For more than 50 years, Lacawac Sanctuary Biological Field Station and Environmental Education Center has had a long history supporting field-based research and education in aquatics and terrestrial studies. As a nonprofit organization, Lacawac is supported through donations from the public and user fees from colleges and universities. In 2014, Lacawac initiated an institutional consortium to engage colleges and universities, their students and faculty.

What kinds of institutions can become members of the consortium?
Our member institutions are varied, including public and private schools, nonprofits, land trusts, government organizations, research universities and liberal arts colleges, schools with undergraduate programs only, and those with graduate programs.

What are the benefits of membership?

1. Institutional affiliation with Lacawac Sanctuary, a hub for Ecological Observatory Networks
   By joining the consortium, member institutions help support research, education, and preservation. Lacawac acknowledges members of the consortium on our website, and provides member institutions with a high-resolution image of the Lacawac logo. Members are encouraged to use the logo on their website or on printed materials to highlight their support of Lacawac’s mission.

2. Discount on Research, Lodging and Workshops
   Consortium Members receive a substantial reduction on fees for research, lodging, professional staff assistance and conference or meeting space rentals. Member institutions also receive a 20% discount on workshops and conferences offered annually.

3. Priority for researchers and faculty with visiting classes
   Faculty and graduate student researchers from member institutions are given priority in reserving laboratory space and equipment for their research. Faculty from member institutions wishing to bring a class for a field trip are given priority in reserving lecture space, the laboratory, or equipment for their classes.

4. Advanced notice of program schedules
   Students from member institutions are given advanced notice of the summer program of courses and internships offered at Lacawac.
“Understanding environmental change through research, education, and monitoring.”

What other privileges do member institutions enjoy?

Member schools have the opportunity to nominate a faculty member representative to serve on Lacawac’s Science Committee. The committee evaluates research proposal submissions, and is consulted periodically on matters pertaining to Lacawac policy and teaching and research opportunities as they relate to Lacawac users.

Why become involved with the consortium — can’t my students simply take similar hands on workshops and courses elsewhere?

What makes a field station unique is its ability to immerse students in field work in ways that cannot be done on campus.

Lacawac is dedicated to the “up close and personal” teaching model offering meaningful educational experiences. The most notable feature of Lacawac Sanctuary is the breathtaking Lake Lacawac - a 52 acre glacial lake preserved in almost pristine condition (totally free from development or encroachment). Lake Lacawac is a National Natural Landmark surrounded by ponds, swamps, marshes, bogs, meadows and mixed hardwood-conifer forest.

We invite you to join consortium and offer students and faculty the opportunity to experience Lacawac.

How much does it cost to become an institutional member of the Lacawac consortium?

Consortium members: $500 annual fee, consortium rates apply until $1,500 cap is reached.

Partnering members: $2,500 annual fee, consortium rates apply until $7,500 cap is reached.

Sustaining partners: $15,000 annual fee, included services are detailed in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

How does a school join the consortium?

Membership is easy: Arrange Payment Contact: Lacawac President Craig Lukatch (craig.lukatch@lacawac.org, 570-689-9494) to arrange for payment of the annual membership fee (payable to Lacawac Sanctuary Foundation).

Nominate someone from your school for Lacawac’s Science Committee. President Craig Lukatch (craig.lukatch@lacawac.org) will assist with your nominee and with any questions you may have.

We will provide you with information about Lacawac research and workshops/course opportunities for your students and faculty, and send you a link to download a high-resolution image of the Lacawac logo.

“We value your membership and hope you will become one of many colleges and university that have been a part of Lacawac Sanctuary Biological Field Station for years.”