



Occupational and Environmental Medicine Physicians

**Be part of a truly influential voice in public health today.
Join the APHA Occupational Health & Safety Section!**

The American Public Health Association (APHA) Occupational Health & Safety Section (OH&S) offers a unique opportunity to Occupational Medicine Physicians to interact with a broad range of occupational health professionals and union and worker representatives and to be part of an influential voice for public health. Recall that Rudolf Virchow, credited with the founding of "social medicine", and a contributor to industrial safety, said "Medicine is a social science, and politics is nothing more than medicine in larger scale." Nowhere is this truer than in occupational medicine.

What is the APHA?

The American Public Health Association (APHA) is the oldest and largest organization of public health professionals in the world, representing more than 30,000 members from over 50 occupations of public health. It is the central forum for multidisciplinary discourse on public health issues in the U.S. While APHA is the primary voice of Public Health professionals in the US, it is also the key US public health player on the international stage. When Congress wants to hear the voice of Public Health, it listens to the APHA.

What is the OH&S Section?

The OH&S Section, one of the most active and progressive of the APHA sections, consists of approximately 800 APHA members whose primary interest is occupational safety and health. It includes practitioners from many disciplines including Occupational Medicine, Epidemiology, Occupational and Industrial Hygiene, Nursing, and Safety, as well as researchers, teachers, advocates for injured workers, and union representatives. The section is proud of its progressive history and proud of its multidisciplinary composition. When progressive Occupational Health and Safety policy is at issue, the OH&S section and its membership are often leading the fight.

Why should I join?

Occupational Medicine, more than most medical specialties, is often forced to choose between two masters; workers and employers. The oath we take as we become physicians gives us clear guidance as to whose interest we should primarily serve. The APHA Health and Safety Section provides the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder with other occupational health professionals, union members, and workers of varied backgrounds to fight for ethical regulatory and political outcomes on issues that confront occupational health practitioners today. Our national professional organizations are essential to our professions, but the APHA gives us a “bully pulpit” in national, even global debates on issues that impact the health of our workers, our population, and our planet.

***** The OS&H section awards scholarships that include registration for the APHA Annual meeting, a one-year membership in APHA, and \$200.00 for conference expenses to union representatives and students interested in participating in APHA and the section's activities.***

For more information, visit the APHA OS&H section's website at <http://staff.washington.edu/oshalert> or contact the section chair and membership committee chairs listed in the leadership roster.

2006 American Public Health Association (APHA) Membership Categories

■ **Regular**—\$160/year: Includes all member benefits, including print subscriptions to The Nation’s Health and the American Journal of Public Health and online access to both publications.

■ **Contributing**—\$210/year: Includes special recognition, in addition to member benefits described above, for this extra level of support.

Special Subsidized Memberships—Includes online access to the American Journal of Public Health in addition to online access and a print copy of The Nation’s Health. Please see qualifications listed below for each category.

■ **Student: Full Time**—\$50/year: Persons enrolled full time (a minimum of 9 credit hours) in a college or university who are actively pursuing a degree in the health field. Proof of status from the Registrar’s office verifying is needed. (Attach proof of status.) Students automatically become members of the Student Assembly. Part-time students, post doctoral candidates and others who cannot meet the above requirements may be eligible for the discounted Special Health Worker category.

■ **Premium Student**—\$80/year: Includes a print subscription to the American Journal of Public Health and The Nation’s Health.

■ **Transitional Member**—\$95/year: Open only to current APHA student members who have completed their degree. This member type is only available for one 12-month period. It includes all of the same benefits as a Regular member noted above.

■ **Special Health Worker**—\$65/year: Persons employed in community health whose annual salary is less than \$30,000 or the equivalent for foreign nationals. Verification from employer is required. (Attach verification.)

■ **Retired**—\$65/year: APHA members who have retired from active public practice and no longer derive significant income from work-related activities. (Retired members will receive a print copy of the American Journal of Public Health.)

■ **Consumer**—\$65/year: Persons not deriving income from health-related activities.