



**BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS
of AMERICA**
Giving Purpose to Potential

Starting a New BPA Chapter

Suggestion: BPA is dedicated to “Giving Purpose to Potential” to all members by combining their educational journey with real-world experience. The valuable skills learned within our organization are aimed to prepare members for college or career and maximize their long-term success. This co-curricular model also allows educators to transform their classroom into an interactive and motivational learning environment that enhances the overall educational experience.

Ready to Get Started?

Are you ready to give students an unforgettable experience and start a BPA chapter at your school? Visit our website at bpa.org or contact **Mark Burch**, Director of Member Services at mburch@bpa.org or 614.895.7277 Ext. 7482.

Business Professionals of America (BPA) serves a broad spectrum of students, varied in age and skill level. Based on age and competency, students can participate in one of three divisions of membership:

Middle Level (grades 6–8): Students enrolled in a middle school business, office education, career/technical, and/or information technology education program or course as approved by the state.

High School/Secondary (grades 9–12): Students enrolled, or previously enrolled, in a business, information technology, and/or office occupation related education program as approved by the state. Associate Member designation is for special population students enrolled, or previously enrolled, in a business, information technology, and/or office occupation, career related education program as approved by the state.

College/Post-secondary (13th year and up): Student members enrolled in a business related certificate, associate, baccalaureate, or post baccalaureate degree program of study or course from a two or four year institution accredited by the appropriate state agency

How is BPA Organized?

BPA Charter states have their own governing body and a State Advisor who directs state programs and conferences. National Business Professionals of America is built from the partnership of these State Associations working together. The national organization benefits members by producing the Workplace Skills Assessment Program (WSAP), national conferences, national programs, and representing/uniting the organization. Each BPA chapter, unless it's an Independent Chapter, is part of a State BPA association as well as the national BPA organization.

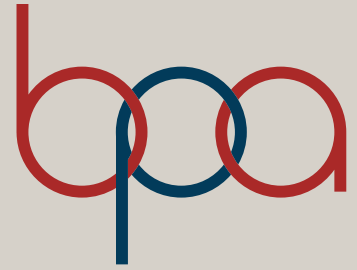
Those schools within a state that do not have a chartered state association have the ability to start an Independent Chapter. This chapter designation affords its members the rights and privileges of national membership, however, these members do not have regional and state qualifiers in order to attend the National Leadership Conference.

Member Benefits

All BPA members receive a variety of rights and privileges as outlined in the National Policy & Procedures Handbook. Additionally, they have access to all member services and programs, including but not limited to:

- Student Member Certification Series
- Chapter/National Officer positions
- BPA Cares
- Torch Awards
- Virtual Events
- WSAP Competitive Events
- National Leadership Conference

Virtual Membership



Business Professionals of America virtual membership is open to any Secondary, Middle Level or Post-secondary student that does not have access to a chartered chapter and is interested in business, finance, IT, and/or marketing while enrolled in a program of learning. There are currently a number of states that charter a stand-alone school chapter or virtual chapter, but for students located in states that do not currently have virtual membership established, students may join the organization as a National Virtual Chapter member.

Contact Us

To learn more about Business Professionals of America Virtual Membership and find out if your state offers it, visit our website at www.bpa.org or contact Mark Burch, Director of Member Services at mburch@bpa.org or 614.895.7277 Ext. 7482.

Member Benefits

Members in a virtual chapter would receive all of the rights and privileges as a student member as outlined in the National Policy & Procedures Handbook, and have access to all member services and programs, including but not limited to:

- Student Member Certification Series
- Chapter/National Officer positions
- BPA Cares
- Torch Awards
- Virtual Events
- WSAP Competitive Events
- National Leadership Conference

Competition

1. **Virtual members** participating and paying dues to a state association would be counted toward that state's allocation for competitive event (i.e. Texas virtual members would advance along with other secondary members in their state).
2. **National Virtual Chapter** members would advance directly to Nationals based on the current state competitive event allocation (i.e. the chapter would receive as many state advancements as a chartered state association).

Dues

1. **Members in virtual chapters** supported by a State BPA Charter would pay national dues as prescribed by the National Center for Secondary, Middle Level or Post-secondary Division and state dues as designated each state association.
2. **Members in the National Virtual Chapter**, not supported by a State BPA Charter, would pay annual dues of \$14.00 per member.

