The College may hold membership in local, state, regional, or national associations that contribute directly to the welfare and improvement of the College, provided, however, that no payments for dues may be made unless the organization or association to whom they are payable certifies in writing that the records of this College in its possession shall be public and open to inspection as provided by Florida law. Members of the Board of Trustees and College employees are encouraged to participate in the professional development activities of these local, state, regional, and national associations.

Initial institutional membership in professional organizations and associations may be authorized and paid for from College funds upon specific approval by the President. Subsequent renewal of these memberships may be recommended at the department level in accordance with funds budgeted for this purpose. No funds, however, shall be expended, regardless of source, to purchase membership in, or goods and service from, any organization known to discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, religion, gender, marital status, or disability.