

LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOUR MEETING!

You can publicize your meetings in many ways. Here are a few. For more information, contact your local service body or region and get the *Public Information Service Manual* from bookstore.oa.org.

Group Registration: Register your group and keep that information current with the World Service Office (WSO) AND your intergroup/service body. Many people visit the oa.org website or call the WSO seeking information about meetings in their area. The WSO depends on you to make sure we have current information.

Bulletin Boards: Post notices of OA meetings and special events on community bulletin boards in shopping malls, grocery stores, libraries, schools, waiting rooms, hospitals, and other public places (where permitted). You may use the *Bulletin Board Attraction Sticky Notes* (#440) available at bookstore.oa.org.

Classified Advertisements: Many websites, newspapers, and neighborhood “shoppers” offer free listings to nonprofit organizations. Post or send notices to the appropriate departments and include a meeting contact-name when possible. Publishers may require that ad copy be sent in weekly, usually by email. Length is often limited to a specified number of words or lines. Many groups prepare a month’s worth of notices in advance and send one each week on the same day.

Sample Classified Ad Copy

30 words

Do you worry about the way you eat? Overeaters Anonymous may have the answer for you. No weigh-ins, dues, or fees. Call [contact name and phone] for a meeting location in your neighborhood or visit oa.org.

25 words

If food rules your life, call Overeaters Anonymous. No dues, fees, or weigh-ins. Call [contact name and phone] for the nearest meeting location or visit oa.org.

15 words

Are you a compulsive eater? Overeaters Anonymous can help. For more information call [contact name and phone] or visit oa.org.

Tips for using Public Service Announcements:

- Use the OA radio PSA “Start Living the Life You Deserve” —Downloadable audio files in 15-, 30-, and 60-second spots are available from the “Public Information Suggestions” page at oa.org/resources. When you contact radio stations, include an emailed cover letter with a link to these resources.
- Use the OA video PSA “*Many Symptoms, the OA Solution*” —Provide a link to oa.org/psa when reaching out to television stations. Once they’re interested in airing the video PSA, contact the WSO for broadcast-quality video files in 15-, 30-, and 60-second lengths.
- Use live copy —Some stations prefer live copy that they will produce or announce on the air (see sample below).

Sample Live Copy PSA [30 seconds]

“Is your eating out of control? Is your life unmanageable? You may suffer from a progressive disease known as compulsive overeating. Help is available in Overeaters Anonymous. It’s not a club of dieters; it’s a Fellowship of people who don’t want to suffer anymore. There are no fees or dues for membership. All you need is the desire to stop eating compulsively. Call 505-891-2664 or go to oa.org.”

Ongoing meeting notices: Some websites and papers have special sections for community meetings. The type of notice you post depends on the individual policies of each website, paper, or newsletter. Some require that you resubmit a notice periodically. Others will run one submission indefinitely.

Tips for submitting meeting notices:

- Double-check names, titles, times, and places. Type your notice and submit it online, or email it with a cover letter.
- If your notice will be running indefinitely, check the listing periodically for errors.

Sample Meeting Notice

[day, date, time, location]

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS

No dues, fees, or weigh-ins. Everyone welcome!
[Include a contact name and phone number, plus oa.org and/or the service body’s website.]

