



ama-assn.org  
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To Whom It May Concern:

The American Medical Association Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) Governing Council recognizes the tremendous value that the role of the Government Relations Advocacy Fellow (GRAF) brings to the section. This fellowship is not only a unique opportunity for a medical student to become involved in the AMA's advocacy work on an intimate level but is an important interface between the organization and medical students. The GRAF functions as the voice of the AMA's Federal Advocacy Team, delivering information about federal efforts to the Section through regular updates. The GRAF also engages with students around the country through the Succeeding in Medical School (SIMS) program. By serving as a role model and spokesperson for thousands of medical students, the GRAF position wields enormous influence.

As members of the MSS Governing Council, we work closely with the GRAF to interact with the Section's membership, to promote engagement among medical students, and to carry out the advocacy priorities of the Section and greater AMA. The GRAF serves as a liaison between the Section and the Federal Advocacy Team and provides insight and counsel in the development of student policies. During this time, responsiveness and open-mindedness are critical. The GRAF also works in collaboration with the Governing Council to plan and execute the Medical Student Advocacy Conference each spring. As a liaison to the Medical Student Section's Standing Committee on Legislation and Advocacy, the GRAF works with committee members throughout the year to promote leadership and engagement through mentorship. Additionally, the GRAF develops programming and galvanizes students to act on current issues through National Advocacy Week every October.

The Governing Council believes the following characteristics will lend to success in this role:

1. The applicant has leadership experience in policy and advocacy efforts within the Medical Student Section and in the AMA House of Delegates.
2. The applicant demonstrates an understanding of the role of a spokesperson and representative and commits to publicly representing the view of the AMA and the Medical Student Section.
3. The applicant demonstrates excellent written and verbal communication skills and values collaboration and listening.
4. The applicant's interests and past experiences demonstrate an interest in and understanding of U.S. government institutions and processes.
5. The applicant is detail-oriented and has the ability to quickly learn new terminology and concepts.

The Medical Student Section is appreciative of the opportunity to provide these considerations for the purposes of selecting the next Government Relations Advocacy Fellow. Most importantly, we continue to be grateful for this invaluable opportunity for student leadership and involvement.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Strohbeen  
Chair, Medical Student Section  
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