

1. Do any state associations combine membership dues with the cost of their convention vs. having a member vs. nonmember convention price? Are there benefits/disadvantages of one approach vs. the other?

RI has a reduced conference rate for members.

We charge the membership fee to any non-member registrant therefore making them members! Our hope is that they will continue to join.

2. What benefits/perks are offered to your members and which benefits are utilized the most?

We offer up to .5 free CEUs to members (as long as we get volunteers to present programs). We have been pretty lucky so far. We are working on our website to offer some member only benefits--- private practice listing etc. On the website. This piece has been a work in progress & can be quite expensive. We are very small 100-150 members with membership declining over past few years so it's difficult & we pay an office manager. Our office manager thinks the free CEUs have helped attract more members, but our recent CE event was attended by 7 people (it was in May). Others events have been attended by 25 members or so.

Hope this helps. Our dues has been \$50 / yr, for several years.

Ellen RI

Hi,

In Georgia we have separate member and non-member registration prices. The member rate for convention registration seems to be one of the most used benefits and we have a number of people join each year at convention. Another benefit we are starting this year is a discount for signing up for auto-renewal of membership. Will know better how that is working next year.

Maryanne

Maryanne Weatherill MS, CCC-SLP
President, Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association
925B Peachtree Street NE, Suite 620
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-496-5559
speechbrain@yahoo.com
www.gsha.org
Response from New Jersey.

I'm certain that many of the states have benefits in common; however these are the ones that we promote.

#1. Separate member/nonmember convention fees. An advantage is that previous members or nonmembers, are motivated by the price reduction for members to become members.

#2. A primary benefit is that when it was possible, we lowered our membership fees and have not had increases. Fees for continuing education are also affordable. We have no fee fees for students and reduced fees for the first year of their CF.

Benefits are many, including advocacy initiatives and being kept informed of legislative matters,

convention (in addition to regular programming, special sessions are held for school affairs, healthcare and audiology and continuing ed. programming (schools conference and webinars), e-blasts to expedite communication. for example, members can announce their approved research projects and request participation publications (4 newsletters and an online journal in progress), upgraded website, facebook and twitter programs, members can submit inquiries to any of our committees for advice and guidance (with disclaimers), encouragement to volunteer on committees, leadership conference and mentoring to assist volunteers move up the leadership ladder. NJSHA in the past had offered a free CEU event; it was discontinued for a few years but is being re-instituted this year.

Additional benefits for students, they may submit posters for a convention poster session, be considered for a seat on the board of directors, participate in a funded advocacy trip to our state capitol or Wash. D.C., be considered for an annual scholarship award.

Survey results and direct observations indicate the high marks for convention and continuing ed. programming, the newsletter, website, social media and especially the ability for the ability to interact with committees on issues of concern.

Gerard (Jerry) Caracciolo
NJSHA Pres. Elect

In Montana we offer a discounted price to members and this year we are adding an early bird special for members only.

We also sponsor MSHA ceus that our license board recognizes free to members. Members get our newsletter. Our facebook and website are available to all.

Hope this helps.

Rachel Stansberry, MSHA president
Rachel Stansberry, M.A. CCC-SLP
Speech-language Pathologist

Mississippi Response (Camille Williams)

1. Do any state associations combine membership dues with the cost of their convention vs. having a member vs. nonmember convention price? Are there benefits/disadvantages of one approach vs. the other? **MSHA does not combine membership dues with the cost of its state convention fees. There are only member and non-member fees currently. Combining membership dues with convention has been considered by our state association as a means to increase membership.**

2. What benefits/perks are offered to your members and which benefits are utilized the most? **MSHA member benefits include the following: (1) quarterly online newsletters, (2) discounted state convention and other CE events, (3) product discounts at state convention, (4) professional resources, i.e. brochures, discussions groups, member directory, board/ committee chair and webmaster assist as needed, eblasts, and (5) networking. All are utilized by various members at specified times.**