

Jan. 21, 2022: Advocacy Update other news

Register now: AMPAC Virtual Candidate Workshop coming in March

The AMPAC candidate workshop is designed to help you make the leap from the exam room to the campaign trail and give you the skills and strategic approach you will need to make a run for public office.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the workshop will be held virtually this year with the program being conducted over the course of two consecutive weekends: March 12-13 and 19-20. Each of the four virtual sessions will start at 11:00 a.m., Eastern and run approximately four hours.

At the candidate workshop, Republican and Democratic political veterans give you expert advice about politics and the sacrifices needed to mount a competitive campaign. You will learn:

- How and when to make the decision to run; the importance of a disciplined campaign plan and message
- The secrets of effective fundraising
- What kinds of media advertising are right for your campaign
- How to handle the inevitable crises that emerge for every campaign
- The role of your spouse and your family
- How to become a better public speaker

Get answers to your questions and determine if running for public office is for you.

Note: Registration fee is \$250 for AMA member/\$1000 for non-AMA members. This fee is waived for AMA residents and students; however, space is limited and the AMPAC board will review and select four participants from the pool of qualified resident and student applicants.

Registration for the virtual candidate workshop is now open. Space is limited and the deadline to register is **Feb. 28, 2022**.

Learn what it takes to be a winning candidate from the comfort of your own home.

For more information please contact politicaleducation@ama-assn.org.

Webinar recording now available: “Healing the healer: Making advocacy personal”

“Seeking help is a sign of strength,” said AMA President Gerald A. Harmon, MD, during a national AMA webinar on ways states can help support burnout and wellness efforts for physicians and other health care professionals. Dr. Harmon and AMA Board Chair Bobby Mukkamala, MD, were joined by J. Corey Feist, JD, MBA, co-founder, Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes’ Foundation, in discussing how the nation’s COVID-19 pandemic and other stressors have caused increased stress and harms to many physicians, including death by suicide.

Even before COVID, an increasing number of physicians were already in crisis due to ever-expanding and sometimes unsustainable demands of medical practice, said Feist. The pandemic made these pressures even more intense.

Dr. Mukkamala detailed the AMA’s support for medical students, residents and practicing physicians to seek assistance, from low-intensity counseling or coaching, or medical care to help with a mental illness or substance use disorder. Too often, however, concerns about confidentiality, stigma of seeking help or a belief to just “tough it out” discourages physicians from seeking help that could benefit them and their patients.

View the full webinar discussion. The AMA has created an issue brief (PDF) with specific recommendations for medical society advocacy, including necessary changes to medical licensing applications, credentialing applications and model language for “safe haven” reporting and physician health programs.

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