

Student and Professional Associations

Local Associations

Psi Chi

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology. Its purpose is to encourage, stimulate, maintain excellence in scholarship, and advance the science of psychology. If you joined Psi Chi as an undergraduate then you are still a member. To be eligible for membership as a graduate student you must have completed 9 semester hours of graduate courses and have a 3.0 grade point average in all graduate classes. Membership in Psi Chi is encouraged and is a great chance to exercise leadership potential.

Graduate Student Association of Psychology (GSAP)

GSAP is the departmental graduate association. It is a student run association whose purpose is to give representation to the students in matters that need to be addressed to the department. In addition, GSAP organizes activities to help promote community within the department. The faculty advisor of GSAP is Dr. Matt McBee. Membership in GSAP is automatic to graduate students and is another chance to exercise leadership, but is also an excellent source of valuable social support.

Intermountain Psychological Association (IMPA)

IMPA is a regional psychological association represented by psychologists associated with the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas. IMPA's mission is to provide quality education and training and networking opportunities for area psychologists. Membership is free for students within the Program, and a representative from GSAP is involved with the IMPA executive board.

Tennessee Psychological Association (TPA)

TPA is an association of professionals in Tennessee which offers resources to both students and professionals within the community. Their mission is to advance Psychology as a science, as a profession, and as a means of promoting human welfare. TPA holds annual conventions in Nashville, TN, wherein you might well present research findings from current work. Membership is open to all students and interns studying psychology in Tennessee.

Graduate and Professional Student Association- ETSU

The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) of East Tennessee State University is a student-managed organization whose membership is open to all currently enrolled post-baccalaureate degree-seeking students. The primary focus is to improve the quality of graduate and professional education and student experience at ETSU. Graduate and Professional students represent approximately 20% of the total student population at ETSU, and the teaching, clinical and research activities of these students present genuine needs that are considerably different from those of the disparate student population.

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Regional Associations

Intermountain Psychological Association (IMPA)

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Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA)

SEPA is a regional psychological association affiliated with the American Psychological Association (APA) and is represented by the southeastern states including: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Tennessee Psychological Association (TPA)

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Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists (SSSP)

Founded in 1978 by a group of social psychologists at the University of Georgia, SSSP boasts a membership of over 400 students, faculty, and professional psychologists throughout the United States. Most members hail from the southeastern states, including Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, and Florida. There are no membership dues for SSSP. An annual conference is held each fall.

National Associations

American Psychological Association (APA)

Based in Washington, DC, the APA is a scientific and professional organization that represents psychology in the United States. With 150,000 members, APA is the largest association of psychologists worldwide. Student affiliates get many benefits of full membership, including publications, special services, and substantial discounts on APA products, including electronic products. Annual membership is quite reasonable for graduate students. Membership is required to obtain insurance from the APA Insurance Trust, which is required to perform clinical work in external settings. APA Insurance Trust student premiums are also very reasonable for comprehensive coverage.

Association for Psychological Science

The Association for Psychological Science (previously the American Psychological Society) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of scientific psychology and its representation at the international level. The APS mission is to promote, protect, and advance the interests of scientifically oriented psychology in research, application, teaching, and the improvement of human welfare. Annual membership dues for graduate students are reasonable. Students get annual subscriptions to publications, electronic journal access, discounted convention rates, and are eligible for grant and funding opportunities.

Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science (SIPS)

The Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science is a professional organization devoted to increasing the rigor, trustworthiness, transparency, and truth-value of psychological research. SIPS meets annually (typically late July/early August) at the Center for Open Science (COS) in Charlottesville, Virginia. It is not a typical conference; SIPS attendees divide themselves into workgroups and seek to create new tools, techniques, and procedures for improving science. The meeting draws psychologists from all over the world and from every discipline. Graduate students and early faculty comprise the bulk of the attendees. The conference is relatively inexpensive, often subsidized by the COS, and offers unrivaled opportunities for networking.