CASE Member Benefits

CASE membership brings you many benefits ranging from advocacy in state and federal education policy decisions, to opportunities for sharpening your leadership skills, to free legal assistance. You'll find support for meeting state and federal accountability requirements, networking venues, discounted products and services, and much more.

1. Advocacy

CASE members are represented by a veteran lobbyist that is highly respected by members of the Colorado legislature.

The CASE Lobbyist works diligently to educate lawmakers and advocate on behalf of school leaders and the children of Colorado whom they serve. In addition, CASE is at the table with the governor’s office, the State Board of Education, and the Commissioner of Education when key policy discussions occur. Advocacy efforts include:

- A daily presence by the CASE Lobbyist at the state capitol when the General Assembly is in session (January – May);
- Testimony at education committee meetings on selected issues;
- *BriefCASE*, an electronic publication that features breaking news about school finance, state budget, new laws, and commentary about education issues in the Colorado legislature;
- Access to the *State Bill Tracker* Colorado legislative bill tracker, which provides opportunities for easier, personalized communications with elected officials;
- The CASE Legislative Ad Hoc Committee and Legislative Committee, composed of Full-Active CASE members, which meet regularly to discuss policy issues that pertain to members and provide direction to CASE Lobbyist;
- Weekly (often daily) updates on the CASE website during the session about Colorado legislative activity;
- Representation at key meetings and events with education policy decision makers; and
- New CASE Legislative issues blogs are launched periodically during legislative sessions.

2. Professional Learning

CASE membership brings you high-quality professional learning opportunities at affordable member rates.

CASE staff has expertise in how to build organizational capacity through professional learning. CASE also maintains connections with other organizations that provide professional learning. Opportunities include:

- **CASE Education Leadership Convention** – An annual summer convention in a mountain setting that features the latest information about teaching, learning, and leadership from nationally respected education experts You’ll have the opportunity to share statewide best practices and network with other school leaders.
- **CASE Winter Leadership Conference** – An annual mid-year conference with a focus on education policy, student achievement, and accountability
- **Workshops, retreats, and special sessions** – A variety of workshops offered year round to address member-identified professional learning needs and hot topics of interest to school leaders
- **eLearning Programs** – On-demand webinars, event recordings and resources, and online courses
3. Professional Liability Insurance

As a Full-Active or Associate Member of CASE, a $100,000 Professional Liability policy is included as a benefit of your membership. Your plan will provide coverage for claims brought at any time, as long as the occurrence that resulted in litigation occurred while your Educator’s Professional Liability policy was in effect. You’ll be covered even if you’ve dropped the coverage, as long as your coverage was in force when the incident happened.

The In-dues Plan:
- Pays up to $100,000 for damages arising from professional liability lawsuits.
- Pays defense costs in addition to the liability limit for professional liability lawsuits.
- Covers claims brought at any time, as long as the act or omission that resulted in the claim occurred while your policy was in effect.
- Provides coverage as long as you remain a CASE member in good standing and CASE continues to offer this professional liability plan as an in-dues member benefit.

What’s Covered?
The in-dues plan protects you against a broad range of exposures associated with your educational duties, such as:
- Injuries to students under your supervision
- Improper placement of students
- Hiring unqualified people
- Defamation
- Failure to educate
- Failure to promote students or grant credit
- Violation of student civil rights
- Improper methods employed in instruction, counseling, research design, etc.
- Negative consequences in implementing the recommendations of research studies

After a $100 deductible, the plan also pays 90 percent of your attorney's fees if you:
- Are sued by an employee you supervise regarding a covered personnel matter (limit of $5,000 per claim, $5,000 aggregate per policy period).
- Are accused of sexual misconduct, provided you are found not guilty or the charges are dismissed (limit of $15,000 per claim, per policy period, and a $15,000 aggregate per policy period).
- Face criminal charges arising out of corporal punishment, provided you are found not guilty or the charges are dismissed (limit of $10,000 per claim, per policy period).

