



# MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS

## ASSOCIATE MEMBER

### ABOUT THE OHIO PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

OPTA offers a wide array of benefits and services that enable our members to enhance their operations, stay informed of critical legislation and public policies, grow their businesses, and play an active role in shaping the future of public transportation.

#### **THE VOICE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN OHIO**

OPTA serves as Ohio's voice for public transportation. Members are involved in establishing OPTA's state and national policy priorities and goals. Our members have the opportunity to significantly influence the legislative and regulatory process via direct contact with elected officials and government agencies during our annual Ohio Loves Transit Lobby Day at the Ohio Statehouse and scheduled visits with congressional members and staff in Washington, D.C.

Frequent legislative updates keep members informed and engaged with the work being done at both the state and national levels. **Established in 1970, OPTA is the primary advocate for public transportation in Ohio.** The association provides leadership, resources, training, support, technical assistance, media outreach, public engagement, and governmental relations services to transit agencies and businesses across the state.

As the powerful, **unified** voice of our members, the 60,000 individuals they employ, and the millions of people, including seniors, veterans, students, people with disabilities and commuters, who use transit every year, OPTA strives to **increase funding** opportunities and improve Ohio's quality of life.

### COST OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP 2025

**\$520** PER CALENDAR YEAR, RENEWING ANNUALLY ON JAN. 1.

Your membership ensures that your organization benefits from OPTA's advocacy initiatives, peer-to-peer networking, thought leadership, professional development, and best practices. Associate membership is per organization and covers all employees.



# RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

### ONGOING PROGRAMS AND ANNUAL EVENTS

OPTA members enjoy a wide variety of exclusive opportunities to participate in educational and professional development, connect with government officials and business leaders and collaborate and network with public transit colleagues.



The Ohio Needs Transit Conference & EXPO consistently draws over 450 individuals from across the state and beyond. The conference has grown to the largest transit conference in the Midwest and largest vehicle show in the nation. OPTA members enjoy exclusive **discounts**, early bird information and the unique ability to **help craft** the educational content provided at each conference.



Each February, OPTA hosts Ohio Loves Transit Week across the state, culminating with Ohio Loves Transit Day at the Ohio Statehouse. Members enjoy **free swag** sent to their office to share with riders in their community to help spread the spirit. Additionally, members participate in **meetings with legislators** and hob nob at the annual Legislative Reception, a complimentary, members-only event.



The OPTA Excellence Awards are presented annually and honor Ohio's transit individuals and organizations that have exemplified leadership and advocacy. Transit employees, board members, and community stakeholders who, by their commitment, work, actions and passion, deserve to be celebrated. Only OPTA members can be nominated for this prestigious industry award.

### PROFESSIONAL PERKS OF MEMBERSHIP

In addition to the rich benefits described above, OPTA members enjoy leadership and professional development opportunities offered throughout the year, including working groups, committees, continuing-ed and online webinars.

OPTA also enjoys a robust social media platform where positive stories and good news from membership is amplified onto OPTA's channels. Finally, members enjoy complimentary job posting and event announcement amplification to OPTA's entire member list.