

SPOUSES AND PARTNERS

Harvard Student Spouses and Partners Association (HSSPA)

HSSPA is a volunteer-run organization open to the spouses and partners of all Harvard affiliates. Since 1896, it has provided a way for its members to make friends, find intellectual stimulation, and feel a sense of belonging within the University. HSSPA organizes a variety of outings, activities, and social events throughout the year. Join the member's mailing list by sending an e-mail to harvardspouses@gmail.com, or visit the HSSPA website at www.hsspa.harvard.edu for more information. HSSPA's Spouses Support Group meets once a week to allow the spouses and partners of Harvard affiliates to exchange experiences at Harvard and to make new friends. To receive a weekly newsletter about the support group's meetings please send an e-mail to spousesupport@gmail.com. HSSPA's Playgroup for Infants and Toddlers offers a weekly meeting opportunity for parents and caregivers with their children, in coordination with Peabody Terrace resident advisors. If you are interested in joining the playgroup, please e-mail ptplaygroup@gmail.com.

Harvard Neighbors

Harvard Neighbors is an organization specifically for Harvard faculty, fellows, staff and their spouses. For more than 100 years, Harvard Neighbors has helped the Harvard community to promote friendly connections among its diverse parts. Members get to know each other through participation in a variety of interest groups and special activities. Harvard Neighbors sponsors the International Group for spouses who are part of the Harvard community. The group meets regularly. Participants have found the friendships that they have made through this group to be among their most important ties at Harvard. The schedule for the International Group's activities is available at the HIO or on the HIO web site at www.hio.harvard.edu. Membership and information on other interest groups is available on the Harvard Neighbors web site at <http://www.neighbors.harvard.edu/index.html>.

Library Privileges

Spouses or qualified domestic partners of students and scholars in the Harvard community may apply for borrowing privileges at a number of the University's many libraries. To apply for a library card, take the Harvard ID card of the Harvard affiliate (or a copy of the ID card) and your own passport to the privileges desk on the first floor (Room 130) of the Widener Library. If your family name is not the same as that of your spouse or partner, you will need either proof of marriage or evidence that you live together. The cost for a library card is \$5; please have exact change or a check. For further information telephone 495-4166.

Auditing or "Sitting In" on Courses

Adult family members of international students and scholars may sit in on regular lecture courses in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) and some of the other graduate schools, at the discretion of the faculty member. Arrangements for auditing are very informal. Choose the course by first consulting the FAS course catalog available for a fee at the Harvard Cooperative Society (Harvard Coop) in Harvard Square or on line at www.fas.harvard.edu/registrar. Attend the first lecture. After it is over, introduce yourself to the professor, explain your status at Harvard and ask that you be allowed to audit the course. This privilege does not apply to small seminars or language courses.

Information About Schooling for Children

The HIO has flyers giving information about enrolling children in public or private schools. They are available on the HIO web site at http://www.hio.harvard.edu/students_scholars/partners_families/.

Volunteer Opportunities

Many institutions, especially those that operate on a non-profit basis, depend on the goodwill of people who contribute their skills and time without pay. Volunteering is an opportunity to become involved in the local community, to meet people from outside the University, and to learn something about American society. Volunteering may also provide a way to keep active in a professional area when paid employment is not a possibility. Consult these web sites www.bostoncares.org, www.volunteersolutions.org/boston/volunteer for some volunteer possibilities.



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