Optional Upgrades:
You also can upgrade your coverage to up to $1,000,000 or $2,000,000. (Upgrades are processed directly through Forrest T. Jones @FTJ.com.) All upgrade plans provide:
- After a $100 deductible, the plan also pays 90 percent of your attorney's fees if you:
  o Are accused of sexual misconduct, provided you are found not guilty or the charges are dismissed (limit of $50,000 per claim / $100,000 aggregate per policy period).
  o Are named in a lawsuit seeking non-monetary relief (limit of $35,000 per claim, per policy period).
- If you are threatened with a job action, such as termination, suspension, reassignment or demotion, the plan's Job Protection Benefits will pay:
  o Up to $500 for your initial consultation with an attorney
  o Up to $750 of the cost of having an attorney represent you at a formal hearing of a school board or other authority
  o Up to $4,000 for legal fees, subject to a $100 deductible, if you decide to sue because of the job action and the judgment in the suit is in your favor. Up to $750 is available to you regardless of the suit’s outcome.

Eligibility:
You must be a Full-Active or Associate Member in good standing of CASE, a W-2 employee of a school, college or university, and the job must be your main occupation. School board members and owners of private schools are not eligible. If you are an educator in private practice or an independent contractor, you are not eligible for this program.
4. Legal Assistance

The Colorado Association of School Executives provides professional and job-related counseling support to its members. If circumstances warrant, CASE will refer members to a qualified attorney. CASE in no way attempts to represent or imply that staff is equipped or able to give legal advice. Legal assistance is provided to Full-Active CASE members only. Although members are not eligible for legal benefits during their first year of membership, those who have been members one through four continuous years are eligible for $750/yr. worth of legal assistance. Those who have been Full-Active members five continuous years or more are eligible for up to $1,500/yr. worth of legal assistance. Individual circumstances vary and each case is addressed accordingly by a CASE Management Team member.

5. CASE Website – www.co-case.org

Visit the CASE website to stay abreast of news from your association. The site also features timely information and tips about issues important to education leaders. Highlights include:

**Job Vacancy Service**
Access to:
- Colorado’s most comprehensive listing of administrative employment opportunities in education
- School districts statewide subscribe to this service to post their job openings
- Updated daily
- An essential recruitment tool for your district and a valuable resource for your career growth

**Professional Learning Opportunities**
Detailed information about and access to:
- The CASE Professional Development Plan;
- The CASE *Professional Learning Bulletin*;
- CASE conferences and workshops with convenient online registration;
- Post-event resources and speaker recordings;
- eLearning programs;
- The CASE Leadership Development Diversity Program;
- The CASE Coaching Program; and
- Links to key resources and information for members applying for K-12 education administrative positions in Colorado.

**Legislative News** – Members can access the latest legislative updates prepared by the CASE lobbying team. The web page includes links to the legislative directory and many other links to legislative information, including the *Colorado Capitol Watch* legislative bill tracker. Members have direct access to the Colorado General Assembly, Colorado Department of Education, and the Colorado State Government websites through the CASE Legislation and Advocacy web page.

**Current Information** – News about issues important to school leaders with links to information on other sites.

CASE  
2253 South Oneida Street  
Denver, CO 80224  
303.762.8762  
www.co-case.org
CASE Memberships

Membership in the Colorado Association of School Executives shall be classified as Full Active, Associate, Student, Institutional, Emeritus, or Affiliate. Dues for active members shall be based on a tiered schedule of salary ranges reflecting administrative compensation levels. Dues for Associate, Student, Institutional, Emeritus, and Affiliate membership will be a flat fee set by the Coordinating Council.

**Full Active members** are persons who (1) are engaged in educational leadership at a building and/or district level, or (2) are engaged in a support relationship to leadership through other agencies or provide training or leadership (but choose to be active), or (3) are identified as active by a specific department, and (4) have paid active member dues.

**Institutional members** are institutions of higher education, education groups and professional organizations that (1) are in a support relationship to education leaders or (2) provide training to school administrators. School districts and BOCES do not qualify as institutional members. A membership includes 1-5 employees with provisions to cover additional employees.

