



ACTIVATE YOUR AMBITION WITH ABWA

LEVERAGE YOUR ABWA MEMBERSHIP TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER





IN THIS GUIDE...

- 03** About Your Membership
- 03** National Headquarters Team
- 04** Welcome to the American Business Women's Association
- 05** Get Connected: Coffee Connections
- 06** Get Connected: Join, Follow, Connect
- 07** Membership, Benefits, and Resources: My Apex Campus
- 08** Membership, Benefits, and Resources: *The Achieve*
- 09** Membership, Benefits, and Resources: Regional and National Events
- 10** Membership, Benefits, and Resources: Become a Leader in ABWA
- 10** Membership, Benefits, and Resources: Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Fund (SBMEF)
- 11** Activate Your Ambition: ABWA's Mission Statement, Core Values, and Code of Conduct
- 12** Activate Her Ambition: Refer A Friend - Sign Her up Today!

HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE?



abwa.org



webmail@abwa.org



913.732.5100

ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP

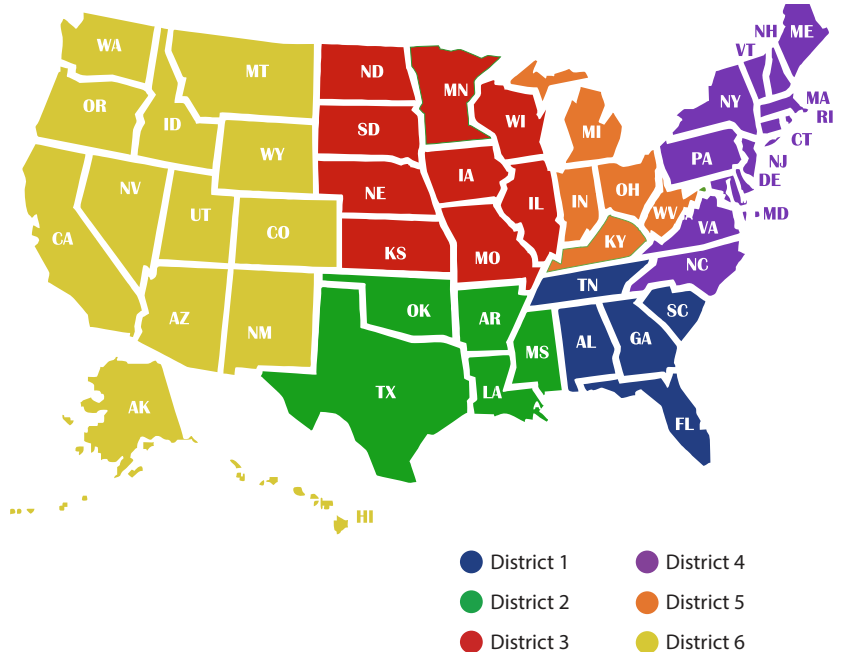
A Few Buzzwords About the Business of Belonging to ABWA

JOINING AND RENEWAL PROCESS

When you join online at www.abwa.org, your membership is automatically activated and will be valid for one year from your join date, whereas, if your membership application is mailed to ABWA's National Headquarters, your membership will be activated on the date when your payment is processed.

ABWA DISTRICT MAP

The Association is divided into six geographical regions. Each region is represented by a District Vice President. Members attending the Annual Meeting of the Membership during ABWA's National Women's Leadership Conference will cast their vote for the National Board of Directors including National Officers and District Vice Presidents.



MEET YOUR AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION National Headquarters Team



ELIZABETH JOHNSON
Executive Director



SHOSHANNA GROSS
Meeting Planner



LORRAINE CHAVIZ
Executive Admin,
Editor of *Achieve*



JILL MILLER
Merchandise/
Service Manager,
SBMEF
Coordinator



BARBARA SLOAN
Manager of
Member
Services &
Support



CHERI DEVEREY
Manager of
Professional
Development
Programming

WELCOME TO THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (ABWA)

We Are Thrilled to Have You Join Our Community of Dynamic, Professional Women

The mission of ABWA is to bring together businesswomen from diverse occupations and provide opportunities for growth—both personally and professionally. As a member, you have access to a wide array of resources designed to help you thrive in your career.

