Leadership & involvement opportunities

As an AMA member, there are many ways to get involved and become a leader. Review the listing of opportunities to find out more about specific position requirements, application deadlines and relevant contact information.

Academic physicians

Any AMA member with a faculty appointment to a U.S.-accredited medical school who is also a member of the Academic Physicians Section (APS) may apply to be on the APS Governing Council. Contact Fred Donini-Lenhoff at fred.lenhoff@ama-assn.org with any questions.

Medical students

Visit Opportunities for Medical Students for a complete, detailed listing of all leadership and involvement positions at the AMA for medical students. For questions, contact MSS staff at mss@ama-assn.org.

Resident and fellow physicians

Visit Opportunities for Resident and Fellow Physicians for a complete, detailed listing of all leadership and involvement positions at the AMA for resident and fellow physicians. For questions, contact the RFS staff at rfs@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4978.

Nomination opportunities with medical education organizations

The AMA Council on Medical Education periodically solicits qualified AMA member candidates for AMA nomination to a variety of organizations that reflect the AMA’s continuing responsibilities in medical education. Organizations include the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and its Review Committees, the American Board of Medical Specialties and its member boards, the
Medical school deans and faculty

Any AMA member with a faculty appointment to a U.S.-accredited medical school may apply for membership in the Academic Physicians Section (AMA-APS). Learn more and join now. Also, learn about and apply for leadership opportunities on the APS Governing Council by contacting Fred Donini-Lenhoff at fred.lenhoff@ama-assn.org.

Physicians in group practice settings

The Integrated Physician Practice Section (IPPS) advises the AMA Board of Trustees on policy matters relating to group and faculty practices. The section consists of representatives from 11 group and faculty practices throughout the United States. The Section meets 2 times each year to discuss policy matters and activities that bear directly on group and faculty practice plan physicians. For more information about serving on the section, visit the Integrated Physician Practice Section (IPPS) involvement page. Contact Carrie Waller at carrie.waller@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4546 with any questions.

Medical staff members

The Organized Medical Staff Section (OMSS) provides a direct and ongoing relationship between the AMA and medical staff organizations. The Section debates issues and develops policy that influences the complex and rapidly changing environment within which our nation’s hospitals and other delivery systems operate. Membership in the Section is limited to physicians, including residents and fellows, selected or elected by their medical staffs. The physician members of the medical staff of each hospital and delivery system may elect 1 or more representatives to the business meeting of the AMA-OMSS. Additionally, the OMSS’s Governing Council is responsible for directing the business, educational programs and activities of the OMSS. Descriptions of the positions and information on how to get involved within the OMSS are available on the AMA-OMSS Leadership Opportunities and Responsibilities page. For more information or questions, please contact Katie Pajak at kathryn.pajak@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-5450.
Physicians new to practice and physicians under 40

The Young Physicians Section (YPS) focuses on the concerns of those physicians under 40 years of age or within the first 8 years of professional practice after residency and fellowship training. The YPS Governing Council (YPS GC) is responsible for directing the programs and activities of the YPS. GC involvement includes attending the AMA Annual and Interim meetings (at least 4 days each) and 1 GC meeting (2 weekend days), various conference calls and regular email communication. The YPS also has a representative on each of the AMA's Board of Trustees, Women Physicians Congress, Minority Affairs Consortium and GLBT Advisory Committee. Descriptions of the positions and information on how to apply are available on the YPS Leadership page. Contact the YPS staff at yps@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4750 for more information.

Retired and senior physicians

The Senior Physicians Group (SPG) Governing Council is a 7-member group appointed by the AMA Board of Trustees. The purpose of the group is to support projects of interest to the senior physician community, including continued communication with colleagues, advocacy on behalf of senior physician issues, and ongoing development of member benefits and activities. To find out more about serving on the committee, visit the SPG page. Contact Alice Reed at alice.reed@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-5523 with any questions.

International medical graduate issues

The International Medical Graduates Section (IMG) Governing Council is responsible for directing the programs and activities of the IMG. The Governing Council's involvement includes attending the AMA Annual and Interim meetings, staffing IMGS committees, attending meetings as requested, various conference calls and regular email communication. Descriptions of the positions and information on how to apply are available on the IMG Leadership page. Contact Carolyn Carter-Ellis at carolyn.carter-ellis@ama-assn.org or at (312) 464-5397 with any questions.