**Associate members** are (1) individuals in the classroom who hold a principal or administrative license and who are not currently employed as an administrator at the school or district level, (2) non-administrative, licensed individuals from a school or district who support the instructional program, or (3) individuals from higher education, education groups, education policy groups, or related organizations who have professional level responsibilities in support of education leaders and who prefer an individual rather than an institutional membership.

**Student members** are non-administrators who are enrolled in a principal or administrator licensure program through a college or university. These individuals may maintain this category of membership as long as they are enrolled in a degree program and until graduation.

**Emeritus members** are persons who were active members of CASE upon retirement and who wish to continue to benefit from and support CASE.

**Affiliate members** are persons who are covered by a formal CASE/district agreement that entitles them to affiliate membership in CASE. Affiliate membership provides specific advocacy, professional development, and communication benefits, but does not include all of the benefits of an Active Membership.

Application for membership in the Association shall be submitted to the Executive Director or his/her designee. Rejection of an applicant may be appealed to the Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council shall hold final authority in determining membership where any membership may be contentious or inconsistent with the mission of the Association. Membership in the Colorado Association of School Executives shall not be denied to anyone, otherwise qualified, on the basis of any commonly accepted criteria for discrimination.
Dues for active members shall be based on a tiered schedule of salary ranges reflecting in the Colorado Association of School Executives shall be classified as Full Active, Associate, Student, administrative compensation levels. Dues for Associate, Student, Institutional Emeritus, and Affiliate membership will be a flat fee set by the Coordinating Council. All members shall enjoy the privileges of membership as outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE VALUE AND BENEFITS OF YOUR DUES</th>
<th>Full Active</th>
<th>Associate</th>
<th>Emeritus</th>
<th>Institutional</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Affiliate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Complimentary liability insurance - $100,000 free professional liability coverage; more for a nominal fee</td>
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<td>Legal assistance – Job-related support, a phone call away</td>
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<td>Boards, committees &amp; voting – help shape the future</td>
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<td>Complimentary department membership – seven choices</td>
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<td>Specialized publications – late breaking news and views</td>
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<td>Leadership conferences &amp; workshops – special member rates: topics you need to succeed: expert presenters</td>
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<td>Professional networking – talk to friends in the business</td>
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<td>Respected lobbying voice – full-time and on your side</td>
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<td>Targeted website resources – <a href="http://www.co-case.org">www.co-case.org</a> – post-CASE event resources and speaker recordings, eLearning programs, on-line job vacancies, in-depth legislative news, 24-hour convenience</td>
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<td>Colorado Capitol Watch – Bill Tracker – Members-only access to current legislative activity &amp; Colorado Revised Statutes: custom reports</td>
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Top Ten Reasons to Join CASE

1. **Professional Learning**
   Participate in timely and relevant workshops, conferences, the eLearning program, and the CASE Annual Education Leadership Convention, all at affordable member rates.

2. **Advocacy**
   Our full-time lobbying team and CASE leaders represent your interests at the Colorado legislature and in Congress, providing strategic leadership to advance public education.

3. **Legal Assistance (For Full-Active members only; eligible after one full year of membership)**
   Access immediate legal assistance for job-related issues. Wrongful dismissal? Substantial alteration of contract? Call us and we’ll connect you with a CASE attorney.

4. **Liability Insurance (For Full-Active and Associate members only)**
   Receive $100,000 worth of professional liability insurance at no cost to you.

5. **Powerful Network**
   There’s never been a more critical time to build your professional contacts.

6. **Leadership Opportunities**
   Expand your influence through leadership opportunities at association, state, and national levels. Write for a CASE publication. Seek a state or national association office.

7. **Communications**
   Timely, practical publications that focus on issues specific to your duties and responsibilities will keep you in the know.

8. **Job Vacancy Site**
   Access hundreds of job postings or post a job in the most comprehensive education job site around.

9. **Website (www.co-case.org)**
   Instant access to information about CASE workshops with immediate electronic registration capability, and links to education information and materials — including the latest research and best practices.

10. **National Representation**
    Join your national professional association through CASE. CASE works in full partnership with these national organizations to advance education’s agenda: American Association of School Administrators (AASA), National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), and Consortium of School Networking (CoSN).