



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR  
COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING

## MEMBER MONTHLY BULLETIN

November 12, 2025

### In this Issue...

1. Executive Board & Committee Applications Opening Soon
2. Member Engagement Webinar: December 10
3. Welcome to the Newly Appointed Regional Representatives!
4. 2026 Membership Renewal Reminder
5. Membership Dues Waivers
6. Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Award Announcement
7. Scholar Program Reminder
8. Summer Enrichment Programs 2026
9. Mentor Year Program: 2025-26 Cohort, Please Read
10. Regional Institutes Update
11. Dates & Deadlines
12. Quick Links

---

## Executive Board & Committee Applications Opening Soon

Let 2026 be the year you serve on the [Executive Board](#) or a volunteer for a [Committee](#). These are incredible opportunities to deepen your engagement within the International ACAC community.

[\*\*2026 Executive Board\*\*](#) openings include the following. Applications will open in mid-December for following positions:

- President-Elect
- Vice President for Global Affairs
- Vice President for Membership & Data
- Vice President for Support, Access, & Success

**Volunteering for a [Committee](#)** is a way to support the association and make new professional connections while utilizing your personal gifts and interests.

**Interested in applying for the Board but unsure where to start?** Submit the [2026 Board Interest Form](#) to speak to a member of the GNC and gather more information.

Applications for Regional Council Representatives for Region 2 and Region 8 will also open in mid-December for a three-year term.

## Member Engagement Webinar: December 10

*Considering joining an International ACAC Committee? Are you ready for a leadership role in an Executive Board position? How else can members get involved?*

Join this year's [Member Engagement Webinar](#) on **Wednesday, December 10**, where panelists will speak to what the commitment and experience is like volunteering at different levels. Learn about the steps to apply and how best to present yourself in an application for any role. Immediate Past President Wilson Lee and other current volunteers will explain more about the Executive Board election process and answer your questions.

Make this webinar your next step to grow as a professional. Advance registration is required.

[Register Here](#)

## Welcome to the Newly Appointed Regional Representatives!

Join us in welcoming the newly appointed Regional Representatives for Region 2 and Region 8, Kaleena Carter and Chris Payne! We are excited to add their voices to the [Regional Council](#).



### Region 2

Kaleena Carter  
Dwight School Seoul  
Korea, Republic of

### Region 8

Chris Payne  
Collingwood School  
Canada

# 2026 Membership Renewal Reminder

2026 Renewal instructions were sent to members via email on October 8. To renew your membership for the year, simply verify the information in your [Member Profile](#) and pay the renewal dues invoice. This invoice was included in the renewal notice on October 8, and is also available in the "[My Billing Info](#)" section of the Info Hub.

If updates are needed on your membership profile, submit a [profile update form](#).

Thank you to the 1,200+ members who have already renewed their membership for 2026! As a reminder, members who renew after January 31 will incur a \$15 USD administrative fee on top of their member dues cost.

## Membership Dues Waivers

International ACAC is pleased to offer [Membership Dues Waivers](#) to those seeking assistance in paying their 2026 annual membership dues. Dues waivers are available to both new and existing members, and will be approved by the Membership Committee on a rolling basis.

[Membership Dues Waiver Application](#)

## Congratulations to James Akaba, Winner of the GEM Award!

**Congratulations to James Akaba, Country Director for Open Dreams in Cameroon and recipient of the October 2026 Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Award!**



James is an exemplary leader in the field of international education, with an unwavering commitment to equity, access, and student success that has transformed the lives of countless young scholars, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds. His innovative approach and dedication to the HALI network make him a truly deserving candidate for this prestigious recognition.

James' impact extends beyond individual students, fostering systemic change in access to higher education for marginalized groups. International ACAC commends James for his valuable contributions to our community and the counseling profession at large, and we are proud to award him with this season's GEM Award.

Learn more about the GEM Award [here](#).

# Scholar Program Reminder

Don't miss your chance to apply for the [International ACAC Scholar Program](#). Scholars have already been selected for 2026 - apply now to join the conference in 2027!

## 2027 Scholar Program Application

**Application Deadline:** December 1, 2025

Those chosen for the Scholar Program will be funded to attend the 2027 International ACAC Annual Conference, Pre-Conference Institute, and a counselor bus tour following the conference.

## 2026 Summer Enrichment Programs

Each year, International ACAC maintains a list of [summer enrichment programs](#) for members to share with students or peers. If your institution hosts a summer enrichment program for students, we would love to hear about it!

You may submit a program [here](#) or by navigating to your [Info Hub](#) and clicking on the tab called *2026 Summer Enrichment Programs*.

## Mentor Year Program: 2025-26 Cohort, Please Read

Mentors and Mentees in this year's cohort- this message is for you!

### **Communications**

Please mark [MentorYearProgram@InternationalACAC.org](mailto:MentorYearProgram@InternationalACAC.org) to your "safe senders" list to ensure messages are not going to your spam folder.

The best way to do so will depend on your email provider. (For instance, the best method for Gmail might be different than the best method for Outlook.) Please research the best method for your own inbox.

### **Professional Development Stipend**

The Mentor Year Program has again been allocated funding from International ACAC to help support our mentees and mentors with stipends for professional development opportunities this year. We will be issuing 12 stipends up to \$250 each to be used **between February 2026 and June 2026**.

More information and the application form will be available on December 1. Be sure to mark the email address as "safe" so you get notification as soon as possible!

## Regional Institutes Update

International ACAC is excited to be offering 3 Regional Institutes in 2026. If you have any questions, you

International ACAC is excited to be offering 3 Regional Institutes in 2026. If you have any questions, you may learn more on the [website](#) or reach out to the [Regional Institutes Team](#).

**April 9-11:** East Asia, Southeast Asia, & Oceania Regional Institute

Dwight School Hanoi

Hanoi, Vietnam

[Register Here](#)

**September 30-October 2:** The Americas Regional Institute

Lincoln School

San José, Costa Rica

[Expression of Interest Form](#)

**October 18-20:** South & Central Asia

Emerald Heights International School

Indore, India

[Expression of Interest Form](#)

---

## Dates & Deadlines

Find all upcoming International ACAC events on the [Events Calendar](#).

- Nov 17-21: International Education Week
- Nov 19: Webinar Wednesday - *Exploring Medical Pathways*
- Nov 20: Europe Regional Institute Project Manager Application Deadline
- Dec 1: Scholar Program Application Deadline
- Dec 3: Webinar Wednesday
- Dec 10: Member Engagement Webinar

---

## Quick Links

- [Board Service Interest Form](#)
- [2026 Executive Board Election](#)
- [Scholar Program](#)
- [Regional Council](#)
- [Regional Institutes](#)
- [International ACAC Awards](#)
- [2026-2027 International ACAC International Student Financial Aid Forms](#)

---

## Thank You to Our Platinum Sponsors



**CIALFO**



**Match**