

The Institute of Food Technologists

Founded in 1939, the Institute of Food Technologists (<http://www.ift.org>) is a unique umbrella organization that brings together all the diverse disciplines involved in food technology. It is a scientific and educational society of individual members including:

- Food technologists and scientists
- Engineers
- Research managers
- Executives, including sales and marketing
- Government regulators
- Educators
- Individuals in all food related fields

The **Chicago Section** of the IFT is the largest regional section, currently boasting over 1500 active members. Section activities designed to broaden professional skills and to enrich relations in the food industry include:

- Regular technical meetings, usually monthly, on a broad spectrum of food technology topics
- Local educational courses, career guidance programs, and employment services
- Opportunities for personal and professional development through participation in committee work and as officers
- Career guidance/student affairs
- Annual Golf Outing
- Annual Chicago IFT Suppliers' Night, the largest regional suppliers' night in North America
- Annual Fred W. Tanner Lectureship Award and Meeting
- Food Industry Scholarships and awards
- Publication of "Food Bytes", a monthly newsletter containing information on upcoming activities, meetings and speakers, Executive Committee Minutes, and industry employment information which can be read, printed, or downloaded from the Members section of this website
- Publication of the Chicago Section IFT Membership Directory updated on a monthly basis and available in the Members section of the website
- The Institute of Food Technologists' employment referral service helps members to research and secure positions within the industry. The service activities include:
 - ◆ Maintenance of a resume bank for inspection by employers and a "Positions Available" listing for members' inspection
 - ◆ Listings of national positions from IFT Headquarters for inspection by members.

Join the *Chicago Section*



"I was very much impressed with CSIFT meeting attendance when I moved to the Chicago area about two and half years ago. The monthly meeting program brings most current topics and it provides a great networking opportunity to meet many other food industry professionals in the area.

Jennifer Lee, Principal Scientist

CSIFT is a "great way to learn, network, volunteer and become a leader – and enjoy good food and great people."

*Uwe Nienaber
Associate Principal Scientist*

"CSIFT has helped bring together some of the most knowledgeable people in an epicenter of the food industry."

Catherine Beyer, Principal Scientist

"I've found that IFT and CSIFT provide a high return on investment of one's time - and the more actively involved you become, the more benefits you will discover. For me, these benefits have included strong professional relationships including mentors, exposure to new technical information, hands-on leadership experience and training, and awareness of industry trends. And, it's also quite fun, thanks to the great people involved."

Laura Colby, Sr. Scientist

"CSIFT helped me to form satisfying relationships with colleagues in the food industry, while sharpening my leadership skills in a lower risk/less competitive environment than the workplace itself. Over the years, I have developed a sweet spot in my heart for my professional society."

*Sue Monckton,
Retiree of Kraft R&D
(Section Manager, Retired)*



Chicago Section IFT
the First Section



Our Members

Members represent all segments of the food industry, including food technologists and scientists, engineers, R&D and quality control managers, sales & marketing executives, educators, and government regulators.

Membership Types

Chicago Section IFT offers 3 membership opportunities:

- Member** (\$15.00),
- Student Member** (\$5.00)
- Emeritus Member** (free)

All of our members receive the same great membership benefits. Membership with IFT is strongly recommended. www.ift.org

Become Involved in Chicago IFT

Chicago Section IFT provides many opportunities to become involved and to make a difference. Become a leader or mentor or serve on a committee! There are many opportunities for involvement:

Auditing	Hospitality
Awards	House
By-Laws	Long Range Planning
Career / Education	Marketing / Sponsorship
CFAR	Membership / Membership Directory
Communications	Nominating
Employment / Jobs	Programs
Finance	Scholarship
Fred W. Tanner Lecture	Suppliers' Night
Golf Outing	Tanner Lecture
Historian	Website

Annual Suppliers' Night Expo

Find out what's new in food technology! The Chicago Section IFT hosts the largest regional Suppliers' Night in North America. Discover new products and services in the food industry, meet with over 500 food industry companies, and thousands of industry professionals. Members can use our online system to download information on exhibiting companies.

Membership Benefits

Chicago Section IFT is a great value. Members receive many benefits. In addition to the many opportunities to be involved in the Section, members have many networking opportunities.

Networking Opportunities

Dinner Meetings

Monthly dinner meetings provide food science contacts and networking opportunities year round and close to home. Learn from speakers on a broad spectrum of food science topics.

Annual Golf Outing

Our annual golf outing is an outing you won't want to miss. Join Chicago Section IFT members and their customers for a fun day of golfing followed by dinner and prizes.

Young Professionals

A young professional is anyone working in the food industry 10 years or less. The Young Professionals Committee plans social events around the downtown Chicago area as a fun way to network with like-minded peers and to reconnect with former classmates and coworkers.

Members-Only Benefits

Monthly "Food Bytes" Newsletter

Each month the Chicago Section publishes a newsletter for its membership. Read about the monthly dinner meeting, the latest happenings in food science, and job postings. Looking for career opportunities? Post your resume!

Membership Directory

All members receive a members-only password that allows them access to the online membership directory. The Membership Directory is a great resource for contacts and networking.

Dinner Meeting Discount

Save \$10 each month on the cost of dinner at our dinner meetings!

LinkedIn

Join over 1500 food technologists, scientists, and industry professionals to discuss the latest industry trends, ask questions, and post / look for jobs!