



American Association of University Women Glossary of AAUW Initials and Frequently Used Terms

This glossary is composed mainly of initials, terms, and phrases used by the National Association, which is referred to as AAUW. Terms and phrases used by AAUW California are identified as such.

AAUW - American Association of University Women. Name adopted in 1921 through the merger of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and the Southern Association of Collegiate Women. No periods between the initials. AAUW includes both a section 501(c)(3) public charity, the primary membership organization, and the AAUW Action Fund, a smaller section (501(c)(4) social welfare organization that may engage in limited activities related to member activism and voter education.

AAUW Action Fund – a 501(C)(4) CORPORATION CREATED IN July of 2009 with AAUW’s restructuring, it may engage in limited activities related to member activism and voter education. The Lobby Corps is part of this fund.

AAUW Action Network – A network of members who are interested in influencing legislative issues affecting women and girls. Action Network enables anyone with an e-mail address to take action to affect the outcome of important issues. The Two Minute Activist is a vehicle for this action.

AAUW California - AAUW California (AAUW CA) is the organizational unit of AAUW conforming to California State boundaries and corporate law. AAUW California is a non-profit mutual benefit Corporation. Members of all California branches belong to AAUW California. Email address: office@aauw-ca.org. Mailing address is 1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100 Sacramento CA 95833. The office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and is closed Friday through Sunday. Phone: 916-448-7795. Fax: 916-448-1729.

AAUW California Board of Directors - The AAUW Board of Directors is comprised of 12 directors and officers. Officers are President, President Elect (Vice President), Secretary and CFO (Chief Financial Officer). Except for the officers, directors run for the board without portfolio. The officers and directors are elected statewide by the voting members of AAUW CA. In addition, the Board may appoint a parliamentarian who serves as a consultant to the Board and to the Executive Committee. The Board may also appoint an assistant to the President.

AAUW California website - www.aauw-ca.org posts current information on events, public policy, forms, membership, AAUW Funds news, bylaws, model branch bylaws, policies and procedures and links to AAUW Association website.

AAUW Endowment – There are more than 1,000 separate AAUW fund codes. The majority identify our named, restricted funds, collectively called the AAUW Endowment, which provides the support for AAUW’s Fellowships and Grants. The endowment is 501(c)(3) exempt.

AAUW Fund #9110 – The AAUW Fund is the name used to identify the aggregated unrestricted funds that supply full or partial funding for every AAUW program except the Fellowships and Grants. Many of AAUW’s most popular programs, such as Work Smart, Start Smart, and the Two-Minute Activist, are solely supported by the AAUW Fund. Several programs, such as the Legal Advocacy Fund and AAUW research, receive partial support from both the unrestricted AAUW Fund and partial support from restricted gifts. By contrast, the Fellowships and Grants are supported entirely by interest from the AAUW Endowment, which consists of restricted funds.

AAUW In Action – National Association every member publication containing how-to information for branch leaders, updates and convention news.

AAUW Strategic Plan – A national model of goals, indicators of success and strategies that reflect an integrated approach to fulfilling AAUW’s mission, vision and value promise.

AAUW Washington Update – Weekly newsletter published by the Public Policy and Governmental Relations Department of AAUW. Contains updates on federal legislation supported or opposed by AAUW and suggestions for branch and individual action.

AAUW Website – www.aauw.org – features a member center with free online publications including *Action Alert*, updates on EF and LAF fellows and litigants; *Shop AAUW*, easy to remember web addresses, links to state websites and more.

AAUW’s Mission Statement – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW’s Value Promise – By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

Branch – The local unit of AAUW; never called a chapter or club. There are approximately 1300 branches nationwide and 800 College/University institution partners.

Branch Dues Report – The traditional Branch Dues Report (BDR) form is sent via e-mail the first week of May to the branch finance officers with a copy sent to presidents and membership vice presidents. The BDR comes in PDF file format and must be printed and completed by hand. State dues are sent to the State separately unless branch participates in the MPP program from National.

Branch Officer Report (BOR) – Report required by National and the State that lists the names and contact information for your Branch Officers. Both can be done on the individual websites. A very important communication tool.

Branch member – A member of an AAUW branch who pays annual branch, state and National dues.

