

AAPG's Membership Value Pyramid

Membership in AAPG, the world's largest professional geological society with over 30,000 members and 106 affiliated societies, offers the professional geologist many features and benefits. Some of the benefits are tangible – and you can see and touch them everyday such as the publications, conferences, and lectures. Some benefits may not be as apparent or noticed every day, but they are very much there and important. This includes such areas as: advocacy, networking, and being part of a professional community.



The member benefits “pyramid” from which a strong foundation of those tangible benefits, through a variety of opportunities a member can choose, with the apex capstone being the professionalism as a member of AAPG.



Many of the benefits of AAPG membership are included in the annual dues, while others are subsidized or discounted programs, all offered to assist the member in charting their career.



The benefits of membership in AAPG can be divided into four categories including: Basic Programs, Professional Development and Outreach, Personal Member Programs, and Professionalism.



Building the foundation of AAPG membership are the **BASIC PROGRAMS** which are included in the annual membership. The basic programs include:

- The AAPG *Bulletin* (available in Hard Copy and Online) is a technical journal, published monthly, which is recognized in the industry as the leading peer-reviewed publication for information on geoscience and the associated technology of petroleum, natural gas, and other energy mineral resources.
- *Bulletin* Archives, from 1917 to the present, are available in digital format, with search capabilities – an incredible value at the fingertips of every member.
- *The Search & Discovery* e-journal includes technical papers which have never been in print as well as recently released company papers and legacy papers with great technical importance. Also included are printed versions of oral and written poster presentations given at meetings and conferences.
- The award-winning AAPG *Explorer* (available both in hard copy and on-line) is sent monthly to every member and includes new, information and feature articles of interest to the upstream oil industry.



The next level of member benefits is the **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS**. These programs are primarily subsidized and/or discounted and/or supported programs.

The Professional Development & Outreach programs which are **mostly subsidized** include:

- The Grants- in- Aid program- established by the AAPG Foundation- supports research projects leading to the MS degree in geology and related earth sciences.
- The Distinguished Lecture & Visiting Geologist programs are supported by the AAPG Foundation. The DL program provides distinguished geoscience lecturers to speak before geological organizations and university groups. Topics represent cutting edge technologies or premier applications of technology. The Visiting Geologist Program provides students a chance to meet practicing geologists and to discuss geological career options.
- Mid-Career Training Centers have been established for the continuing education of geoscientists. There are currently 7 centers, the newest of which is in Calgary. Other locations include: Texas (3), Colorado, California, and the UK.

Student Memberships & Programs provide opportunities for students to have contact with the professional geoscience

community as well as to have access to unique learning and leadership opportunities. Programs offered include: the student chapter program, AAPG/SEG Student Expo and a mentor program.



Access to the Foundation library—a service offered by the Foundation—provides a high quality geological and petroleum exploration research source for geoscientists and other members of the public.

The professional development and outreach programs which are **discounted or supported** include the following:

- Special publications and digital products provide technical information and timely data which is relevant to the geoscience community. The wide range of subject matter covers topical Hedberg Research conference proceedings to evaluations of resources in the 21st century. Digital access makes it possible for members to easily access and search the growing AAPG database for pertinent geoscience information by subject, geographic area, or specific publication.
 - Meetings and Conferences both domestic and international offer the geologist a chance to meet and exchange information with other professionals. These meetings provide state-of-the-art showcases for products, services and equipment. AAPG's annual meeting offers over 800 individual oral and poster presentations. Members have the opportunity to meet top researchers and practitioners from across the entire spectrum of the geoscience community.
 - Division Activities and Certification programs offer the professional geologist a vehicle to further advance their professionalism and knowledge. AAPG has three Divisions including: DEG-Division of Environmental Geosciences, DPA-Division of Professional Affairs, and EMD-Energy Minerals Division. DEG is focused on environmental issues, DPA on certification and career planning, and EMD on non-petroleum energy resources.
 - Short Courses, Field Trips, and Online Training are important member benefits. Short courses provide instruction on the practical aspects of geoscience. Field trips—held both in the US and abroad—provide a laboratory-field approach to the study of selected aspects of geology, while online training offers a practical way for self-study programs. All courses are presented by experts in their fields.
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AAPG also offers several **Personal Member Programs** offering members a variety of benefits even as employment changes occur. These personal programs include:

- GeoVest, a dynamic, fully outsourced retirement program designed for AAPG members.
- GeoCare, a group insurance program including life, health, and disability insurance.

Car rental discount program with Avis Rent-A-Car Systems, and access to Credit Union programs and special services through the Oklahoma Central Credit Union.



At the top of the pyramid are several important **Professionalism** aspects of AAPG membership: Ethics/Outreach and Advocacy/Networking.

- AAPG, as a global society with members in over 122 countries, is helping to spread the knowledge and advance the geological sciences.
- AAPG inspires high professional conduct, and operates under a Code of Ethics which allows for honesty, integrity, loyalty, fairness, impartiality, and trust to be incumbent upon every member.

Advocacy and networking are extremely important aspects of AAPG membership which afford the professional geoscientist the opportunity to share ideas and develop relationships with other professionals with a common sense of purpose.



Above all, AAPG membership creates and displays the value of **Professional Community** which encompasses all the benefits and activities which you come to expect from an organization which serves as the pillar of the global geologic community for members and non-members alike.