As a busy working woman, we understand the importance of finding opportunities that support your growth and career success. By joining ABWA, you are now part of a national organization that is committed to empowering women like you. Here's what you can look forward to as a member:

- **Take Charge of Your Goals:** Gain access to tools that help you set and track your personal and professional goals, empowering you to achieve them.
- **Join a Supportive Community:** Connect with thousands of like-minded women who are dedicated to helping each other succeed.
- **A Place to Shine:** Through leadership opportunities as well as various awards programs, recognition is a pillar of ABWA.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep up with industry updates, market-relevant insights, and technological advancements through ABWA's communication channels.

This guide will provide you with all the information you need to take full advantage of your ABWA membership. We encourage you to explore the opportunities that await you inside America's leading professional Association for women.

As ABWA celebrates its 77th year of empowering women, we're excited to have you with us on this journey. We hope you will find ABWA to be a place where you can learn, connect, and grow throughout your career. Thank you for being a part of our community. Together, we can achieve great things!

Warm regards,



ELIZABETH JOHNSON
Executive Director



BARBARA PEDERSEN
2025-2026 National
President



GET CONNECTED

Start Your Membership Off Right with ABWA's Coffee Connections

EVENT OVERVIEW

Coffee Connections is a series of virtual sessions held bimonthly, aimed at introducing you to the core of ABWA. From understanding the association's mission and values to exploring the benefits available to you, these sessions are the perfect starting point for a fruitful ABWA journey.

WHY ATTEND?

- **Network with Peers:** Connect with fellow ABWA members, share experiences, and build lasting relationships.
- **Discover ABWA Perks:** Learn about the myriad benefits and resources ABWA offers to ensure you make the most of your membership.
- **Stay Informed:** Get a preview of exciting upcoming conference events and informative webinars.
- **Find Support:** Learn where to turn for answers to your questions and how to navigate the ABWA community.
- **Flexibility:** Join us for one session or all, and feel free to stay for the entire event or just a part of it. Your engagement, your way!

WHEN & WHERE?

- **Hosted By:** ABWA National, Ambassadors and Board
- **Schedule:** Third Wednesday of every other month
- **Time:** Noon - 12:45 PM CST and 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM
- **Mode:** Virtual - Join from anywhere!

2026 DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 18 sessions at noon and 6:00 PM
- April 15 sessions at noon and 6:00 PM
- June 17 sessions at noon and 6:00 PM
- August 19 sessions at noon and 6:00 PM
- October 21 session at noon and 6:00 PM
- December 16 session at noon and 6:00 PM

**The registration links to the monthly Coffee Connections events are posted on the Calendar of National Events inside the Your Membership Platform. To view these links, you must login.*

SEE YOU AT COFFEE CONNECTIONS – WHERE EVERY SIP COUNTS TOWARDS SUCCESS!

For more information contact ABWA's National Headquarters Team at webmail@abwa.org or call 913.732.5100

Let us make the most of your ABWA journey together!

BRING YOUR FAVORITE LUNCH OR COFFEE AND JOIN US AS WE BREW NOT JUST COFFEE, BUT SUCCESS AND FRIENDSHIP WITHIN THE ABWA COMMUNITY.

This is more than an event; it's the start of your journey towards achieving professional growth and personal fulfillment within the ABWA family. Don't miss out on this opportunity to lay the foundation for a rewarding membership experience.



GET CONNECTED

Join, Follow, and Connect



START A NEW CHAPTER

Are you interested in starting your own chapter of ABWA? During the six-month formation period, you'll learn and rehearse a wide range of business disciplines that will close the gaps in your resume, grow your professional network, and give you the national recognition you deserve.

For more information contact the National Headquarters Team at webmail@abwa.org or call 913.732.5100.



JOIN AN ABWA CHAPTER OR EXPRESS NETWORK

As a National Member of ABWA, you are eligible to join a local ABWA community we refer to as Chapters and Express Networks. Virtual chapter options are also available. Chapters and Express Networks have their own monthly meetings as well as membership dues.

For more information on a League near you, contact the National Headquarters Team at webmail@abwa.org or call 913.732.5100.



