

## Affiliated Member Organizations\*

HELPING PROFESSIONALS WHO HELP YOU



Some part of every township budget is earmarked for professional services. The input from township solicitors, engineers, and planners is not only invaluable but in many cases required by law. With associations serving each of these areas, PSATS helps these professionals stay up to date on local government topics so they, in turn, can offer even better services to townships.

Members of the **Township Solicitors Association, Engineers Association, and Planning Association** receive periodic newsletters covering issues pertinent to their profession, training opportunities, and access to the Association's knowledgeable staff.

PSATS also offers township emergency management coordinators and other public safety personnel with the opportunity to join the **Township Emergency Management Association**. As with the other associations, the goals include providing training, bringing people together to share issues and ideas, and serving as an information resource.

## Drug and Alcohol Testing\*

CDL COMPLIANCE MADE EASY



Through its Drug and Alcohol Testing Program, PSATS helps townships comply with the laws governing employees who operate vehicles that require commercial driver's licenses (CDL). The program provides all required drug and alcohol testing at many convenient sites, training, and consultation with knowledgeable staff.

\*Additional fees may apply.

The program also provides drug and alcohol testing services to townships for pre-employment testing and employees in safety-sensitive positions such as lifeguards, those who use dangerous equipment, and anyone helping with parks and recreation programs.

## Legal Defense Partnership\*

WATCHING OUT FOR TOWNSHIPS IN THE COURTS



Because court cases set precedents that can affect all Pennsylvania townships, PSATS established the **Legal Defense Partnership** to support its members in litigating legal disputes.

Townships that find themselves involved in appellate-level cases with statewide implications may apply to the Association for assistance.

## Insurance\*

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED



Low cost and quality service have been top priorities for **PSATS' Trustees Insurance and Retirement Services** since 1959. The Trustees program offers health, dental, disability, and life insurance plans, as well as a defined benefit pension plan and a 457(b) retirement savings plan.

The Association has also formed a partnership with Municipal Risk Management Inc. of Pittsburgh to provide **liability and property insurance and workers' compensation** for its members. PSATS also administers the **Unemployment Compensation Group Trust Fund**, which, like the other insurance programs, offers affordable coverage with great customer service.

## PSATS SERVICES AT A GLANCE

- Education
  - Annual Educational Conference
  - PSATS Municipal Government Academy
  - Human Resources Institute
  - General Township Training
  - Customized On-site Programs
- Information/Assistance
- Legislative Advocacy
- Grassroots Lobbying Network
- Publications
  - Pa. Township News • PSATS News Bulletin • Townships Today • Week-in-Review • Sunshine and Right-to-Know Laws Guide • Ethics Act Guide
- Electronic Communications
  - Website • Township Video News • Social Media
- Insurance
- Unemployment Compensation
- Township Legal Defense Partnership
- Awards Program
- Township Solicitors Association
- Township Engineers Association
- Township Planning Association
- Township Emergency Management Association
- PA Association of Zoning Officers
- Drug and Alcohol Testing Program
- Public Employers Labor Relations Advisory Service (PELRAS)
- Automatic Membership in the National Association of Towns and Townships



PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

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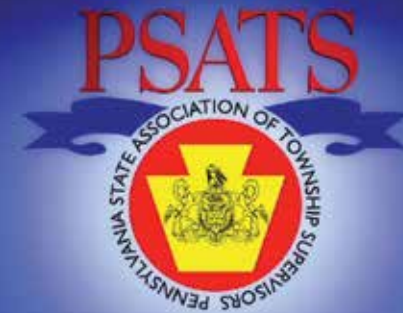
Web: [www.psats.org](http://www.psats.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/psats](http://www.facebook.com/psats)

Twitter: @PSATS or [twitter.com/#!/PSATS](https://twitter.com/#!/PSATS)

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# PSATS: The Benefits of Membership



MOVING FORWARD

# Townships and PSATS: Growing Stronger Together

Since its creation in 1921, PSATS has watched townships — and the role of township officials — grow and change tremendously, and the Association has grown and expanded its services to keep pace. PSATS' mission has remained constant: Protecting and promoting township government; educating, informing, and supporting township officials; and striving for legislation that will better enable townships to provide services at an affordable cost.

