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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & NETWORKING

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A critical element of any effective job search is networking. Networking can mean many things to many people, however, at its heart, networking is about interacting and learning from others: sharing best practices, lessons learned, and encouraging and enjoying the success of others. Networking in itself is an avenue for professional development or job leads but is often times overlooked in the course of one's day-to-day work and personal obligations.

Many organizations offer opportunities for leadership or volunteer experience and industry-specific certifications, all with a common focus of moving its industry or profession forward. Active membership as well as many activities that you may participate in as a member can also be notable to include on your résumé.

While certainly not comprehensive, here is a list of numerous credible professional networking groups from local to global, that many of my clients have shared with me as well as some that I have been fortunate enough to have been part of over the years throughout my work in human resources.

Many of the national organizations may have local or regional chapters in your area. If you're not sure, contact your local Chamber of Commerce for information.

Relocating for a new job opportunity? Consider negotiating the cost of an annual professional membership with your new employer as part of your salary package. What a great way to support the goals of your new organization and meet like-minded colleagues.

Look into a few and see which ones support your professional goals:

- ➔ American Business Women's Association
<http://abwawny.com/>
- ➔ American Payroll Association
<https://www.americanpayroll.org/>
- ➔ Association for Manufacturing Excellence
<http://www.ame.org/>
- ➔ APICS – Association for Supply Chain Management
<http://www.apics.org/>
- ➔ Association for Talent Development
<https://www.td.org/>
- ➔ Association of American Educators
<https://www.aaeteachers.org/>

- ➔ Association of Certified Nonprofit Professionals
<https://www.nonprofitleadershipalliance.org/cnp/>
- ➔ American Marketing Association
<https://www.ama.org>
- ➔ American Marketing Association, Boston, MA
<http://amaboston.org/>
- ➔ Association for Information Technology Professionals
<https://www.aitp.org/>
- ➔ Baltimore Networking Connections
<http://www.baltimorenetworkingconnections.com/>
- ➔ BNHRA – Buffalo Niagara Human Resources Association
<https://bnhra.org/>
- ➔ Business Advisors of Cleveland
<http://bacleveland.org/resources/NEOnetworkinggroups.pdf>
- ➔ Business Executives Networking Group
<https://thebeng.org/>
- ➔ Business Networking Groups, Pittsburgh, PA
<http://www.clicksinternetmarketing.com/business-networking-groups/>
- ➔ College and University Professional Association for Human Resources
<https://www.cupahr.org/>
- ➔ Ellevate – Professional Women’s Networking, Boston, MA
<https://www.ellevatenetwork.com>
- ➔ Global Sales and Marketing Professional Association
<https://www.smei.org/>
- ➔ National Association for Female Executives
<https://www.nafe.com/>
- ➔ National Association of Insurance Professionals, Inc.
<http://www.thenaip.org/>

- ➔ National Association of Women Business Owners
<https://www.nawbo.org/>
- ➔ National Black MBA Association
<https://nbmbaa.org/>
- ➔ National Student Nurses' Association
<https://www.nсна.org/>
- ➔ Nurse.org's Listing of Professional Nursing Organizations
<https://nurse.org/orgs.shtml>
- ➔ Professional Sales Association
<https://psamn.org/>
- ➔ Professional Women's Network (PWN) of San Francisco, CA
<https://www.meetup.com/Professional-Womens-Network-of-San-Francisco/>
- ➔ Rochester, NY, Business Networking Groups
https://rocviki.org/Business_Networking
- ➔ Rochester, NY Young Professionals
<http://r-y-p.org/>
- ➔ Society for Human Resources Management
<https://shrm.org/>
- ➔ Technology Association of Georgia, Young Professionals, Atlanta, GA
<https://www.tagonline.org/chapters-and-societies/young-professionals/>

LinkedIn can also be a great resource for online networking and to see who is involved in the types of professional organizations you would like to be involved in.