



WHAT is ATPO and what is its purpose? The Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology (ATPO) is a professional membership organization, dedicated to the success of Ophthalmic Medical Technicians. The purpose is to provide, expand, and support scientific and educational opportunities for allied health personnel in ophthalmology, and to act as an advocate for its members and profession.

WHO can join ATPO? Anyone working as an OMT or who is currently enrolled in a regular academic program for OMT can join ATPO. You do not have to be certified to be a member, but you must be certified to hold office. ATPO does encourage certification and has many educational opportunities to help candidates prepare for the exams.

WHEN is the best time to join ATPO? You should join as soon as you begin your career or education in ophthalmology. There are many benefits that can enhance your career and job experience through peer networking, education, and job placement.

WHERE can I find a list of benefits or other information about the organization? ATPO has a website, www.atpo.org, which has a wealth of information about educational and career opportunities. There is a "Members Only" link on the website that will give you access to the Salary and Benefits Survey, Complimentary CE credits, and past and current issues of *Viewpoints* magazine.

WHY should I join? There are many career enhancing opportunities for ATPO members, including the three "Members Only" benefits listed above as well as: Continuing Education savings at the annual meeting and regional educational programs, discounts on the exam review flashcards, peer networking, regional mentor networking, job posting service, and opportunities to lead and to serve.

How is ATPO different from JCAHPO? ATPO is your professional organization, your advocate to help you be more successful in your career, consisting of your peers, focused on your future. JCAHPO is the source of professional certification for OMT. Or put another way:

JCAHPO certifies, ATPO unifies.

The Board hopes you find this Q & A helpful in articulating who we are and the importance of membership for our profession. Of course, this just scratches the surface. Please visit the webpage and take a few minutes to look at the scroll down menu items. You will find more answers there.

Feel free to contact any Board member by email with ideas, suggestions or questions.

We are here to serve you.

ATPO...Support Beyond Certification
Focused on Your future!