



# AAUW Q&A for Busy Women

## 1. What is AAUW?

AAUW (formerly known as the American Association of University Women) is a diverse community of graduates who work for equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

## 2. Is AAUW a source of funding?

AAUW is one of the world's largest sources of funding for women graduate students and postgraduate scholars. Selected Professions Fellowships provide support specifically in fields where women have been underrepresented. AAUW's Campus Action Grants and the Legal Advocacy Fund Campus Outreach Projects are earmarked for higher education events, studies, and student projects.

## 3. What other resources can AAUW bring to my campus?

AAUW is known for its series of research reports on issues related to women and girls and education. We publish white papers on issues such as Title IX and pay equity, program kits on topics such as sex discrimination, sexual harassment, financial literacy, and voter turnout. We sponsor the annual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders and provide hands-on experiences for members of the Student Advisory Council who help plan that conference. New programs include workshops on how to negotiate for a first salary and how to run for office in student government.

## 4. Why join AAUW?

AAUW, as a public charity, does provide benefits to nonmembers, and information from AAUW and AAUW NC is available to the public through websites, on Facebook, and via twitter. However, just like NPR, we hope you'll "become a member." When you stand with us, we are stronger as we break through barriers for women and girls.

Market research shows that AAUW offers a good mix of benefits, combining issue-related, personal growth, and tangible benefits. If you're not active in a political organization, a religious/civic organization, AND a professional organization, you may fill in some gaps with an AAUW membership and find it a way to develop and practice skills while getting the satisfaction of working for equity for all women and girls.



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## **5. Isn't AAUW a teachers' organization focused on education?**

Yes, many AAUW programs are tied to K-12 and higher education. In 1881, we debunked the proposition that higher education was detrimental to women's health, and more one hundred years later, AAUW changed the public conversation about girls in schools with its groundbreaking work on "Shortchanging Girls, Shortchanging America." We, as members and citizens, are concerned with education, but our members represent all fields and professions. AAUW sponsored research covers women's issues in the workplace, too.

## **6. I don't have any time for meetings. Does joining still make sense?**

Individuals who do not wish to maintain contact with a branch can join the Association as "members-at-large" at the national level. However, you are encouraged to join AAUW North Carolina through the new "Tar Heel Branch" that adds AAUW NC benefits to the national membership, but doesn't have the traditional meeting-based structure. If you might want to connect with others on campus or in the community - for a special project, a funding opportunity, or just information on local priorities - you can do that through the Tar Heel Branch without the burden of maintaining a formal organization on your own.

## **7. So what does it cost?**

National membership in AAUW is \$49/year; AAUW NC is an additional \$11. Students may affiliate with AAUW and AAUW NC for \$17. Branch membership adds another \$5-\$15. Special promotions include discounts for half-year and 18-month memberships, free national memberships for new graduates, free e-student affiliate programs, and more. Contact us for details.

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To find out more, visit

AAUW: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

AAUW NC: [www.aauwnc.org](http://www.aauwnc.org), 866-525-2155, [info@aauwnc.org](mailto:info@aauwnc.org)

AAUW Tar Heel Branch, serving the entire state: [tarheel.aauwnc.org](http://tarheel.aauwnc.org)  
[aauwnc.org/contacts/branches](http://aauwnc.org/contacts/branches) - info on 21 community-based branches