What is ACAC?

ACAC is a support and information network for counselors who work with children and adolescents. The American Counseling Association’s Code of Ethics (2014) and the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs standards (2009) charges counselors with enhancing human development across the lifespan; therefore, ACAC supports counselors working with children and adolescents, as defined as the ages between birth and adolescence. The breadth of this developmental range offers its own unique experiences and challenges. ACAC serves to bring a community of counselors together who strive to offer best practices to this underserved and distinct population.

The goals of ACAC are:
- Promote a greater awareness, advocacy, and understanding of children and adolescents among members of the counseling profession and related helping fields.
- Advance developmentally appropriate prevention and intervention strategies for counseling children and adolescents.
- Support counseling and education with parents of children and adolescents.
- Foster counselor consultation with caretakers and other professionals who are involved in the lives of children and adolescents.
- Provide professional development activities to improve education and training of counselors who work with children and adolescents.
- Disseminate educational and professional materials with the purpose of raising the standards of practice for children and adolescents in counseling, psychotherapy, and mental health.
- Encourage involvement and communication of ACAC members to share knowledge and support for improvement of mental health services to children and adolescents.

Who Joins ACAC?

ACAC is open to all counselors who work with children and adolescents in a variety of settings, including schools, agencies, hospitals, and private practice. Counselors who benefit from membership in ACAC include:

- Mental Health Clinicians
- School Counselors
- Play Therapists
- Counselor Educators
- Any counselor working with children and/or adolescents
- Infant Mental Health Practitioners

Benefits of Joining ACAC

In addition to benefits of ACA membership, ACAC provides members with
- ACAC electronic newsletter providing current information and support to members (via ACAC Connect and website).
- ACAC website to provide networking opportunities and up-to-date activities of the organization and members, www.acachild.org
- ACAC Connect providing the unique opportunity to consult with other members regarding challenges in practice (sign up on ACA homepage).
- ACAC’s Journal of Child & Adolescent Counseling provided three times annually in print and electronically. In 2017, journal will be published 3 times yearly.

Types of Membership - ACA membership required

**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:** Individual whose interests and activities are consistent with those of ACAC, but 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.

Visit us at http://acachild.com

Online  counseling.org/membership
Phone  800-298–2276  
M–F 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, ET
Mail  Application and payment to:
American Counseling Association
Attn: Accounting
6101 Stevenson Avenue, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22304

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

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.
ACAC and ACA Membership Application 2020–2021

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 _________________________________________________

ACAC/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 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.

Membership Desired

Joining ACAC and ACA: Select your member category below, complete the application and fax or mail it to the American Counseling Association or join online at counseling.org.

ACA Members: Division dues are prorated to coincide with your ACA membership expiration date. To add a Division to your ACA membership, log on to counseling.org with your username and password and select “Add a Division,” or contact an ACA Engagement Specialist at 800-298-2276, M–F 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, ET.

Joining ACAC and ACA, check one

[    ] Professional $55.00 + $189.00 = $244.00
[    ] Regular $55.00 + $189.00 = $244.00
[    ] New Professional* $35.00 + $105.00 = $140.00
[    ] Student* $35.00 + $105.00 = $140.00
[    ] Retired $35.00 + $105.00 = $140.00

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

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

Journal print fee (optional)
All ACA members receive electronic access to the Journal of Counseling & Development (JCD), which includes the full digital archive going back to 1921(1). To receive a print copy of the journal, please add an annual $35 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 ACA journal.

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

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 800-298-2276, 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 800-298-2276 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

Valid thru 6/30/2021 Source code: N21XDCA