CONNECT VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

Request to Join the ABWA Members Facebook Group
Request to Join Your ABWA District Members Group (Refer to the ABWA District Map on page 3 to find your district)



ABWA - National Organization



American Business Women's Association



@americanbusinesswomensassn

MEMBERSHIP, BENEFITS, AND RESOURCES

Leverage your ABWA membership for career development resources and complimentary monthly courses.



MY APEX CAMPUS

Access to ABWA's E-Learning Portal, My Apex Campus

E-learning is an excellent way to deliver targeted, objective, learning "bytes" so you can access knowledge you need, when you need it. Specific benefits to using ABWA's Apex Campus include: thousands of

dollars in savings, quick deployment (login and launch a course at any time), learning through refreshers (go back and view again and again), hundreds of short videos that are right-sized (chunk out a course in small "bytes" or complete a course in one setting), and downloadable templates for you to use in your work environment.

You will find a huge caché of job specific knowledge including:

- School of Leadership
- School of Lean
- School of Six Sigma
- Preparing for Your Next Job Opportunity
- Marketing Tools for Your Business
- Tech Tips and Tools

Login instructions and a listing of courses in My Apex Campus are included in your new member packet. When you've completed a course, show and share your commitment to advancing your business acumen by sharing your certificate of completion with your clients, business partner or employer.



www.myapexcampus.org

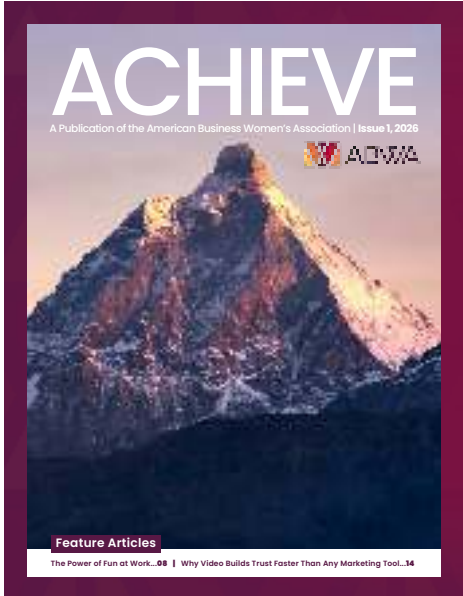
Download the Listing of Courses from the National Resources



Included in your member packet is a listing of all courses. Once you have completed a course, download your Certificate of Achievement!

MEMBERSHIP, BENEFITS, AND RESOURCES

Keep up to Date with ABWA's Achieve



THE ACHIEVE NEWSLETTER HAS A NEW LOOK!

OFFICIAL ABWA PUBLICATION, THE ACHIEVE NEWSLETTER
 As an ABWA member, you receive a complimentary subscription to the Association's official publication, the Achieve Newsletter, celebrating ABWA's Women in Business®. Each issue includes thought provoking articles on topics ranging from leadership to personal branding that are sure to add to your caché of business knowledge and expertise, information about leagues and events, updates on ABWA resources and member recognition. The Achieve Newsletter is published six times a year.

2025 ACHIEVE ISSUES

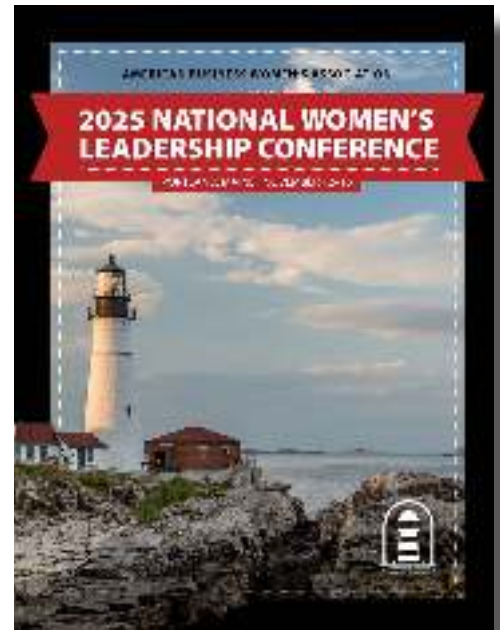


MEMBERSHIP, BENEFITS, AND RESOURCES

Join us for ABWA Events

NATIONAL CONFERENCE EVENTS

If you want to expand your professional network, find a job or business leads and celebrate member achievements, ABWA's National Conference Events, whether live or virtual, are the place to be. Every conference curriculum includes learning sessions, most that are CEU accredited, as well as roundtable discussion, networking opportunities and notable speakers. As an ABWA member, you gain access to these exclusive events national programs.



