PTA leaders are here to help you every step of the way in starting a PTA at your school. The process includes:

1. Initial inquiry or interest in becoming a PTA is referred to a Florida PTA board member.
2. The Florida PTA board member presents general information at a meeting of the school community which includes the principal, staff and parents where questions are answered and a consent to move forward is sought.
3. Volunteers choose to serve on a steering committee that is responsible for planning and advertising the organizational meeting, completing the bylaws and creating a nominating committee that will present a slate of officers to be elected at the organizational meeting. Orientation and training will be provided throughout this process so that the new PTA can function effectively as soon as it is organized.
4. At the organizational meeting, charter members will join, bylaws are adopted and officers will be elected.
5. The Florida PTA board member will complete and submit paperwork to get the PTA started.
6. Florida PTA will continue to offer training opportunities and ongoing support for the new PTA during its first year.

Why PTA?

**All Children Are Our Children!**

PTAs promote parent and community engagement. When parents and community members work as equal partners to improve schools, it is shown that results work.

**Advocacy**

PTA has a long, successful history of influencing federal policy to promote the education, health and well-being of all children—resulting in kindergarten classes, child labor laws, school lunch programs, a juvenile justice system, and strengthened parent-teacher relationships. ([www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org))

Each year Florida PTA has volunteers in Tallahassee and working throughout the state to make education a priority! ([www.floridapta.org](http://www.floridapta.org))

**What’s in it for students?**

Thirty years of research proves that students do better when parents are involved. No matter what their income or background, students are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and test scores
- Enroll in higher level programs
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills, show improved behavior

**PTA benefits include:**

- Volunteers advocating for children
- Improved communication within the school community
- Access to easy-to-use programs
- Involved and informed parents who understand the challenges that schools face and become part of the solution
- A voice to ensure that issues important to the school and community are addressed

**PTA wants what is best for ALL children.**
There are many types of parent groups out there, but there is only one PTA. A part of school and family life for more than 120 years, 94 years in Florida. PTA is the defining association for family and community engagement.

PTA was founded in 1897. February 17 is celebrated as Founder's Day by all PTAs.

The Florida PTA was chartered on April 14, 1923.

Currently PTA has over 5 million members coast to coast, in Puerto Rico and overseas where U.S. Military families are stationed. Florida is home to over 280,000 members.

PTA
Parent Teacher Association

PTSA
Parent Teacher Student Association

PTA Mission is to be...
A powerful voice for all children;
A relevant resource for families and communities, and
A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

Our PTA Purpose is
To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.

We are
A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Non-partisan, non-commercial, non-sectarian
Organized at the local, county, state and national levels.

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