



AMA Resident & Fellow Section (AMA-RFS) Communication

The AMA-RFS, as the largest national organization of resident and fellow physicians with over 20,000 members, gives Resident and Fellow Physicians a voice in the fight to reform America's health system, improve medical education, and help physicians succeed personally and professionally. Stay informed of upcoming events, opportunities to get involved, and RFS advocacy initiatives. Also, please visit the AMA-RFS Web site at www.ama-assn.org/go/rfs for new resources on a variety of personal and professional issues.

RFS Advocacy and Policy

Make your voice heard in Congress!

The AMA is asking Congress to **PERMANENTLY REINSTATE A POPULAR LOAN DEFERMENT PROGRAM** known as the 20/220 pathway, which is scheduled for elimination in July of 2009. Without calls to legislators to save this program, residents will no longer be able to postpone payments on federal loans for up to three years without accruing interest on the subsidized portion of their loans. **THE FATE OF THIS PROGRAM IS YOURS TO INFLUENCE** by using the AMA call-in [Script](#) (PDF, 21KB), which includes a list of key Congressional contacts and answers to frequently asked questions, and the [AMA Capwiz site](#) to send Congressional members a message in support of the 20/220 pathway! To obtain background information on this issue, please visit www.ama-assn.org/go/loandeferment.

RFS Involvement

AMA-RFS Annual Meeting in Chicago June 12-14

The AMA-RFS will be hosting its 32nd Annual Assembly Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Chicago June 12-14. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in educational sessions, policy making and networking. Visit the [Web site](#) for more information about the AMA-RFS Annual Meeting and a tentative schedule. Also be sure to reserve your hotel room [online](#) by May 12 to receive the special AMA rate.

AMA-RFS accepting applications for its 2008–2009 Governing Council

The AMA-RFS will be electing the following governing council positions at its Annual Assembly Meeting June 12–14 in Chicago:

- Vice chair
- Speaker
- Vice speaker
- Delegate
- Alternate delegate
- Membership and outreach officer

The AMA-RFS Governing Council directs the programs and activities of the section and holds meetings four times a year—in March, June, August and November. Applications must be received by the deadline to be included in the AMA-RFS Assembly handbook.



Visit the [Web site](#) for more information and an application. The deadline for applications is May 15.

Deadline extended for Surgical Caucus position

The AMA-RFS is accepting applications for the Surgical Caucus Executive Committee until May 12. This committee discusses issues and AMA House of Delegates resolutions relevant to the surgical field. The resident member participates in the surgical caucuses at the AMA Annual and Interim meetings and serves as a member of the Surgical Caucus Executive Committee. This is a one-year position appointed by the AMA-RFS Governing Council. [Click here](#) (Word, 75KB) for application.

RFS News

AMA GME e-Letter: For physicians, geriatric care is everyone's job

A shortage of physicians with training and expertise in geriatrics, combined with a proposed 10% cut in Medicare physician payments, could limit access to quality health care for the growing ranks of the nation's elderly. Our health care workforce is "too small and woefully unprepared," according to a new Institute of Medicine report, *Retooling for an Aging America: Building the Health Care Workforce*. For that reason, notes AMA Board member Cecil B. Wilson, MD, "All physicians caring for aging patients need to become proficient in geriatric care." Read more on this and other issues in graduate medical education (GME) in the May issue of the GME e-Letter. <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/18452.html>

RFS Resources

Build your knowledge in geriatric care

The AMA's program on Aging and Community Health serves to enable physicians to prevent and postpone disease and disability and to maintain the well-being, independence, and mobility of an aging population through . Visit the [Web site](#) for resources on geriatric health.

The AMA Resident and Fellow Section offers this listserv for sharing information on a variety of topics including policy, advocacy, achievements, projects, council and committee positions, etc. You can join our listserv at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/7091.html> so you can be informed of AMA-RFS activities. To unsubscribe from the AMA-RFS listserv, send an email to rfs@ama-assn.org with "Unsubscribe" as the subject. Also visit the AMA-RFS website at www.ama-assn.org/go/rfs for current information and resources relevant to resident and fellow physicians.

Important: Please be advised that this listserv is intended solely to communicate and discuss important issues relevant to the practice of medicine and our membership. It is not to be used for commercial purposes or to promote a commercial product.