



> The enactment of the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA)* will have a significant impact on professions that require graduate and postsecondary education and training. OBBBA creates new restrictive student loan caps and the elimination of the Graduate PLUS loan program.

The Advanced Professional Workforce Alliance (APWA) was formed to advocate for professional workforce needs, including architecture, behavioral health, public health, social work, health administration, occupational and physical therapy, naturopathic medicine, athletic training, and mental health counseling, among others.

> Advocacy

On March 2, APWA submitted comments to the Reimagining and Improving Student Education (RISE) regulation, which proposes to limit access to federal student loans for many professions. The full comment can be found [here](#).

APWA recognizes that the exclusion from sufficient access to student aid creates downstream workforce consequences.

APWA similarly plans to develop a robust advocacy and legislative agenda that address the need to support graduate and postsecondary access to financial resources.





Membership of APWA consists of three tiers: Steering, Voting, and Non-voting.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Steering Committee members provide strategic leadership and governance for the coalition. Members have priority access to Congressional meetings with dedicated briefing preparation, along with inclusion in all high-level stakeholder meetings with Department of Education and other agency officials.

MEMBERS: American Institute of Architects; Association of University Programs in Health Administration; American Occupational Therapy Association; American Physical Therapy Association; National Board for Certified Counselors; National Athletic Trainers' Association; Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health; American Association of Naturopathic Physicians; Association of Accredited Naturopathic Medical Colleges; Association for Athletic Training Education

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Voting Members actively shape coalition advocacy while maintaining full participation in all coalition activities. Members have voting rights on coalition sign-on letters, comments, and advocacy positions.

MEMBERS: American Council of Academic Physical Therapy; American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges; The American Health Care Association and the National Center for Assisted Living; Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions; Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine; American Association of Nurse Practitioners; Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine; American Academy of Physician Associates

NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Non-Voting Members participate in coalition activities and benefit from shared resources while maintaining organizational flexibility on advocacy positions.

MEMBERS: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education; Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture; National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy; National Society of Genetic Counselors; PA Education Association; Genetic Counselor Educators Association; ADVION; National Association of Social Workers; American Geriatrics Society; American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; American Music Therapy Association

APWA is managed by Lewis-Burke Associates LLC (Lewis-Burke), a Washington, DC-based Federal relations consulting and lobbying firm.

APWA is leveraging the federal funding process to engage Congress in directing the Department of Education to expand access to federal support for graduate education.

This legislative strategy includes bipartisan engagement.

JOIN TODAY and help drive real policy changes for the future professional workforce.