Women physicians

The Women Physicians Section (WPS) Governing Council comprises 4 elected at-large positions, 1 appointed position by the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) and 3 appointed representatives from various AMA sections. Visit the WPS leadership page for details. Contact
Physician diversity and minority health

The Minority Affairs Section (MAS) Governing Council represents a diversity of physicians and organizations committed to addressing the concerns of physicians and patients from underrepresented minority groups. There are 9 members of the council: 2 at-large elected members; 1 elected delegate to the AMA House of Delegates; and 6 members who are appointed to represent, respectively, the Association of American Indian Physicians, National Hispanic Medical Association, National Medical Association and the Medical Student, Resident and Fellow, and Young Physician sections. For questions, contact Abu Muhammad at abu.muhammad@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4335.

LGBT issues in medicine

The AMA Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Issues enhances AMA policy, advocacy and education on LGBT concerns, and provides a forum for involvement, mentoring and networking for LGBT physicians and medical students. For information on the committee and available positions, visit the LGBT section. Contact Helen Polansky at helen.polansky@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4746 with any questions.

USAN Council and USAN Review Board

The USAN Council is the FDA-recognized nomenclature agency responsible for the selection of nonproprietary (generic) names for all synthetic and biologic single-entity drugs marketed in the United States. The USAN Council is composed of 5 members who are appointed for 1-year terms. Members are eligible to succeed themselves up to a maximum of 10 years. Positions: 1 member from AMA, 1 member from APhA, 1 member from USP, 1 member from FDA, 1 member-at-large. The chair is selected from among the 5 members. The USAN Council members are chemists, pharmacologists, pharmacists and medical doctors, with additional specialties in the drug regulatory process. The nominees to the USAN Council must have an interest in drug nomenclature and the requisite background.

The USAN Review Board was created to resolve disagreements between pharmaceutical manufacturers and the USAN Council. The board comprises 6 members who are appointed for 1-year terms. Members are eligible to succeed themselves and have unlimited tenure. Positions: 2 AMA representatives, 2 APhA representatives, 2 USP representatives. The chair is selected from among
the 6 members. The USAN Review Board members are chemists, pharmacologists, pharmacists, attorneys and doctors. They must have an interest in drug nomenclature and the requisite background. The USAN Council and USAN Review Board nominees undergo the same application process as other AMA Councils (see below). For additional information on how to serve, visit the USAN Council and USAN Review Board websites or contact Helene Biernacki at helene.biernacki@ama-assn.org.

AMA Foundation

The mission of the AMA Foundation is to improve the health of Americans through philanthropic support of quality programs in public health and medical education. A minimum of 3 board meetings are held each year. Each board member will serve on at least 1 committee and may be asked to serve on committees focusing on specific issues. The majority of the committee meetings will be conducted by teleconference and some may take place on-site. All board members are also expected to actively participate in the fundraising process. Interested in serving on the board? Visit the AMA Foundation website for details on how to apply. For additional information, contact AMA Foundation Staff at (312) 464-4218.

AMA Councils

Visit the council nomination page for details on how to serve on an AMA council and download the council nomination form (DOC).

Council on Constitution & Bylaws

The Council on Constitution and Bylaws (CCB) serves as a fact-finding and advisory committee on matters pertaining to the AMA Constitution and Bylaws.

Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs

The Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA) maintains and updates the AMA Code of Medical Ethics. Through its reports, CEJA analyzes timely issues confronting physicians and the medical profession.

Council on Long Range Planning & Development

The Council on Long Range Planning and Development (CLRPD) has a key role in identifying and
making recommendations to the AMA Board of Trustees regarding important strategic issues and directions related to the AMA's vision, goals and priorities.

Council on Medical Education

The Council on Medical Education formulates policy on medical education by recommending educational policies to the AMA House of Delegates through the AMA Board of Trustees.

Council on Medical Service

The Council on Medical Service recommends AMA policies and actions for consideration by the AMA House of Delegates on the socioeconomic factors that influence the practice of medicine.

Council on Science & Public Health

The Council on Science & Public Health (CSAPH) reports on medical, public health and scientific issues that affect the practice of medicine, the public health system, the quality of patient care and the translation of scientific research into patient treatment.

AMA Board of Trustees

The AMA Board of Trustees directs the vision and direction of the AMA. The AMA Board of Trustees ensures that the AMA remains focused on its essential reason for being: to promote the art and science of medicine and the betterment of public health. For information on upcoming vacancies on the AMA Board, visit the Board of Trustees page.