June 12, 2023

Dear Colleagues:

As we all know, the past few years have presented extraordinary challenges for educational agencies. School law is an increasingly important and growing area of the law. The work of California’s school law bar is perhaps more important than ever. The California Council of School Attorneys (“CCSA”) knows our members need the latest legal developments and resources to grow their knowledge and expertise in a frequently changing legal landscape. CCSA is proud to provide many of those resources. I encourage you to renew or re-establish your CCSA membership today and take advantage of the many professional opportunities outlined below.

Benefits of Membership

*Relevant CLE Compliance*: CCSA makes CLE compliance easy and economical through programs that are directly relevant to education law attorneys at every level of experience. CCSA programs ensure that participants receive information and materials that are current, designed for lawyers, and tailored to the practice of California education law. Each of our conferences provides a combination of sessions on matters of general interest to education attorneys and break-out sessions that cover areas of specialized expertise such as special education, facilities, charter schools, and labor relations.

We provide four CLE-accredited workshops a year, one in May (Spring Conference), one in September (Fall Conference), and two days in December (Annual Conference). These conferences include all of the required hours you will need to obtain MCLE compliance. Our 2-day Annual Conference is held each December in conjunction with CSBA’s Annual Education Conference, which will be in San Francisco this year.

*MCLE Videos On-Demand*: CCSA maintains an on-demand catalog of session recordings from past CCSA conferences. Recordings are available for CCSA members to purchase at $30 per recording. The catalog is regularly updated for CCSA members.
Access to Layoff Decisions and Teacher Dismissal and MIRS Decisions: CCSA members have member-only access to CCSA’s library of OAH layoff decisions. CCSA also now offers its members access to OAH teacher dismissal and MIRS decisions in a searchable database.

Listserv Forums: CCSA membership enables you to access a state-wide listserv forum for consideration and discussion of the practical and professional issues education law attorneys face. CCSA members may subscribe to California-specific listserv groups for Labor and Employment, Charter Schools, Facilities/Business, Governance, Special Education, and Student Issues.

Optional COSA Membership Add-On: As of 2022, the CCSA Board of Directors reached an agreement with the Council of School Attorneys (COSA) to maintain affiliated status between CCSA and COSA. All CCSA members who also want to be members of COSA may do so at the lower COSA-affiliated membership rate. To benefit from the lower COSA affiliated rate, you must be a CCSA member. CCSA Regular Members continue to have the option of adding on COSA membership for an additional $270 to their CCSA membership, and CCSA In-House Members can add on COSA membership for an additional $200. (CCSA and COSA In-House Memberships are only available to attorneys who are employees of a public school district, COE, or community college district.)

Access to Potential Clients: Membership in CCSA provides great opportunities to share your knowledge and expertise with your colleagues and gain access to clients and potential clients at CCSA conferences. In addition, the CCSA Board selects presenters for CSBA’s Annual Pre-conference Legal Symposium for Experienced Board Members attended by school board members. The Board selects presenters for the Legal Symposium based on a variety of factors including an individual’s prior involvement with CCSA conferences and makes every attempt to ensure these limited presentation opportunities are shared equitably among those who are actively involved with CCSA.

Collegiality and Networking Opportunities: CCSA promotes and fosters one of the most collegial attorney organizations in California. A member-run organization, CCSA relies primarily on the expertise and goodwill of its members. Attending CCSA conferences and receptions offers a great way to meet others in your fields of practice, or areas where you would like to develop. CCSA welcomes and designs programs for attorneys at every level from seasoned experts to those new to school law. CCSA members enjoy sharing their expertise and being affiliated with an organization that values integrity and collaboration. Many of us believe this is one of the most valuable benefits of being a part of CCSA.

Given the many benefits of CCSA membership, we are hopeful that all education-law firms and organizations, both private and in-house, will expand their participation with this wonderful group of attorneys.
CCSA’s membership structure for the 2023-2024 membership year is as follows:

- CCSA Regular Membership — $165
  - COSA Regular Membership (Optional add-on effective July 1, 2022) – $270
- CCSA In-House Membership — $135
  - COSA In-House Membership (Optional add-on effective July 1, 2022) – $200

(CCSA and COSA In-House Memberships are only available to attorneys who are employees of a public school district or COE).

The 2023-2024 membership form is attached, and we encourage you to join/renew today! Thank you for your continued support of CCSA.

Sincerely,

Melissa Brown
President-Elect

On behalf of the CCSA 2023 Board of Directors: Marisa Lincoln, Paul McGlockin, Amy Brandt, Keith Yeomans, Mellissa Gallegos, and Robert Jacobsen.

Attachment: 2023-2024 CCSA Membership Form