

Associations for English, Spanish, and Language Students

English Associations

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)

Mission: The American Comparative Literature Association is the principal learned society in the United States for scholars whose work involves several literatures and cultures as well as the premises of cross-cultural literary study itself. The members of the ACLA are joined not by a national, linguistic, or methodological investment held in common, but by the shared condition of teaching and writing across nations, languages, and cultures--and hence by their lively interest in comparison as both a theoretical and a practical matter.

Membership: \$70 annual membership

Leadership: National membership

Website: <https://www.acla.org>

Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP)

Mission: AWP provides support, advocacy, resources, and community to nearly 50,000 writers, 550 college and university creative writing programs, and 150 writers' conferences and centers. Our mission is to amplify the voices of writers and the academic programs and organizations that serve them while championing diversity and excellence in creative writing.

Membership: \$49 annual student membership

Leadership: Institutional and national membership

Website: <https://www.awpwriter.org>

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

Mission: NCTE supports teachers and their students in classrooms, on college campuses, and in online learning environments. For over 100 years, NCTE has worked with its members to offer publications and resources to further the voice and expertise of educators as advocates for their students at the local and federal levels; and to share lesson ideas, research, and teaching strategies.

Membership: \$25 annual student membership

Leadership: National membership

Website: <https://ncte.org>

English Associations

Poets, Playwrights, Editors, Essayists, Novelists (PEN) America

Mission: PEN America stands at the intersection of literature and human rights to protect free expression in the United States and worldwide. We champion the freedom to write, recognizing the power of the word to transform the world. Our mission is to unite writers and their allies to celebrate creative expression and defend the liberties that make it possible. Founded in 1922, PEN America is the largest of the more than 100 centers worldwide that make up the PEN International network. PEN America works to ensure that people everywhere have the freedom to create literature, to convey information and ideas, to express their views, and to access the views, ideas, and literatures of others. Our strength is our Membership—a nationwide community of more than 7,500 novelists, journalists, nonfiction writers, editors, poets, essayists, playwrights, publishers, translators, agents, and other writing professionals, as well as devoted readers and supporters who join with them to carry out PEN America's mission.

Membership: \$50 annual membership

Leadership: National membership

Website: <https://pen.org>

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Mission: The Modern Language Association promotes the study and teaching of languages and literatures through its programs, publications, annual convention, and advocacy work. The MLA exists to support the intellectual and professional lives of its members; it provides opportunities for members to share their scholarly work and teaching experiences with colleagues, discuss trends in the academy, and advocate humanities education and workplace equity. The association aims to advance the many areas of the humanities in which its members currently work, including literature, language, writing studies, screen arts, digital humanities, pedagogy, and library studies.

Membership: \$29 graduate student membership

Leadership: National membership

Website: <https://www.mla.org>

Language Associations

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)

Mission: Providing vision, leadership and support for quality teaching and learning of languages, ACTFL is an individual membership organization of more than 13,000 language educators and administrators from elementary through graduate education, as well as government and industry. Since its founding in 1967, ACTFL has become synonymous with innovation, quality, and reliability in meeting the changing needs of language educators and their learners. It is where the world's educators, businesses, and government agencies go to advance the practice of language learning.

Membership: \$45 annual membership

Leadership: Individual membership, Regional Chapters

Website: <https://www.actfl.org>

American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL)

Mission: Founded in 1977, the American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL) is a professional organization of scholars who are interested in and actively contribute to the multi-disciplinary field of applied linguistics. AAAL members promote principled approaches to language-related concerns, including language education, acquisition and loss, bilingualism, discourse analysis, literacy, rhetoric and stylistics, language for special purposes, psycholinguistics, second and foreign language pedagogy, language assessment, and language policy and planning.

Membership: \$50 student membership

Leadership: National membership

Website: <https://www.aaal.org>

Linguistic Society of America (LSA)

Mission: The Linguistic Society of America (LSA) was founded in 1924 to advance the scientific study of language and its applications. LSA plays a critical role in supporting and disseminating linguistic scholarship both to professional linguists and to the general public.

Membership: \$45 student membership

Leadership: National membership

Website: <https://www.linguisticsociety.org>

Career Development Associations

Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA)

Mission: ALPFA (Association of Latino Professionals For America) was the first national Latino professional association in the United States, established in Los Angeles in 1972. Throughout our 47-year history we have experienced steady growth and demonstrated consistent value. ALPFA continues to build upon its proud legacy with a mission: To empower and develop Latino men and women as leaders of character for the nation, in every sector of the global economy.

Membership: \$0 basic membership, \$30 premium membership

Leadership: Local Chicago Chapter, National membership

Website: <https://www.alpfa.org/>

Hispanic Alliance for Career Advancement (HACE)

Mission: Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement (HACE) is a national non-profit dedicated to the employment, development, and advancement of current and aspiring Latino professionals. Since 1982, HACE has served as a resource for Latinos in the workplace and is a subject matter expert for corporations seeking to access diverse talent. Through professional development, resources and networks, and by facilitating access to meaningful career opportunities, HACE helps Latinos succeed in every phase of their careers. With a network of over 64,000 members across the country, HACE works with employers to remain competitive in an increasingly dynamic economy by helping them attract, develop and retain Latino and diverse professionals.

Membership: Free

Leadership: Based in Chicago

Website: <https://www.haceonline.org/>