



## **AMA Young Physicians Section (YPS) Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How many YPS meetings are held every year?**

There are two YPS assembly meetings held every year. The interim meeting is held in November and the annual meeting is held in June. The meetings are designated/abbreviated as an I or an A followed by the two-digit year (i.e. the 2011 annual meeting is abbreviated as A-11).

### **When should I arrive at the YPS meeting?**

The YPS Governing Council hosts an opening reception on Thursday night, usually around 9 pm. We encourage everyone to arrive in time for the reception to meet your colleagues before the official business meeting begins.

### **When should I leave the meeting?**

At interim meetings, the YPS meeting usually adjourns at or before 5 pm on Friday. At annual meetings, the assembly may be in session as late as 6:30 pm because of elections. The Friday assembly meeting is followed by a reception that evening. While the YPS meeting ends on Friday, the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting begins on Saturday and will continue until Tuesday (interim meeting) or Wednesday (annual meeting). Many young physicians stay at least until Sunday afternoon, so that they can participate in HOD reference committees. Some stay through the entire HOD meeting.

### **How does the YPS interact with the AMA HOD?**

The YPS represents young physicians within the AMA who are under 40 or within their first eight years of practice after residency and fellowship. The YPS meeting offers a forum for both the introduction of novel resolutions to be considered by the HOD, as well as an opportunity to review, discuss, and determine YPS positions on resolutions and reports set to be considered by the HOD. The YPS influences the business of the HOD in two ways. First, YPS members can advocate for YPS positions with their specialty and state societies, and to the reference committees that meet prior to the HOD. Second, the YPS sends one delegate to the HOD to testify and vote on resolutions before the House.

### **What should I prepare before I come to the meeting?**

Plan to review the YPS assembly resolutions as well as the resolutions that are going before the HOD, especially those resolutions originating from the YPS section. If you don't know how to access the resolutions, contact Jane Ascroft at [jane.ascroft@ama-assn.org](mailto:jane.ascroft@ama-assn.org).

### **What activities should I plan on attending if this is my first YPS meeting?**

You should plan on attending the Governing Council reception Thursday night (9 pm), the new member orientation on Friday morning (7:30 am), the YPS assembly session on Friday (all day), the YPS reception Friday night, state and specialty society caucuses (held throughout the meeting), the HOD (which begins Saturday afternoon) and HOD reference committees (held Sunday).

### **What happens at the YPS assembly meeting?**

There will be a number of speeches that you will hear from various parts of the AMA. Resolutions and reports submitted for consideration will be acted upon during the section's business meeting. In addition, a significant portion of the meeting is spent deciding what positions the YPS should take on reports and resolutions being considered by the HOD. YPS committees meet prior to the meeting and make recommendations that are presented to the assembly as consent calendars. If you don't agree with a proposed stance, please stand up and extract the resolution so that issue can be debated on the floor of the assembly.

**What happens after the YPS meeting that I can get involved in?**

After the YPS meeting, your specialty and state society will caucus to come up with its own positions on HOD resolutions. You can show up and voice your opinions on the positions you think they should take. Please get in touch with your specialty and state society to find out when they plan to meet and when you can attend.

**What is the dress code?**

The dress code of the YPS interim meeting and the HOD, which is held in November, is business casual. If you are seated on an HOD reference committee, you should dress in business attire. The dress code of the YPS annual meeting and HOD is business.

**Can I submit resolutions to create new AMA Policy?**

YPS delegates can submit resolutions to the YPS by a specific deadline date established by the Governing Council Chair. Late resolutions submitted after that deadline and up to seven days prior to an assembly meeting require a 2/3 affirmative vote by the assembly to accept. Emergency resolutions received after the late resolutions deadline require a 3/4 assembly vote for acceptance.

**Can I comment on resolutions being considered by the YPS?**

Yes – you can comment electronically in advance of the meeting or in person during the assembly's business meeting. Resolutions are posted to a secure YPS workspace approximately three weeks prior to an assembly meeting. E-mail Jane Ascroft at [jane.ascroft@ama-assn.org](mailto:jane.ascroft@ama-assn.org) to learn how to access the YPS workspace.

**Besides attending assembly meetings, how can I get involved with the YPS?**

There are lots of ways to get involved.

1. You can serve on a YPS convention committee. We have three types of convention committees. You can serve on credentials committee to credential individual delegates during the meeting. You can also serve on the YPS reference committee. This committee views all of the online testimony and makes recommendations to the YPS assembly. You can also serve on an HOD handbook review committee, which makes recommendations to the YPS assembly on the items before the HOD.
2. You can also run for a position on the governing council, which oversees the assembly meeting and coordinates YPS actions between meetings. The governing council has six positions which are elected (Chair, Chair-Elect, Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Speaker, and Member at Large) and an Immediate Past Chair.

If you still have questions, please contact the following AMA staff or visit the YPS Web site at <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/yps>:

Harley Grant, Director, Young Physician Services  
(312) 464-4750  
[harley.grant@ama-assn.org](mailto:harley.grant@ama-assn.org)

Jane Ascroft, Policy Analyst  
(312) 464-4240  
[jane.ascroft@ama-assn.org](mailto:jane.ascroft@ama-assn.org)