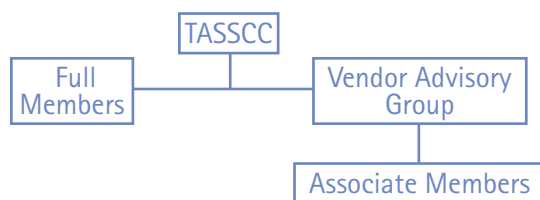


# Texas Association of State Systems for Computing and Communications (TASSCC) Associate Membership: Bringing Expertise to Drive Innovation



## TASSCC: Four categories of membership



## About TASSCC

A not-for-profit association established in 1974 and incorporated in 1985, the purpose of TASSCC is to advance education and networking opportunities for Texas public sector IT professionals. By bringing together IT executives from government, higher education and the private sector, we seek to promote excellence and innovative in public sector IT services in Texas.

## TASSCC Board: Leadership committed to innovation

Our board is comprised of 11 Full Members drawn from state agencies and universities, and is responsible for setting the strategic direction for the organization. Committed to pursuing innovative opportunities for the organization to advance education and networking for its members, TASSCC's board has established the following goals:

- Expand educational, networking and professional development opportunities for IT leaders in the State
- Increase participation in TASSCC activities and events (both State and corporate)
- Maintain a sound, efficient, growing, self-sustaining organizational structure

## Board members

TASSCC has five officers on its board, each of whom serve a two-year term and six directors who each serve a three-year term. Election of Officers and Directors occurs by ballot during the annual summer meeting of TASSCC. Unexpired terms are filled by the President. See [www.tasscc.org/about/board](http://www.tasscc.org/about/board) to view a current list of Officers and Directors.

## Full Membership: Leading Texas into the future

TASSCC has 75 Full Members who represent Information Resource Managers or IT Directors from Texas state agencies and state institutions of higher education. These members serve for unlimited terms, and are eligible to serve as board members.

As IT leaders for state organizations, these executives make critical decisions that not only impact their organizations, but the lives of all Texas citizens. As such, our Full Members are keenly interested in learning about and pursuing innovations that will improve the lives of Texans.

These members not only set the organization's goals, but they also actively participate and drive our events and programs. Their dedicated leadership ensures that the Texas public sector continues to pursue its goal of performance excellence.

## Associate Membership: The value of experience

Our Associate Members are core to the success of our organization. Bringing with them a breadth and depth of technical and managerial expertise, we rely on our Associate Members to drive innovation by sharing industry-leading best practices.

We provide a variety of unique education and networking events in which our Associate Members discuss hot topics, share knowledge and brainstorm ideas with our members from the public sector. This type of exchange between the public and private sector is unique, and all our members find it both personally and professionally rewarding.

## Responsibilities and benefits

Representing a diverse group, Associate Members are drawn from:

- Corporations associated with information technology doing business with Texas state government
- Municipal governments in Texas
- Not-for-profit organizations in Texas

First-time membership applicants are reviewed by the TASSCC board. Once approved, membership is immediate once dues are paid (\$200/year). Different from an elected position within the organization, Associate Members enjoy an unlimited membership term, providing dues are current.

Associate Members have the opportunity to participate in key organizational functions and events, including events and conferences, educational programs and the Vendor Advisory Group.

## Vendor Advisory Group (VAG): Promoting knowledge sharing

Led by three officers, the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, TASSCC's Vendor Advisory Group (VAG) is a collective group of corporate technology leaders who work closely with the Board to provide advice and support to the organization. VAG is comprised of people representing 13 companies elected from the Associate Membership, each serving a term of three years.

Each VAG member can serve two consecutive terms, for a maximum of six years. After the term limit is reached, the VAG member must sit out from the VAG for a period of one year before being eligible for re-appointment. The terms of VAG members are staggered so that roughly one-third of the VAG members are considered for replacement each year. If a VAG member is elected to fill a position vacated before its expiration, that term serves as the first term for the new VAG member.

Elections held each August unless there is a vacancy due to non-participation (an election is then held as soon as possible after vacancy). Each VAG member votes based on the number of positions available (e.g., if there are three positions open, then the group votes for three companies to fill those positions).

## Responsibilities and benefits

Vital to the success of the organization, VAG members are very active participants. In addition to attending monthly meetings and volunteering to serve on subcommittees, VAG members also:

- Attend each TASSCC Board meeting (Chair, Vice-Chair)
- Attend each VAG meeting (2 absences allowed in a rolling 12-month period; allowed to send substitute)
- Sponsor lunch once a year (as a courtesy to lunch vendor, it is asked that Associate Members limit participation to one representative per company)
- Participate in subcommittees by either sponsorship funding or dedication of time
  - Program subcommittee: plans Summer Conference, State of the State Conference, TEC (Education) Conference
  - Education subcommittee: works with Joy Bryant (Department of Information Resources) to publicize educational conferences, seminars to Associate Membership
  - Website subcommittee: manages web site content and use
  - Other ad-hoc subcommittees as appropriate

## Networking and education opportunities

One of the key benefits of TASSCC membership is the ongoing opportunity to meet and learn from fellow IT leaders. In addition to monthly board and VAG meetings, TASSCC sponsors and hosts a variety of special interest and training events throughout the year and three main conference events:

- State of the State (December) – one-day event focused on issues of prime importance to the State of Texas
- Education Conference (Spring) – two-day educational event centered around on a specific topic of interest to the membership
- Annual Conference (Summer) – three-day event (Sponsorship opportunities available) that features keynote speakers, breakout sessions, networking events and much more

As each event draws near, you'll receive comprehensive event information, including details on sponsorship opportunities.

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