Today's township leader faces a full plate of responsibilities, and fortunately, the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors is here to help you. As your membership organization, PSATS provides a wide array of services to Pennsylvania's 1,454 townships of the second class (*including home rule*) — and at an affordable annual dues rate.

PSATS knows what services townships need most and has worked hard to develop and provide those to you. From training to communications, lobbying, insurance, information, and more, we help you do your job better and serve your citizens well.

## Annual Conference and Training Courses A LEADER IN EDUCATION



Nowhere is the strength and vitality of townships — and of PSATS — showcased more clearly than at the Association's **Annual Educational Conference and Trade Show**, held every spring in Hershey. As the largest municipal event in the state, the conference draws 4,000 attendees and continues to grow.

The conference features more than 100 workshops, an impressive lineup of speakers, a trade show with close to 300 exhibitors, and a once-a-year chance for networking with thousands of township peers from across the state.

The conference also offers township officials the opportunity to set PSATS policy by voting on the resolutions proposed by the county associations during the year.

As townships' responsibilities expand and become more complex, PSATS is here to help township officials meet the challenge through a wide-ranging training program developed specifically to meet the needs of our members. PSATS is a leader in outreach education for local government officials.

The Association conducts a variety of workshops across the state each year on topics ranging from road maintenance and stormwater management to budgeting and bookkeeping — all with the help of a highly talented, professional cadre of instructors, many of whom are township officials.

PSATS also partners with state agencies such as the state Departments of General Services and Transportation and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency to provide training programs to local government officials.

Besides onsite training, PSATS also offers webinars that enable members to learn without ever leaving the comfort of their office or home.

## Publications/ Communication KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED



Communication is a core mission at PSATS, and it comes in more formats today than ever before. The award-winning monthly *Pennsylvania Township News*, *PSATS News Bulletin*, the quarterly *Townships Today*, and informational brochures and guides serve as the Association's more traditional means of print communications with its members. PSATS also takes advantage of electronic communications through its **website**, **“Connect” discussion group**, **social media**, and **Township Video News**.

In addition, PSATS promotes and supports its members through various public relations and media outreach efforts.

## Information and Assistance HERE FOR YOU



One of the most valuable resources PSATS offers its member townships is the **combined knowledge, expertise, and experience of its professional staff**, which answers hundreds of queries each week from townships by phone and email.

Among other services, PSATS staffers can answer questions about township law and responsibilities, provide townships with sample resolutions and ordinances, and direct townships to any additional resources they may need.

PSATS' programs, services, and expertise are also accessible at **www.psats.org**. Designed to be user-friendly and easy to navigate, the website provides a search engine to help township officials

find exactly what they're looking for. The site includes information on all PSATS programs, plus:

- The entire text of the **Township Code** as a downloadable, searchable PDF document;
- The online **Resource Center**, which contains sample ordinances and legal notices, job descriptions, and many other documents;
- **Links to Key Resources**, where you can find state agency information, such as links to manuals from the Governor's Center for Local Government Services; and
- A **Local Government Marketplace** that provides information on vendors that have products and services to offer townships.

## Legislative Advocacy A VOICE IN THE CAPITOL



The Association keeps a close watch on state legislation, lobbying for laws that would benefit townships, fighting the initiatives that would harm them, and working with legislators to develop policies favorable to townships' residents.

The PSATS legislative staff analyzes pending legislation, testifies on proposals before the legislature, and keeps member townships informed about the bills that would affect them. When important legislation hits the fast track, PSATS calls on the members of its **Grassroots Lobbying Network** to pick up the phone or send an email to their legislators to urge support for or opposition to a particular proposal. Network members make sure the collective voice of townships' leaders is heard in Harrisburg and Washington.

PSATS also keeps townships up to date on changes in state law through its **New Laws Service**.<sup>\*</sup> For a small annual fee, member townships can receive copies of all the new laws affecting townships.