California Perspective - AAUW California publication sent three times a year to all AAUW California members. It contains pre and post-convention information, California legislative news, state programs and branch news.

Campus Action Project –A Program in a Box to develop an idea and apply for an AAUW Campus Action Project grant to present a program or project that helps break through the educational and economic barriers women face on campus.

Campus Programs – Include campus action projects as well as Programs in a Box such as Campus Sexual Assault: A Program in a Box to raise awareness about campus sexual assault so that everyone can help end it, LAF Campus Outreach Program: A Program in a Box to help local institutions combat sex discrimination and \$tart \$mart: A Program in a Box to provide women college students entering the job market with tools to negotiate salaries and benefits.

Career Development Grant - These grants support women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to advance their careers, change careers or re-enter the work force.

Caucus – a group of members with similar interests who meet together to exchange ideas and plan strategies at conventions and by email and postal mail.

College/University(C/U) Member – College or University that belongs to AAUW. AAUW's College/University Partner Member Program provides educational institutions the opportunity to easily share all the benefits of AAUW with their students, faculty, and staff. Partners collaborate with branches on community programs, receive national visibility, and benefit from AAUW's powerful network that supports them and advocates on their behalf. Any regionally accredited two-year or four-year higher education institution is eligible to join the partner membership program. The fee for higher education institutions to join AAUW is \$175 regardless of institution size. The membership period extends from July 1 through June 30.

College-University Representative: - Serves as a liaison between the member college or university and the local branch. Rep's Association dues are included in the dues paid by the institution. If Rep joins the branch, they must pay state and branch dues.

Community Action Grant – Provides seed money to women, AAUW branches and AAUW states and nonprofit organizations for innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls.

District – A geographical division of AAUW CA.

Diversity Statement: - AAUW values and seeks diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

Dual Member: - Member of more than one branch who pays branch dues to each branch. Pays Association and state dues to primary branch only.

Educational Opportunities Fund – Largest fellowship and grant program for women in the world, provides fellowships and grants to applicants – American, International, Selected Professions, Community Action and Career Development programs also include the Fellows Alumnae Initiative.

Eleanor Roosevelt Fund – The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund is part of AAUW Funds. Inaugurated in 1988, it funds research on how schools shortchange girls, sexual harassment in schools and how girls are responding to the Age of Technology. It provides funds for the research and publication of this research.

E-Student Affiliate – E-student affiliation is free for all full-time undergraduate students attending an AAUW college/university partner member institution. Each e-student affiliate will receive free full membership to AAUW for one year as a graduation gift. See also Student and Graduate Student.

Fellowships: - Stipends awarded by AAUW Funds to women scholars (called fellows), both from the United States and many countries around the world for advanced research at the dissertation and postdoctoral levels. They are never called scholarships.

Fifty-Year Honorary Life Membership: - Branch member who has paid Association dues for 50 years and is thereafter exempt from Association dues. The membership years need not be consecutive, but must add up to 50. Many branches and states exempt honorary life members from branch and state dues.

Give a Grad a Gift: - Association membership promotion that allows members to give a free one-year Association member-at-large membership to a new college graduate.

Gloria Weston Campus Outreach Fund - LAF fund begun in 2003 to honor Gloria Weston, long time LAF activist. The fund's purpose is to create opportunities for education and discussion on topics of equity, discrimination and tenure at California Colleges and Universities.

Graduate Student Affiliate – Current graduate students can join AAUW at a special introductory rate of \$18.81 for the first year and \$49 per year thereafter. See also Student and E-Student.

Helpline – Toll free Association number (800-326-AAUW) (800-326-2289) staffed from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. PST in AAUW’s Washington D.C. office.

IBC: - Interbranch Council, composed of representatives from all branches in a county. Council members act together on county public policy matters affecting AAUW’s public policy issues, put on forums and symposiums together and exchange program ideas.

LAF – Legal Advocacy Fund – The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is a part of the AAUW Fund and works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. LAF initiatives include community and campus outreach programs, a resource library and online advocacy tools, a Legal Referral Network, and various research reports. LAF also provides support to workplace sex discrimination cases that have the potential to make a difference to all women.

