Student Alumni Association FAQ
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Important announcement for all new students! Please go to the class of 2024 web page to choose your class logo—this is open to ALL incoming students and we are excited to see your votes!

1. What is the Student Alumni Association (SAA)?

The Student Alumni Association is a membership organization that will enhance your Carolina experience as a student. As the largest membership organization on campus, SAA provides members with exclusive perks such as discounts at shops on Franklin Street, annual spirit wear T-shirt, unique networking opportunities, events, and more. The SAA invites you to be a part of this Carolina family.

2. What’s the difference between the Student Alumni Association and the General Alumni Association?

The Student Alumni Association offers all undergraduates with student membership, which is a precursor to a future UNC General Alumni Association membership.

3. What are the member perks?

Here are some TOP REASONS to join SAA today—

✓ Roll deep with 336,000+ Tar Heels you’ll have in your network via the online directory upon becoming an SAA member. It will keep your Carolina connection strong and help you engage with alumni.

✓ Save Big with Discounts
  ○ SAA members get great discounts on your favorite order at Sup Dogs, staying spirited with Johnny T-shirt, using national discounts on the UNC Alumni app, and much more! We’ve got you covered.

✓ Leave Your Mark on UNC
  ○ Student leaders make up the SAA Board of Directors and plan all SAA member benefits. Joining the SAA-BOD may be a great fit for you to gain valuable leadership skills. Applications are available each fall.

✓ Rah, Rah, Carolina
  ○ The SAA hosts events that will get you in the Carolina spirit. From Sunset Serenade to Pit Present Party—the Tar Heel traditions shared with friends will create memories that last a lifetime.

✓ Dinner with Tar Heels
  ○ SAA members have the chance every semester to enjoy an awesome dinner with different alumni and students. These dinners provide opportunities to network and connect with alumni for mentorship, career and life advice.

✓ Travel with Us
  ○ The SAA’s domestic travel program, SAA Miles, handles all travel details—just show up and have an incredible time. Members enjoy discounted rates for every trip!
    ▪ Insider’s perspective—while traveling to DC, a student was able to connect with alum and eventually land an internship with them. These are just one of many
opportunities that members will get as they continue to network with alumni and make those meaningful connections.

4. **When can I (the student) join? Can I join after my first year at UNC?**

Yes! You can join at any time during your undergraduate career. Learn more about the membership at our [website](#) and sign up!

5. **Which membership plan should I (the student) choose?**

Students will have the option to choose between 4 membership plans with varying lengths to fit your needs. If you want to try it out and see what being a member is like? Choose annual! If you know you want it for life? Go for the Tar Heel for Life plan! Many families opt to get memberships for their students to provide them the best possible experience at UNC.

1) Annual ($30): 1-year membership
2) Auto-renewing ($30): membership that automatically renews every year
3) Gold ($85): membership for all 4 (or 5) years as an undergraduate
4) Tar Heel for Life ($36.50/month for 2 years): membership for all years as an undergraduate student, and automatic membership in the general alumni association upon graduation. Enjoy these benefits for life!

To learn more about the different membership plans, visit alumni.unc.edu/saa.

6. **What’s in it for me (the student) after graduation?**

Throughout the years as an undergraduate, student members will have unique opportunities to build connections with over 336,000 alumni and other opportunities to develop valuable leadership skills through participation on the SAA Board of Directors and other student organizations. It is great for career prep and finding opportunities after graduation!

7. **Where/who can I (the student) go to for help?**

Feel free to reach out to Caroline Bower and/or Katy Lucci via email! They will be happy to help answer any questions.

Or, once on campus, visit the George Watts Hill alumni center conveniently located between North and South campus.

8. **What if I (the student) want to opt out?**

Once the membership is paid for, students become a member for the length determined by the plan of their choice. The student alumni association has no requirements to stay a member since its primary purpose is to enhance your Carolina experience—it is truly what you want to make of it! Participate in student leadership, attend fun events throughout the semester with a discounted price, and engage with the Carolina community built through the SAA.

9. **What if my parents went to UNC and are already in the General Alumni Association?**

That’s great! We value their membership, and we hope you join the student alumni association to receive all of the membership benefits for you as well! Thank you for continuing the legacy for this organization.
10. I am a student with a tighter budget but still want to enjoy the benefits of being an SAA member. Can SAA help me pay the annual fees?

Unfortunately, the SAA will not be able to help you pay the fees. However, what SAA can do is make the fees a part of your tuition—that way, any remaining scholarship or grant money can help you pay the membership fee.