

The value of Affiliating with Professional Organizations in your Career Field

- Consider joining professional organizations in your field: AIA, AIGA, APA, ASLA, IDSA, Arts Councils or others. Student memberships are usually affordable and being a member demonstrates strong interest in your profession.
- Attending professional meetings provides opportunity to meet key people in your profession and to gain an inside view of issues and agendas in your profession.
- You may also meet people who know of future openings in your field.
- Be sure to keep in touch with people you meet. Telephone or e-mail them, let them know of your plans and ask for their advice. Using this strategy, you could learn about future opportunities before they are advertised.
- If you are not a student member of your professional organization, it may seem a bit awkward to attempt networking with members.
- Many professional organizations have resume posting services for members only and job listings included on the organization's Website.