500. <https://www.acha.org>
Counsel for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS). Fort Lauderdale, FL. (800) 889-7270. <https://www.cas.edu/>
Journal of American College Health. Taylor & Francis Group. (215) 625-8900.
<https://www.acha.org/ACHA/Resources/Publications/Journal/ACHA/Resources/JACH.aspx>
National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). Washington, DC. (202) 265-7500. <https://www.naspa.org>

6. Tools of the Trade

The “Tripod”

- American College Health Association - National College Health Assessment (ACHA-NCHA) available at https://www.acha.org/NCHA/NCHA_Home
- American College Health Association. (2019). *Standards of Practice for Health Promotion in Higher Education*. https://www.acha.org/documents/resources/guidelines/ACHA_Standards_of_Practice_for_Health_Promotion_in_Higher_Education_October2019.pdf
- Healthy Campus empowers campus communities to improve health and well-being. More information can be found at <https://www.acha.org/HealthyCampus>

Other helpful resources:

- Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education. (2019). *CAS Professional Standards for Higher Education* (10th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. https://www.cas.edu/store_category.asp?id=14
- Health Education Code of Ethics: <http://www.nchec.org/credentialing/ethics/>
- Health Education Responsibilities and Competencies: <http://www.nchec.org/credentialing/responsibilities/>
- ACHA Guidelines, Recommendations, and White Papers: <https://www.acha.org/ACHA/Resources/Guidelines/ACHA/Resources/Guidelines>

7. Health Promotion Committees

Each ACHA Section has its own tasks for completion and, thus, its own configuration of committees which can give you the opportunity to get involved. Any member can volunteer. Here are examples of Committees:

Member Development Committee: This committee plans and implements activities as well as professional development that address the identified needs of both new and existing members through webinars, networking calls and other activities. The committee has developed and maintains a Resource Mentor Guide for members, hosts a welcome session and Section social at the Annual Meeting, and distributes member materials at the Annual Meeting and online.

Officer Nominations Committee: This committee works to solicit candidates for the elected positions of: Chair Elect, Program Planner-Elect, and Secretary, solicit candidates for the appointed positions of: Member-at-Large, and to prepare any elected candidate materials for submission to the ACHA National Office.

Program Planning Committee: This committee is responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating the ACHA Annual Meeting. It revises the annual request for proposal submissions for the Annual Meeting, reviews proposals submitted and selects proposals most relevant to the Section based on the needs assessment.

Research Committee: This committee identifies and communicates research needs to advance the field of health promotion in higher education and conducting research as appropriate. It provides research-related training and resources and a forum for collaboration among college health promotion researchers to facilitate evidence-informed practice and to advance knowledge.

Strategic Planning Committee: This committee conducts a Section needs assessment on a rotating basis; analyzes the needs assessment data, compiles results, and provides a summary of key points to the Section membership. It will also update the Section Strategic Plan based on results gathered from the Section needs assessment. The needs assessment and strategic plan must be approved by the Section Leadership Committee.

8. ACHA Section Involvement Barometer (Sample)

ACHA Health Promotion Section Involvement Barometer

Commitment	Position	Description	Term	# of Positions	Requirement*
Low	Annual Meeting President or Facilitator	Set-up; introduces speaker(s); tracks session time; collects session evaluations	Annual Meeting	10-20	1, 2
	Abstract Reviewer	Reviews and scores assigned abstracts to be considered as HP-selected sessions for the Annual Meeting	Early October	Unlimited	1
Medium	Committee/Coalition Member	Participates in all committee calls and other tasks as needed	1 year	Unlimited	1
	Member-at-Large	Participates in monthly meetings; serves on Program Planning Committee, Membership Development Committee or Strategic Planning Committee	1 year	4	1, 3
High	Chair	Provides leadership to Section; carries out strategic plan; leads monthly meetings, prepares mid- and annual reports for Section	1 year	1	1, 2, 4
	Chair-Elect	Assists Chair with duties; coordinates "Hot Topics" at Annual Meeting; Chairs Strategic Planning Committee	1 year	1	1, 2, 4
	Committee Chair	Convenes conference calls; recruits members; communicates with Section leadership and membership; prepares agendas, minutes, mid- and annual reports for committee	1 year	6	1, 3
	Committee to Advance Health Promotion Resources (CAHPR) Chair/Member	Reviews/revises documents central to Section (e.g. <i>Standards of Practice for Health Promotion in Higher Education</i> and the <i>Guidelines for Hiring Health Promotion Professionals in Higher Education</i>); collaborates with the Membership Development Committee on Vision into Action website updates and revisions	1 year	Limited	1, 3
	Program Planner	Provides leadership for Annual Meeting program planning; coordinates selection of sessions	1 year	1	1, 2, 4
	Program Planner-Elect	Assists the Program Planning Chair with duties	1 year	1	1, 2, 4
	Secretary	Manages all Section communications; prepares meeting agendas and minutes; organizes Section newsletter	1 year	1	1, 2, 4

*Requirements (1=member of ACHA, 2=must attend the Annual Meeting, 3=appointed position, 4=elected position)