

# KASA Frequently Asked Questions

## **Now that I've joined KASA, do I need to maintain my membership with KEA?**

KASA is designed to serve school administrators and provides a wealth of benefits designed to meet the needs of the commonwealth's school leaders. A membership with KEA would be duplication and with an organization designed to serve teachers.

## **I'm a member of KLA. Does that make me a member of KASA?**

No. KLA (Kentucky Leadership Academy) is a series of professional development workshops and events that is made available to both KASA members and nonmembers. KLA membership does not include benefits such as legal counsel and services, information and resources, and advocacy.

## **I registered for the quarterly workshop, but received an invoice in the mail. I understood members attend one 6-hour workshop at no cost each year. Why am I getting billed for this?**

There are several reasons you may have received an invoice for the workshop. KASA provides four workshops annually that are eligible for the free workshop credit. Active members, those paying annual dues based on annual salary x .003, are eligible to register for their choice of one of the four workshops at no cost, but may register for the other three workshops at the reduced cost. Retired, associate, and student members are eligible to attend any or all of the four workshops at the reduced cost. Nonmembers may attend at a higher cost. The benefit is non-transferrable.

## **Am I eligible for associate membership?**

Individuals who do not hold an administrative position are eligible for associate membership. Some examples include a teacher, a librarian, or a classified employee.

## **I retired several years ago and recently accepted an interim principal's position. Am I eligible for retired membership?**

No. Individuals holding leadership positions are in need of a higher level of benefits. Retirees who return to work as administrators are considered active members. Retired membership simply provides information and resource materials, along with other minor benefits.

## **How can I get more involved in KASA?**

KASA provides several opportunities for involvement. Sign up to serve on a standing committee, consider serving on the board of directors, and attend your regional meeting, the summer institute or other KASA events.

**I've heard that if I have a disagreement or legal matter involving my superintendent or supervisor, KASA won't represent or assist me.**

**This is simply not true.** KASA's legal counsel works with all members and advises based on the situation and the laws that apply to it. Often times, counsel works to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of all parties involved. If the matter creates an ethical conflict for KASA's legal counsel, the member will **always** be referred to competent legal counsel, regardless of the nature of the situation or the other parties involved, and KASA will pay the cost of initial consultation with outside counsel.

**Liability insurance coverage through KASA is inexpensive. What does it cover and does it protect me?**

Professional liability insurance available to KASA members has two basic components. It provides up to \$1,000,000 coverage over and above any coverage provide by the employing school district when a KASA member is named in a lawsuit as part of his or her job duties. It also reimburses up to \$10,000 in legal fees if the member is disciplined (including actions taken by the EPSB) or fired from employment, and successfully challenges that action.

**In the event I have a situation that requires legal assistance, what does KASA do for me?**

KASA provides 3 things – unlimited consultation with KASA Legal Counsel Wayne Young; from \$1,000 to \$2,000 in legal assistance funds (depending on length of membership) for private legal counsel when necessary; and direct, no-cost representation of the member in qualifying circumstances.

**What are my benefits as a KASA member?**

*KASA represents members through:*

- Voice at the Capitol—having a direct impact on the content of legislation, such as HB 540, which preserved health insurance for retired members of KTRS
- National/state task force and workgroup representation—KASA members and staff
- Active engagement in federal initiatives in education—AARA, reauthorization of No Child Left Behind and the jobs bill for teachers

*KASA protects members through:*

- Unlimited access to legal counsel from KASA's attorney—1,500 member phone calls annually
- Financial assistance for attorney fees—\$126,000 paid to members since 2002
- Direct legal representation when dealing with state agencies such as OEA or the EPSB
- Low-cost liability insurance for \$1 million excess coverage policy, including \$10,000 reimbursement for qualified legal fees

*KASA enriches and informs members through:*

- Regional and state school administrator network nearing 3,000 people
- Leadership development programs, including the vibrant Annual Summer Institute, Assistance for Assistant Principals workshop series, New and Aspiring Superintendent Continuum of Learning, Annual Finance Institute, Kentucky Leadership Academy, and other programs at discounted member rates

- 1-800 hotline for educational resources and assistance
- Special interest publications...*Hotline, Kentucky School Leader, Capitol Connection*
- Initiating a new statewide Education Law and Policy Symposium in partnership with the University of Kentucky College of Education P20 Innovation Lab
- E-communications and E-learning at [www.kasa.org](http://www.kasa.org)
- Scholarship, award, and recognition programs
- Six-hour EILA/Finance Officer CE credit workshop at no cost (offered quarterly)
- *Hot Off the Bench*, legal brief of court cases and the impact on Kentucky's public education system

### **Why should I attend the annual conference?**

The KASA Summer Institute is the largest and highest quality professional development activity held annually in Kentucky that is designed exclusively to meet the needs of school administrators. With over 1,000 attendees, nationally acclaimed speakers, dozens of timely learning sessions, more than 100 providers of educational goods and services, and ample time for professional interaction with colleagues, the Institute is the best value available for your Professional Development dollars, the institute has a well-deserved reputation as the premier event for school leaders.

### **I registered for a workshop but am not able to attend. Can I get my registration fee back?**

Cancellation policies vary per event and are based upon the size of the event and financial commitment that KASA must make to vendors and others involved. For information about a particular event, visit [www.kasa.org](http://www.kasa.org) or call the KASA office at (800) 928-KASA. Refunds are not granted for failure to attend (no shows), late arrival, unattended events or early departure.

### **I paid for a workshop with a purchase order. Why do I still get a statement each month that says I owe?**

The purchase order is a promise to pay; it is not actual payment. Please contact the bookkeeper or finance assistant at the office who issued the purchase order (either your school or district office).

### **I clicked the "reset your password" button on the members' only Web site, but I get a return e-mail that says the password doesn't work. What do I do?**

Call the KASA office toll-free at (800) 928-KASA and we will reset the password for you.

### **What payment options do you offer?**

There are two main forms of payment. Members can pay in lump sum with a check or credit card, or they can choose to have the payment deducted from their paycheck in monthly

installments. We also accept purchase orders; however, the purchase order is a promise to pay—not an actual payment.

**My superintendent is a member of KASA. Does that mean my district is a member?**

No. Membership is specific to the individual, not the institution.