



The Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes, Inc.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About Membership

Founded in 1963, The Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes, Inc. (OANH) is a statewide trade association representing the interests of the long-term care industry. Our membership represents a true cross-section of the skilled nursing facility profession, from small sole proprietorships to larger Ohio-based multi-facility companies, as well as those businesses that service our membership. The Academy brings the collective influences of the members together into a single voice on vital issues affecting our profession.

Q. Why should I become a member of the Academy?

A. In the ever-changing business of long-term care, it is critical to have a constant source of up-to-date information you can rely on. A great deal of what affects the long-term care profession is related to legislation and regulatory changes and, no matter how politically active you may be, there is only so much that can be accomplished alone. The Academy, together with the collective resources of its members, can have a much greater impact.

Q. How does the Academy differ from other long-term care associations?

A. Academy members typically have one thing in common: a passion for the profession, and the ability to cut through the bureaucratic process that typically hinders many associations' abilities to effectively make decisions. Our Board of Directors quickly defines critical issues, and then charts a course of action to reach the ultimate goal. While our members vary from sole proprietorships to larger Ohio-based multi-facility companies, our interests and entrepreneurial spirit are the same. Innovation is key to our members' success.

Q. What are the unique benefits of membership?

A. Though we offer the essential core services similar to other trade associations, the Academy sets itself apart by offering its members two unique benefits:

1) *Award Recipient Program:* The Academy is the only association that recognizes its members for excellence on their annual surveys. The Academy provides three distinguished awards to deserving member facilities: The Perfect Survey Award, The Perfect Life Safety Survey Award, and The Award of Excellence. This acknowledgment shows your residents and your community you go above and beyond what is expected—and puts the spotlight on your outstanding facility!

2) *Personalized service from your OANH staff:* It's true—when you contact us, we assist you. Our members are our number one priority, and we're here to be your resource for the most current information and support you need. You'll get to know the staff on a first name basis, and we prefer it that way.

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Q. How are membership dues calculated, and what are the terms of membership?

A. Membership dues are calculated based upon the number of licensed beds per facility times the rate per bed (see membership application for the current rate). There are two groups of bed “rates:” SNF and RCF/ICF-MR/Independent. Dues are billed annually, and flexible payment options are offered. Dues payments are non-refundable.

Q. How does the Academy best represent my interests on both the regulatory and legislative levels?

A. If there’s an issue to tackle, you’ll find the Academy “team” in full gear. We’re not only active at the Statehouse, but also at numerous state committees and coalitions that meet throughout the year. If there’s specific legislation or important regulatory matters that affect you, we will be your first line of defense—and your first source of information.

Q. What is the OANH PAC, and how can I become involved?

A. Funded largely through automatic payroll deductions, The Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes’ Political Action Committee (OANH PAC) maintains a strong relationship with those elected representatives and the staff they hire to implement their policies. The PAC contributes to the campaigns of legislators who listen, understand and vote in favor of keeping Ohio’s nursing homes adequately funded and efficiently regulated.

Q. Does the Academy have educational resources available to obtain necessary Continuing Education Units (CEUs)?

A. The Academy provides members with numerous opportunities to gain the required CEUs. We offer regional education programs around the state throughout the year, as well as an Annual Convention & Trade Show, where you and your staff can get the information (and CEUs) you need to remain current. If you need to pick up an hour here or there, check out our online programming at www.oanhonline.org. If you have special questions or concerns, or would like specific programming, feel free to contact us and let us know.

Q. How does the Academy communicate with its members?

A. Every way we can! In addition to mail and fax, we provide our members with a weekly online newsletter, *The Academy Weekly*, which outlines the most current news and information of interest to the profession, and our members in particular. If it’s a “hot” issue or single issue of interest, we email you immediately through our “Member Alert” system (you can rest assured that we never mass distribute your email). We also provide our members with a semi-annual publication, *The Academy Advocate*, which showcases member facilities and articles on current topics.

Q. Where can I find more information about the Academy?

A. Feel free to visit our website at www.oanh.org, where you’ll find information on our Premier Partners Program, Residents’ Rights Booklets, Associate Members, Hot Links and Award Recipients. You can also contact the office at 614/461-1922 or 800/999-6264. We’ll be happy to answer any questions you may have.