LAF Campus Outreach Program – A Program in a Box to help local institutions combat sex discrimination.

Leader on Loan Program – (**AAUW CA**) An AAUW California service to branches in which current or past state leaders travel to branches to speak, lead workshops and assist in solving branch problems.

Leader on Loan Program – (**National**) A National service to states in which current or past National leaders travel to states to speak, lead workshops and assist in solving problems.

Life Member: - Branch member who pays a lump sum (20 times annual National dues) and thereafter pays only branch and state dues. National members (see below) may also become life members.

Lobby Corps: - Local member volunteers who lobby Capitol Hill and state legislatures on AAUW priority issues.

Membership Payment Program (MPP) – The Membership Payment Program (MPP) is a voluntary payment program that offers states and branches an online dues payment processing, membership management, and tracking tool. MPP is an enhanced feature within the AAUW Member Services Database (MSD).

Mission Statement – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through education, advocacy and research.

Mooneen Lecce Giving Circle - Group of AAUW California members who pool their contributions to the AAUW Fund and choose a project to support financially. The circle is open to all members who are willing to increase their donations to the circle by ten percent annually.

Named Endowment – A fellowship or Research and Project Grant named in honor of an individual, branch or AAUW State.

Named Gift Honoree – An individual who is honored by an AAUW branch for dedication to AAUW and its programs.

National – The national organization; the entire membership and the staff. Also used as an adjective to signify national level: National policy, National convention, etc. Always capitalized. National’s e-mail address is helpline@aauw.org.

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) (pronounced “nickwhistle”) - an annual conference of college women sponsored by the Association which brings together women student campus leaders from around the country to network, learn skills such as civic engagement, advocacy, career planning and life-balance.

National Member (formerly member-at-large): - A member who belongs to National and may belong to a state but does not belong to a branch.

Outlook – Association publication sent twice a year to every AAUW member. Contains feature articles about women’s equity, AAUW news and information on priority issues.

Program in a Box – AAUW has created an online resource to help members consider and choose program activities for their branches. Each Program in a Box outlines an activity that could be chosen for a branch, with the “what, why, and how” to implement that program. Programs in a Box reflect a wide range of AAUW activities; recommendations for additional Programs in a Box may be emailed to programinbox@aauw.org.

Public Policy Program – Establishes the federal action priorities on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts and guides the work of the public policy staff. Composed of principles for action and biennial action priorities.

Research and Projects Grant (R&P Grant) – Abbreviation for Research and Projects Grant Program. Use ampersand (&) as it is part of the legal title. This program funds Community Action Grants and career Development Grants.

Special Projects Fund SPF - Unique to California, the SPF is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation which serves as a pass-through fund, enabling state or branch projects to collect tax-deductible donations from individuals and corporations without having to establish themselves as a separate non-profit entity.

Speech Trek – An AAUW CA program which encourages high school students to develop their career-enhancing speaking skills and increases their knowledge of AAUW and its mission.

STEM – Acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Start Smart – A Program in a Box to provide women college students entering the job market with tools to negotiate salaries and benefits.

Student Affiliate – Students at institutions that are not AAUW College/University partner members can join AAUW for \$17 a year. See also e-Student and Graduate Student.

Tech Trek: - Tech Trek is fun-filled week of math and science for middle school girls, held at college and university campuses throughout California.

Title IX: - Federal law that bans sex discrimination in education. Specifically, it is a portion of the United States Education Amendments of 1972, codified at 20.U.S.C. 1681-1688. It was renamed the Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act in 2002, after the House co-author and sponsor. It states (in part) that , “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” “Title IX Compliance: Know the Score” is a “Program in a Box” that helps high schools reach Title IX compliance in athletics without the threat of expensive litigation.

Tool Kits: - Publications designed to help branch leaders in the areas of change, management, diversity, leadership and the job of branch president.

Two -Minute Activist – Two minutes to make your voice heard to members of Congress-one minute to read, one minute to act by personalizing an e-mail message to your decision maker. Find two-minute activist on the National website.

WorkSmart: - Created for working women, Work Smart is an interactive workshop that teaches women to evaluate, negotiate, and articulate their worth confidently in the job market.

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