



# ACPA Membership Information



**American Cleft Palate–  
Craniofacial Association**



## Welcome to the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA).

We are excited to welcome you as a member of the ACPA team and encourage you to take an active role in the association.

This is your resource guide to ACPA. It includes a description of your member benefits and further details about different aspects of ACPA.

---

[About ACPA](#)

---

[Membership](#)

---

[Team Care](#)

---

[The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal](#)

---

[Education](#)

---

[Family Services](#)

---

[ACPA's Code of Ethics](#)

---

[Contact ACPA](#)

On behalf of the ACPA Board of Directors and the National Office Team, welcome to ACPA.

Thank you for your membership!

*Erin & Caleb*

Your ACPA Membership Team

## About ACPA

The American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA) is a non-profit association of individuals and healthcare professionals who are interested in clinical care and research advancements for those affected by cleft and craniofacial conditions. ACPA is unique— it is a multidisciplinary organization of 2,400 members from more than 30 disciplines in 60 countries.

ACPA works to support the care of patients who require care from a variety of specialists over time, and ACPA optimizes outcomes for individuals with oral cleft and craniofacial conditions through education, support, research and interdisciplinary team care.

### MISSION

Creating a world where people with cleft and craniofacial conditions thrive.

### VALUES

Partnering with patients, families and professionals, we value excellence in:

Collaboration

Community Support

Education

Innovative Research

Interdisciplinary Team Care



Creating a world where  
people with cleft and  
craniofacial conditions  
**THRIVE.**



American Cleft Palate-  
Craniofacial Association



## Engage with ACPA and take advantage of the benefits of membership.

---

Enhance professional development by attending [ACPA's Annual Meeting](#) and [ACPA Online Learning](#) webinars at member rates.

---

Increase knowledge of current research with a free subscription to [The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal](#), an international journal on craniofacial anomalies.

---

Connect with colleagues by joining discussions on the [ACPA Online Community](#), a place for members to ask questions, connect, network, share resources and more.

---

Network and learn from ACPA members by joining a [Special Interest Group](#): 22q11.2 Related Disorders, Care Coordination, Ethics and Mental Health/Psychosocial.

---

Expand your team with high-quality candidates by posting jobs on the ACPA [Career Center](#). The career center is allied with the National Healthcare Career Network (NHCN) which links job boards of leading healthcare associations – the preferred resource for healthcare talent – and reaches over 2.5 million healthcare professionals. ACPA member rates start at just \$250 to post a job to the ACPA network.

---

Network with other ACPA members with access to the [member directory](#) and the [team directory](#) on the ACPA website.

---

Serve individuals and families affected by cleft and craniofacial conditions through [ACPA Family Services](#). ACPA provides educational information for each stage of care, and offers personal support.

## Optimize team care for patients. ACPA Approved Team

ACPA is dedicated to optimizing outcomes for patients, and the ACPA team approval process plays a major part in ensuring this is becoming a reality. Cleft and craniofacial teams from around the country can apply to be recognized as an ACPA Approved Team. This distinction is for teams who prove that they meet the **Standards for Cleft and Craniofacial Teams** - standards that identify essential characteristics of quality for team composition and functioning.

The process helps teams ensure that they are able to meet the needs of their patients. ACPA Approved Teams are listed on the website and are available for the general public to reference when choosing a provider for cleft and craniofacial healthcare needs.

The team approval process is managed by the **Commission on Approval of Teams**. Teams are comprised of experienced and qualified professionals from medical, surgical, dental, and allied health disciplines working in an interdisciplinary and coordinated system. The purpose and goal of Team Approval is to ensure that care is provided in a coordinated and consistent manner with the proper sequencing of evaluations and treatments within the framework of the patient's overall developmental, medical, and psychological needs.

Although the commission does not approve teams internationally, the website **lists teams from around the world** as a resource for patients and families. Find out about **international treatment programs** providing cleft care to different regions of the world.

## Increase knowledge of current research with *The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*

*The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*, an international journal on craniofacial anomalies, is the official publication of ACPA.

Subscribers have access to online content including current and past issues back to 1990. ACPA members can utilize the robust online search tools, save favorite articles and set up publishing alerts to leverage a subscription toward a powerful and useful tool in their practice and research.

The journal draws from around the world for its interdisciplinary approach to growth, development, diagnosis, and treatment—the provision of optimal clinical services—in all areas pertaining to craniofacial anomalies. It also explores and reports on the study and treatment, including experimental and proven surgical procedures, of cleft lip, cleft palate and craniofacial anomalies. The journal keeps readers in touch with the latest research in related laboratory sciences.



