



American
Organization for
Bodywork
Therapies of
Asia

The Features and Benefits of AOBTA® Membership

* Note: In 2018, significant changes and upgrades to the features and benefits will be available to AOBTA® members. The transition is being made to a new association management system that will include a new website, a community mobile app, and a database management system. This new platform will greatly enhance the member experience, the availability of benefits, the delivery of useful and relevant information, and quick and easy access to your professional community.

For the Individual Member

Recognized Professional Credential

AOBTA® members have the privilege of using the AOBTA® professional credential - an internationally recognized and respected asset for any Asian Bodywork Therapist or Instructor. Having this credential after your name shows everyone that you are highly trained in Asian Bodywork Therapy - and the only way to get it is to be an AOBTA® member!

A Pathway to Becoming a Professional

AOBTA® provides the standards and procedures that enable someone to become a recognized Asian Bodywork Therapy (ABT) professional.

- Because we exist as an organized community, we are able to develop and maintain the professional standards for the training and practicing of the ABT profession.
- We provide a structure for practitioners to develop into instructors – complete with a respected Peer Review approval process that leads to national recognition as a highly qualified instructor.
- We provide a process for ABT schools and programs to be recognized and promoted as providing training that meets or exceeds the profession’s standards.

AOBTA® provides the pathway for you to become an ABT professional, the tools to create a successful practice, and the resources for your continuing professional and personal development.

Tools and Resources for Your Practice

- **Liability Insurance** | “Best in the business” coverage at a discount to cover your practice, your rental space, your equipment, your identity. It includes a free website.
- **Career Center** | Potential jobs are posted in the career center. Upload your resume, do a job search, post a job if you are hiring.

- **MarketPlace** | Discounts to the products and services you use in your practice.
- **Member Library** | A collection of articles relevant to your clinical practice, managing your business, personal care and development.
- **MemberShare** | A collection of member “favorites” shared by the community... websites, apps, practice forms, handouts, etc.

Resources for Your Continuing Professional & Personal Development

- **Community Calendar** | A centralized listing of educational, networking, and organizational events. Members may list their events on the calendar.
- **Continuing Education** | Offered either by AOBTA® or community members, there are numerous events each year.
- **Website Forums, Blogs, Groups, Member Connections** | Based on the website are a variety of avenues for engaging in conversations about managing your business, clinical practice, licensing and regulations, giving and receiving support, and connecting with members of your professional community.
- **Growth Through Volunteering** | Whether it’s volunteering for a leadership position, joining a committee, or volunteering by writing an article or offering a “favorite” to MemberShare, there are many ways to participate, to stretch your comfort zone, to grow as a person and develop new skills, acquire new tools, make new connections.

For the Community

Website and Mobile App | The community website and app:

- Centralizes information and resources
- Serves as the hub for networking and communicating with
 - Member connections
 - Forums and blogs
 - Member groups, committees, task forces
 - Sharing links, photos, files
 - Publications

Education and Networking Events

- Providing or sponsoring educational and networking events that gather the community – in person and online.
- Membership meetings
- State Chapters

AOBTA® provides the needed structure and resources for the community of practitioners, educators, students, and supporters to exist & thrive.

For the Profession

AOBTA® is the only professional membership association serving the Asian Bodywork Therapy profession. Without it, the profession would not exist!

The Purpose and Necessity of Professional Membership Associations

Any profession's existence is dependent on a healthy and vibrant professional membership association. The association serves the profession and its practitioners, educators, and students by providing many essential functions:

- Standards of training and practice
- Promotion of the profession and its practitioners
- Legislative and regulatory representation
- Protection against infringement of scope of practice and ability to practice by other professions and regulatory agencies
- Coordination and implementation of strategic plans for the profession
- Centralized, regional, and local leadership
- Gathering and disseminating news
- Providing a structured professional community that enables networking, support, sharing of tools and information, and a platform for addressing issues
- Promotion of the profession and its professionals to the public and potential clients
- Providing opportunities for professional and personal growth through volunteer activity
- And much more...

A profession's stability and health are highly dependent on the willingness of its professional community to support, connect with, and participate in the professional association that serves it.