

Types of Memberships

Individual or Family

Available at Home & School Associations. For the purpose of membership, a family is defined as two people, age 18 or over, living at the same address.

Associate (at the Association level)

For those who have children in more than one school where there are Home & School Associations, you may hold your main membership at one Association and hold an associate membership at another Association(s).

Alumni

For those who were H&S members, no longer have ties to the school but still wish to support and be involved with the Federation. Alumni memberships are valid from January to December and are available through the federation office.

Associate (at the Federation level)

For those who wish to support the work of the Federation but are not involved at the school level. These memberships are purchased through the federation office.

Affiliate

For provincial organizations who wish to show their support for OFHSA. Available at the H&S Council or Federation levels.

Are there opportunities to get involved with OFHSA beyond my Association?

Yes there are! OFHSA is a tiered structure of Associations, H&S Councils and the Federation. Each level mirrors a level of the education system. Members are welcome, and encouraged, to participate at every level. Contact your Home & School Council or the Federation to inquire about activities you can participate in at other levels. Check out the *OFHSA Workgroups* brochure and the Federation Volunteer Form to learn about the opportunities to participate at the Federation level.

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OFHSA

51 Stuart Street
Hamilton ON L8L 1B5

905.308.9563
info@ofhsa.on.ca

www.ofhsa.on.ca

Ontario Federation of
Home & School Associations

OFHSA Membership



“The Best for Each Student”

Updated August 2017

Who are the members of OFHSA?

OFHSA's members have an interest in advocating for the needs of children, youth and families.

They support a strong public education system, parental involvement and co-operative problem solving.

Who can become a member of OFHSA?

Membership is open to individuals aged 18 or older who believe in the aims and objectives of the Federation. You need not have a child in school to become a member.

How do you become a member of OFHSA?

The most common way to join OFHSA is through a Home & School Association. Associations are established in schools: check with your local school to see if they have a Home & School Association. If not, contact the Federation to find the closest Association or to discuss starting an Association.

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Benefits of Membership

Association members have the right to attend the meetings of their group, elect the executive, pass the budget and be involved in the work and the decisions of the Association. Voting privileges begin 20 days after the initial membership is purchased.

Members are covered by the liability insurance policy of the Federation.

Members have the opportunity to attend the OFHSA Conference & Annual Meeting. At this event, members attend workshops, receive leadership training, network with members across the province, and vote on bylaws and policies that set the direction of the Federation.

At all levels of the Federation, there are resources and workshops available for parent education and leadership development for executive members.

Membership fees support the advocacy efforts of the Federation: participation in numerous committees, responses and representation to government, education and health partners and legislators.

You become a member of OFHSA and subsequently, the Canadian Home and School Federation (CHSF): attaining provincial and national networks of experienced, committed individuals working on behalf of children and youth.

Can I be a member of the Home & School Association and the School Council?

Yes. Home & School and School Councils are not competitors. Each group has a specific mandate. Members are always welcome, and encouraged, to participate at every level.

The advocacy efforts and the focus Home & School extend far beyond the school and are not restricted to education matters.

A member of the Home & School Association Executive is appointed annually to the School Council, as a full member of that group, according to School Council's Reg. 612.

Can principals, teachers and other school staff join the H&S Association?

Yes. OFHSA and its members work to foster co-operation between parents and the school.

By promoting understanding between the home and the school, we all benefit the students.