

We look forward to your membership in AFSM and to your continued connection to the PAHO WHO family.

Membership Benefits – What AFSM will do for You

Support members: respond to concerns about benefits and well-being; problem solve with health insurance claims, certificates of entitlement, pension, and the Credit Union; try to locate relatives or friends of people who may have passed away to help family members to follow-up with Pension and Health Insurance issues; and facilitate connecting with units in PAHO, WHO, and UNJSPF.

Represent, advocate for, and defend members' rights and benefits: through participation on PAHO/WHO health insurance committees where decisions impacting their well-being are made.

Provide ongoing access to communication and social media: Link to a Web-based portal with information and guidance on issues of importance to our members, such as how to preserve and protect members' or survivors' assets; Facebook page for social exchanges; and blast email messages with timely and important information to our members.

Distribute a Quarterly newsletter: Receive an extensive virtual newsletter three to four times a year with updated information about health insurance and pension, key WHO and PAHO activities, helpful health and techno tips, stories from and about former PAHO and/or WHO employee; list of new members and those who have passed away; among other things.

Offer contact information of members: Receive information from a central membership data base to assist members to find and contact other members.

Share an opportunity to be elected to the AFSM Board, become a Focal Point on behalf of the Board, send suggestions and proposals related to AFSM activities, volunteer to participate in committee activities, and support the broader community where they live.

Advance social connections: Be part of a community and build solidarity through luncheons, outings, and face-to-face and virtual communications to strengthen and expand friendship. AFSM organizes international reunions and annual gatherings to share Association information and news, elect Board members, and socialize. Members may choose to self-finance their attendance or participate virtually.

Extend coaching in technology: to learn to use new technologies such as Zoom, WhatsApp, and computers that facilitate connection with family and friends.

Furnish an opportunity to be part of a knowledge-sharing community established by and for former WHO/PAHO employees, enriched by webinars, newsletters, and a website.

Encourage participation in projects: Contribute to collaborative local projects with local members.

Give access to guidelines on planning and protecting assets, advance planning for passing away, how to access AFSM's website, updating personal information, voting, registering for AFSM, changing addresses, handling Medicare, as well as accessing AFSM Bylaws and updated health insurance and pension documents.

Special benefits from the PAHO Credit Union: Benefit from preferential services, webinars, and advice about financial management offered to members.

The Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff Members (AFSM) is a voluntary group of people who worked for PAHO and/or WHO, who choose to come together to enjoy and remember friendships, their years working for PAHO and its global mission, and to support each other as they aged into their later years. In AFSM's first Newsletter in 1990, AFSM founders wrote: "Our years of work together are like a life lived with a 'family' which we cannot and should not erase from our hearts." Neither can we. Today, AFSM is truly an active international group with members in almost all of the countries of the Americas, with chapters and focal points promoting AFSM's mission at the country level. We offer international meetings, a vibrant website, local projects, and more. We meet and exchange with other international organizations and are part of the recently formed Global Council of AFSM. The future is open. Don't you want to be a part of this exciting opportunity?

AFSM works through a Governing Board, Committees, Chapters, and Focal Points throughout the region

AFSM has a management structure consisting of a nine-member board, issue-specific committees, and AFSM Focal Points that have been designated to liaise with the Board, identify local members or fellow former employees, and link with the country's PWR. For further information, please contact AFSM at <https://www.afsmpaho.com/>.

Membership

Open to all former PAHO and WHO employees, spouses/life partners, and designated representatives. Lifetime Membership for a family is: US\$150.

To join or request additional information: please contact the Membership Coordinator by email at afsmpaho@gmail.com

or by postal mail at:

AFSM c/o PAHO
525 23rd Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037-2895, USA

Webpage: <https://www.afsmpaho.com>

Facebook: Members will need to have a Facebook account and then go to this address and request access as a friend: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/230159803692834/>