

How do I become active in LPM?

Actively assert your interest in helping out. Volunteer your skills and your time.

1. Attend Section meetings and participate in Committee and Board meetings that interest you and match your “core” interests.

Section meetings conduct the business of developing content to deliver to members and legal professionals and developing greater membership through marketing and other devices. The benefits of attending Section meetings are numerous, including networking, professional development through content contribution and leadership, building professional and social relationships and potential advancement in the ABA. There are four meetings each year:

- The **ABA/LPM Annual Meeting** is the largest ABA meeting, with all entities meeting in one location to plan business, to network, and to celebrate the transition into a new bar year. LPM conducts normal business and presents multiple CLE programs at this meeting.
- The **LPM Fall Meeting** is generally for generating new ideas for the new bar association year and is a planning meeting. At this meeting, LPM committees meet to conduct business planning. Members also participate in networking receptions.
- The **ABA/LPM Mid-Year Meeting** is another meeting with all of the ABA, and includes business planning, some CLE and other educational programs, and networking events.
- The **LPM Spring Meeting** is a continuation of business planning as well as a forum for suggestions to improve the Section. There are also networking receptions at this meeting.

2. Request appointment to a Committee or Board that interests you.

All committee and board positions (other than elected positions) are appointed by the Section Chair, at his or her discretion. All appointments are made for one-year terms and may or may not be renewed. If you are interested in being appointed to a committee or board position, speak with the Section Chair, or the leader of the delivery board or committee to which you would like to be appointed. While there may not currently be room for a new appointment, it is important to make your interest known for the next round of appointments.

Once appointed, responsibilities include attendance at meetings (whether by phone or in person); volunteering for and accepting assignments for projects; and providing project and content ideas, all to contribute to the advancement of the Section goals. Many appointed positions are reimbursable, meaning that most of your travel and other expenses associated with attendance at Section meetings are reimbursed, either in part or in full.

3. Initiate/participate in post-meeting phone calls and follow up with the people and projects that interest you.

Demonstrate your continued interest and commitment to being active, and the projects and positions will come your way.

Types of LPM activity

There are basically two areas in which members can become active:

1. Administrative, Member Development, and Leadership positions

In these positions, active members conduct the “business” of the Section, promote the goals of the Section, and make decisions regarding what content will be shared with members at meetings and other events. As mentioned previously, the section has Delivery Boards, Committees, Standing Committees, and Task Forces through which the Section generates and delivers content and other benefits to members.

If you have experience in a particular core area or in a particular aspect of the Section’s business, such as developing membership, seek out the leader of the appropriate committee and express your interest in contributing your skills. Or speak directly to the Section Chair about your interest and expertise. See the Structure of LPM handout to get an idea of where your skills might best be utilized.

2. Content Development

LPM’s content is the substantive information that the Section produces and publishes for the broader audience. Whether printed or spoken, the content is the result of bringing the expertise of the Section’s members together to share with others. LPM’s content educates lawyers and associate members and directly benefits the quality, efficiency, and productiveness of their work.

In the content development capacity, actives create content for the Section’s various outlets for sharing written and spoken content, which include the Sections’ magazine, webzine, and monthly e-mail, as well as CLE courses in person, over the phone, and online. The Section also publishes content in the form of books.

Seeking opportunities to provide content in your area of expertise, such as through an article for the magazine or the webzine, or through providing ideas and speaker referrals for CLE programs, is a great way to contribute. Your “core” interests (marketing, management, finance or technology) may guide which delivery board you join.