

Benefits of AFSA Membership

AFSA was established as the professional association of the American Foreign Service in 1924 and as its sole collective bargaining unit in 1973. AFSA aims to combine the best of both perspectives for its members.

Labor Union Benefits

Labor Management Relations: AFSA negotiates the regulations affecting employees' careers, works to make the Foreign Service a better place in which to work and live. Our network of AFSA Post Reps provides on-site assistance to overseas members.

Ombudsman: We work to resolve member problems with pay, allowances, claims, annuities, health care, and many other issues.

Grievance Representation: AFSA's legal staff provides hands-on assistance with grievance proceedings when your rights are violated.

Congressional Advocacy: AFSA is your advocate before Congress on issues affecting the careers of active members and the annuities of retired members.

Legal Services: Free legal advice and representation on employment issues, including security and OIG investigations.

Specialized Retiree Services: Staff provides counseling to retirees, surviving spouses and members in transition. They also track any legislative changes affecting retirees and issue a regular newsletter.



Professional Association Benefits

Voice of the Foreign Service: AFSA works to strengthen our profession and the career Foreign Service.

Esprit de Corps: AFSA works to build a sense of common cause and professional pride among all members – hosting events and discussions, and a speaker's bureau of nationwide experts on U.S. Foreign policy.

Outreach: AFSA communicates the views of the Foreign Service on professional issues to the news media and directly to the general public.

Foreign Service Journal: Our magazine keeps you current on developments in the foreign affairs profession from the perspective of practitioners. The *AFSA News* section highlights issues impacting your daily life.

AFSA Scholarships: AFSA grants annual merit and financial need scholarships to Foreign Service family members.

AFSA Awards: Honor constructive dissent and outstanding performance.

AFSA Online: Online member area including a community forum that gives members an opportunity to connect and engage on Foreign Service issues. Visit us at www.afsa.org and on social media platforms-- Facebook, Twitter, YouTube.

Membership Discounts: Member-only discounts to major foreign affairs magazines, Zipcar membership, Brooks Brothers, Ford Theater and other services.

Daily Media Digest: A daily news digest of news stories, opinion pieces and blog posts about issues affecting Foreign Service members available only to members.