

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PTO & PTA

PTO	PTA
PTO - one; only those children in that school building	PTA - all children throughout the nation
No affiliation with anyone else	Affiliation with other local PTA's, council, state, & national
Cost for tax-exempt status is around \$5000 initial cost	Automatic tax-exempt status - FREE
Agenda is about fundraising	Agenda is about advocacy, legislation that affects the health & welfare of all children, raise funds to provide resources for children, parents, & staff
Cost of insurance is \$235 from PTO Today or \$400 - \$1500 year through your own carrier	Cost of insurance is \$85/yr. for 1 million dollars worth of coverage
Any liability of PTO not covered by your school district	Liability is covered your insurance policy through AIM Insurance
Dues charged remain in school	Dues paid are \$4.75 per person provide every local unit with valuable resources, programs, lobbyists, website, magazine, conferences, on-going training, toll-free # to talk to folks at the National PTA office, weekly email newsletter from National, weekly email What's Happening in Washington, state newsletter, recognition programs, paid staff (state & national), Back to School Kits, educational CD's (curriculum, advocacy, membership, arts, etc.) Breakdown of membership dues, \$1.75 to National & \$3.00 to state
Providing resources is non-existent	Resources are on going from Council, State, & National
Your agenda only	Programs, scholarships, healthy kids, mat works, Reflections (visual arts, literature, music, photography, dance, video production) as well as your PTA's agenda

No lobbyists	Lobbyists on the Hill (Madison & Washington D.C.)
Your own training	Training ongoing (Leadership locally, state, national)
N.A.	PTA is call upon to serve and represent you on various committees & groups (locally, state & national)
N.A.	Awards for your local PTA (locally, state, & national)
PTO Today holds a conference about fundraising	Annual conventions (state & national) Workshops on issues advocacy, curriculum, health & welfare, parental involvement, leadership, legislation, awareness on issues affecting children, etc
N.A.	Networking, help is only a phone call away (locally, state, national)
N.A.	Resolutions that allow your leaders to speak to issues that affect you the most, such as school funding, NCLB, closing the achievement gap, school wellness & health, financial aid for college students, Etc. These resolutions are brought forth at the annual convention (state & national) that you the PTA member vote on. This allows the position taken on the resolutions to be the position the PTA takes when speaking to the legislature (locally, state, nationally) and the media.
N.A.	Founded in 1897 by Alice Birney & Phoebe Hearst, the National Congress of Mothers. In 1926 Selena Sloan Butler founded the National Congress of Colored Parents. In 1970 the two merge, thus becoming the National Parent & Teacher Association.
History of PTO: fundraising	History of PTA: Immunizations, kindergarten, fair wages for teachers, juvenile justice system, PTA radio and TV program, alcohol & tobacco usage & awareness programs, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV & AIDS awareness, Parent & Family Involvement, funding for Title I, Parent

	Resources Centers, legislation for FMLA, NCLB parent involvement, v-chip, movie rating system, just to name a few
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The chart below is for information purposes. Costs for liability and 501 c (3) were obtained from AIM Insurance and the IRS. Additional information can be obtain from www.pta.org and www.ptotoday.org

	PTA	PTO Today	PTO/Other Parent Groups
Insurance	\$ 85.00 year	\$ 235.00 year	\$ 400 - \$ 1500 year
Dues	\$ 47.50 (10 members)	\$ 150.00 year	?
501 c (3)	\$ 0.00	\$ 5000.00 Initial Cost	\$ 5000.00 Initial Cost
Total	\$ 135.00 Initial Cost	\$ 5385 Initial Cost	\$ 5400 - \$ 6500 Initial Cost
Yearly	\$ 135.00 year	\$ 385.00 year*	\$ 400 - \$ 1500 year*

* This does not included the dues that a school will collect for each individual member



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