To access *The Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal* online, visit <https://mx.acpa-cpf.org/MYACPA/Journal.aspx>.

## Expand Professional Development at ACPA's Annual Meeting.

Join cleft and craniofacial professionals for ACPA's Virtual Meeting, April 29 – May 1, 2021.

**ACPA's Annual Meeting** is a scientific forum with papers presented on new research, developing information or instructional courses on cleft lip/palate and craniofacial anomalies. Participants will network with colleagues across multiple disciplines as they learn about emerging and established ideas from those experienced in the field.

### ABSTRACTS

ACPA invites professionals to submit abstracts every summer for the following meeting. Visit the **meeting website** for abstract deadlines and more information. Abstracts presenting new research, developing information or instructional courses on cleft lip/palate and craniofacial anomalies are encouraged. All abstracts will be blinded and peer reviewed. Abstracts are selected on the basis of topic, quality of material, interest to attendees and available space.

### REGISTRATION

Members receive a reduced registration rate to ACPA's Annual Meeting.

## ACPA's Online Learning

**ACPA Online Learning** offers webinars and on demand sessions to cleft and craniofacial care providers worldwide. Webinar topics and speakers are selected by members of ACPA's Education Committee to reflect the diverse interest areas of ACPA's multidisciplinary membership. ACPA currently provides continuing medical, speech, and nursing education through ACCME, ASHA and ANCC for designated webinars. ACPA members receive discounted pricing for webinar registration. Webinars are available for live or on-demand streaming. Details on registration and pricing for individual courses are listed on the ACPA Online Learning website.



2023  
2022  
2021

ACPA's 78th Annual Meeting  
Virtual  
April 29 – May 1, 2021

ACPA's 79th Annual Meeting  
Fort Worth, TX  
Omni Fort Worth  
March 29 – April 2, 2022

ACPA's 80th Annual Meeting  
Raleigh, NC  
Raleigh Convention Center  
May 2-6, 2023

Serve individuals and families through ACPA Family Services.



ACPA Family Services provides education, personalized support and resources for every stage of the cleft or craniofacial journey. ACPA Family Services is dedicated to providing comprehensive resources and individualized support for the national cleft-craniofacial community, with a focus on education and team care.

ACPA Family Services provides personal support and information. ACPA connects affected individuals and families with cleft-craniofacial treatment teams, insurance information and other resources.

ACPA offers more than 30 publications in English and Spanish created by professionals for patients and families. The materials are available to download on [www.acpa-cpf.org/acpa-family-services](http://www.acpa-cpf.org/acpa-family-services) or can be mailed to patients and families at no charge.

ACPA Family Services fosters interpersonal support within the cleft-craniofacial community through online and in-person opportunities. Individuals and families benefit greatly from connecting to others with similar experiences.

ACPA Family Services awards college scholarships each year to students born with cleft or craniofacial conditions.

ACPA Cleft Courage Bears—custom-made by GUND®, Inc. with stitches across the upper lip—provide support and comfort to patients.

## ACPA Members also benefit directly from ACPA Family Services

ACPA Family Services educates on the concept of team care and encourages patients and families to consider ACPA Approved Teams first.

ACPA's patient education and support resources allow members to share reference materials with confidence.

## Support ACPA

All ACPA programs thrive through the support of members, volunteers, and generous donors. ACPA invites you to get involved through gifts of time or means. **Contact Us** to learn more or visit <http://www.acpa-cpf.org/donate/> to make a gift.

# Improve the state of the profession by adhering to the ACPA Code of Ethics.

## CODE OF ETHICS

*When joining the ACPA, all members agree to abide by the Code of Ethics. This code was prepared by the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee, Edward Elmendorf, III, M.D., Chair, and approved by the membership present at the Annual Business Meeting, April 26, 1996, San Diego, California.*

## INTRODUCTION

As stated in its constitution, the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (“Association”) is organized to stimulate specialist and public interest in, and a more exact knowledge and improved practice of, the science and art of the rehabilitation of persons with cleft lip/palate and other craniofacial anomalies (hereafter described as “craniofacial anomalies”). The mission of the association is to optimize interdisciplinary care of persons affected by cleft lip, cleft palate and other craniofacial anomalies.

Membership in the association is open to individuals of all disciplines interested in craniofacial anomalies. Ethical behavior is expected of members and teams and is guided by a Code of Ethics. Members and teams are responsible and accountable for their actions and words as well as the public use of their names. Thus they are expected to act in accord with the principles of the Code of Ethics in all contacts with patients, peers, and the general public.

## ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

The following principles are the aspirational goals which guide the behavior of all individual members and listed teams. These principles are meant to foster exemplary behavior.

- I. The primary objective of the members and listed teams is to render appropriate service to all persons who seek care with full respect for human dignity. Members and teams should respect the trust and confidence of patients in their care, rendering to each a full measure of service and dedication.
- II. Members and teams should strive to improve patient care through clinical knowledge and skill and must make available to their patients and colleagues the benefits of this knowledge.
- III. Members and teams should seek to safeguard their patients from harm.
- IV. Members should uphold the dignity and honor of their individual specialty’s professional Code of Ethics and accept its self-imposed disciplines.
- V. Members and teams should provide care to all persons without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, gender, or ability to pay. Members and teams should make every effort to find funding or a source of service for financially disadvantaged patients.
- VI. Members and teams should respect patient autonomy while exercising sound clinical judgment and skill.
- VII. Members and teams should seek or offer outside consultations upon the request of the patient or family in doubtful or difficult cases, or whenever it appears that the quality of service may thereby be enhanced.
- VIII. Patient confidentiality should be respected unless members or teams are required to break confidentiality by law.

- IX. Members who participate in volunteer medical missions outside their home country should provide only the type of care for which they have training and credentials in their home country.
- X. Members and teams should assist the public in obtaining information and services regarding the care and treatment of individuals with craniofacial anomalies.
- XI. Members and teams should honestly and accurately represent their professional qualifications and the services or characteristics of their team to the public and to the association.
- XII. Research, clinical presentations, and published articles are to be based on scientific principles and conducted in an ethical manner. Financial interest of any type in the conduct of research is to be clearly stated in publications and presentations.

## ETHICAL APPLICATIONS

The following are ethical rules for all members and listed teams. A team is expected to function in an ethical manner. The team director is ultimately responsible for the conduct of a team in its relationship to the association.

- I. Members should obey all laws and avoid illegal activities.
- II. Members should be in good standing in their organization of primary certification.
- III. Members should be in good standing with their state or national licensing boards.
- IV. Members and teams should not engage in inaccurate or dishonest solicitation of patients.
- V. Members and teams should provide complete records to other professionals or teams when requested by the patient or family.
- VI. Professional advertisements should not be dishonest, false, or misleading either in writing or in photographs. Members and teams should be able to substantiate material objective claims made in advertising.
- VII. The Association team listing designation and logo should not be used in advertising.
- VIII. Members and teams should not pay nor receive a commission for referral of patients.
- IX. Disclosure of professionally related commercial interests and any other interest that may influence decision making is required in communications to patients, the public, and to colleagues. Patients should not be exploited in any manner when a member has a financial interest in a commercial venture.
- X. The source(s) of research funding must be acknowledged in presentations and publications.
- XI. Members should not be involved in misrepresentation, unethical behavior, or fraud in research and presentations.
- XII. Teams should honestly represent their services in reports to the Association.

# Communicate with ACPA

## ACPA

The ACPA National Office Team is ready to support you as you provide the best care possible for your patients. We have created opportunities for members to interact with the National Office and to network and learn from other members. Please feel free to reach out on any of the following platforms—and join the ongoing conversations.

[acpa-cpf.org](http://acpa-cpf.org)



[facebook.com/americanleftpalate](https://facebook.com/americanleftpalate)



[twitter.com/amerleftpalate](https://twitter.com/amerleftpalate)



[community.acpa-cpf.org/browse/blogs](https://community.acpa-cpf.org/browse/blogs)



[info@acpa-cpf.org](mailto:info@acpa-cpf.org)

**ACPA Online Community:** [community.acpa-cpf.org](https://community.acpa-cpf.org)



## NATIONAL OFFICE TEAM

Adam Levy  
*Executive Director*

Charlene Bell  
*Development Manager*

Dan Derman  
*Specialist, Education Services*

Alexis Giannattasio  
*Marketing and Communications Specialist*

Erin Mallis  
*Senior Specialist, Membership and Governance*

Caleb Ponton  
*Development and Membership Associate*

Martin Saffer  
*Finance and Operations*

Peggy Smith  
*Accounting*

**American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association**

1504 E. Franklin St., Suite 102 | Chapel Hill, NC 27514

[acpa-cpf.org](http://acpa-cpf.org) | 919.933.9044 (t) | [info@acpa-cpf.org](mailto:info@acpa-cpf.org)