2026 ABWA VIRTUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

March 27–28
Virtual via Zoom

2026 NATIONAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

September 30–
October 3
Sugar Land, TX



MEMBERSHIP, BENEFITS, AND RESOURCES

Leadership and Scholarship Opportunities

BECOME A LEADER IN ABWA

Take your next step in your leadership and run for National Office. The National Association is represented by an elected Board of Directors who govern the affairs of the organization and serve as the Board of Trustees of the Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Fund. You have the opportunity to grow your network on a national scale, gain high-level leadership experience, and impact thousands of working women by running for national office. Eligibility criteria for all National Officers is outlined in the National Bylaws, Article IX.



2025–2026 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



STEPHEN BUFTON MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND

The Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Fund (SBMEF) has been assisting women to succeed in higher education ever since its inception in 1953. Today it is considered one of the most highly respected grant and scholarship programs for women. SBMEF assists women who are pursuing advanced educational goals to achieve both business and professional success to become role models, mentors, and leaders for the future. Since it was established in 1953, the fund's Board of Trustees has awarded close to \$18 million in scholarships to more than 18,000 women thanks to the generous contributions of ABWA members.

To learn more about each scholarship opportunities, visit the SBMEF website at <https://sbmef.org>.



Like SBMEF on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/ABWASBMEF



ACTIVATE YOUR AMBITION

ABWA's Mission Statement, Core Values, and Code of Conduct



THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the American Business Women's Association is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition.

SET OF CORE VALUES FOR THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Our core values form the foundation upon which the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) was established in 1949. These values reflect the ethos of our culture and have been integral to building a lasting, supportive community for generations of women in the workplace.

- **Selfless Leadership** – Be committed to doing the right thing, always. Be transparent in your actions even when no one is looking!
- **Building Community** – Be committed to creating sustainable ABWA communities where women can connect, learn, and grow together.
- **Value and Seek Diversity** – Be committed to recruiting new members from diverse cultures, ages, work industries and experiences.
- **Manage for Innovation and Excellence** – Be committed to original thinking and delivering excellence in everything you do.
- **Lifelong Learning** – Be committed to enhancing your own business knowledge, skills, and acumen. Be unafraid to make mistakes, iterate, err and try again.

- **Focus on Facts and Own Results** – Be committed to using "data" to drive your decisions and actions and be accountable for your performance, good and bad.
- **Choose to Make a Difference** – Be committed to unlocking a member's potential and inspiring/motivating her to become the best version of herself.
- **Celebrate** – Be committed to celebrating members' achievements.

THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION PROUD CODE OF CONDUCT

The Proud Code of Conduct was developed as a means of guiding all members in making ethical decisions. The broad statements of the Code of Conduct that are listed below are not expected to cover all conduct for all situations. This is why the Proud Code of Conduct was created as a living and fluid code.

- As an ABWA member, I will serve as a goodwill Ambassador for the American Business Women's Association.
- As an ABWA member, I will adhere to the Association's Bylaws and comply with the Association's Brand Guidelines.
- As an ABWA member, I will not use my personal power or influence to advance my own interests.
- As an ABWA member, I will not allow my personal beliefs or convictions to alienate other members, prospective members, and sponsors at any level of the ABWA organization (local, regional or national).
- As an ABWA member, I will always treat member colleagues, the ABWA National Team, guests, speakers, vendors and sponsors with dignity and respect.

ACTIVATE HER AMBITION

Refer A Friend – Sign Her up Today!



abwa.org/refer-a-friend/



webmail@abwa.org



913.732.5100

When submitting a referral form online, your referral contact will be notified by email that you referred her name for membership in the American Business Women's Association. A member of the National Headquarters Team will email your friend or colleague to inform her about membership opportunities available in ABWA. The rest is up to her!

