

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can our organization join Ascend since we have lobbying restrictions as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization?

A: Yes. Public charities may use up to 20 percent of their budgets for lobbying purposes. However, since the Ascend membership fee is significantly less than 20 percent of most organizational funds, your membership fee will fall well within the legal guidelines for nonprofit charities. Contact your attorney to learn the specific lobbying parameters for your organization.

Q: Can we use federal grant funds to join Ascend?

A: Federal Circular A-122 permits grant funds to be used to join professional associations such as Ascend. If you join Ascend with grant funds, please let Ascend know and dues will be segregated from any lobbying expenditures.

Q: What is the relationship between Ascend and other SRA organizations?

A: Ascend seeks to work together with all sexual risk avoidance (SRA) organizations to support programs around the country. Because Ascend is a professional association for the field of SRA education, it seeks to strengthen the overall impact of SRA education.

Q: Why should I join Ascend today?

A: Given that SRA opponents at the state and federal level are now working aggressively to defund SRA education, the SRA community must quickly unite to defend and promote SRA on Capitol Hill. The stronger the Ascend membership base is the greater Ascend's ability to effectively lobby on behalf of SRA organizations. There truly is strength in numbers! Based on the need to quickly develop a common voice for SRA that can be clearly heard in the halls of Congress, it is essential that every educator, provider and supporter of SRA education link arms through Ascend.

Q: What will I receive in exchange for my membership?

A: As an individual, you will receive discounts on professional development opportunities, representation in Washington DC for your efforts, general media training, talking points, legislative updates and other informational resources.

Q: How can I contact Ascend?

A: The Ascend office is located at 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20006. You may contact us at (202) 248-5420 or by email at info@weascend.org