



Who Are We?

What is AVA? The Association for Volunteer Administration (AVA) is the *international professional membership association for individuals* working in the field of volunteer management.

Membership is open to salaried and non-salaried individuals in public, nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

History: Since its founding in 1960, the organization has shaped a profession in an arena where there was neither formal structure, communication, nor common identity. Begun by a group of volunteer coordinators in mental health settings, AVA has steadily widened its scope and membership, reaching over 1800 members in 1999.

Activities and Services:

- Tools and resources to help you maximize volunteer resources in your organization
- Information about the profession, to help you advocate for your role
- An international, competency-based professional credentialing program
- Quarterly applied journal, written by and for practitioners
- Statement of Professional Ethics in Volunteer Administration
- Annual International Conference on Volunteer Administration
- Connections to colleagues at the local, regional and national level
- Opportunities to develop and prove your leadership potential
- Affiliation relationships with local networks of professionals

Collaborating Partners: AVA is continually building relationships with other organizations that share our commitment to excellence and competence in volunteer leadership. Current partners include:

- American Humanics, Inc.
- American Society of Directors of Volunteer Services of the American Hospital Association
- Points of Light Foundation

Structure and Governance: AVA is governed by a 16 member international board of directors. Staffing consists of a full-time executive director, part-time director of member services, a contractor who provides accounting and database management services, and office volunteers. In addition, several key roles are held by Association members including the editing of the journal and newsletter, management of the credentialing program and annual conference planning. Members are also very active in committees related to awards, ethics, educational endorsement, higher education, professional issues, and short-term task forces. In this way AVA remains very member-driven and provides many opportunities for leadership development

Statement of Inclusiveness: To better serve its members and to be more inclusive in recruiting new members, the AVA Board of Directors formed a Pluralism Strategy Committee to help direct the organization in reaching out to volunteer managers from communities that were not active in AVA. In January 1998 the board adopted the following Statement of Inclusiveness to help guide the organization into the next century.

The Association for Volunteer Administration embraces a philosophy that recognizes and values inclusiveness and openness. It is committed in the broadest sense to diversity reflecting the demographics of the communities in which its members serve. This principle applies to the involvement of people as members, to leadership roles, and to the promotion of the profession.

AVA will promote professionalism and strengthen leadership in volunteerism and provide opportunities for all segments of our profession to work together to identify the needs of the profession.

AVA has a responsibility to educate and to learn from the international community about issues/problems that affect the profession as well as to seek their participation in finding solutions.

AVA works in partnership with local professional organizations in a spirit of cooperation, mutual trust and respect.

AVA defines diversity in broadest terms. AVA intends and desires to be inclusive of all individuals regardless of their race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, medical condition, physical or mental disability, socio-economic status, political affiliation or geographic location.



Membership Application

Yes! I want to join AVA and make an investment in my career and my profession.
(To help with processing your membership, please print and fill out the application completely.)

Mr./Ms. _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone (work) _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

How did you learn about AVA? _____

Please send a "Letter of Investment" to my supervisor, acknowledging my AVA membership and commitment to my profession.

Name, title, and mailing address of my supervisor:

Membership Options *(Please select one.)*

Annual Membership

\$50 (US)

Benefits:

- Six issues of "AVA Member Briefing" newsletter and special member mailings
- Discounts on International Conference on Volunteer Administration fees, AVA products, certification fees
- Discount coupons from vendors/businesses related to the profession
- Advance opportunity to submit proposals to present at international conference
- Certificate of membership
- Eligibility to participate in AVA Awards Program

SAVE \$5 **Annual Membership + Annual subscription** **\$85 (US)**
to *The Journal of Volunteer Administration*

SAVE \$5 **Renew for Two** **\$95 (US)**
Two-year Membership

Payment Options

My check for \$_____ (Payable to AVA in US dollars only) is enclosed

Please charge \$_____ to my credit card:

_____ VISA _____ MasterCard _____ American Express

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

(Note: AVA's United States Federal Identification Number: 23-7066215)

Please mail or fax the application with appropriate payment to:

Association for Volunteer Administration
P.O. Box 32092, Richmond, VA 23294 USA
Fax: 804-346-3318

If you have any questions, call 804-346-2266 or e-mail to avaintl@mindspring.com

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