

REPORT OF THE AMA YOUNG PHYSICIANS SECTION GOVERNING COUNCIL

AMA-YPS Report E-A-25

Subject: Endorsement Selection Committee Report on YPS Endorsements for 2026

Presented by: YPS Endorsement Selection Committee

Referred to: AMA-YPS Reference Committee

1 INTRODUCTION

2 The AMA Young Physicians Section (YPS) endorses candidates for AMA House of Delegates
3 (HOD) elections. As directed by 2024 Annual Meeting resolution 609, a new endorsement process
4 will be implemented for elections beginning with the 2026 Annual Meeting (A-26) election cycle. In
5 adherence with this new process, the YPS Assembly passed resolution 1 at the 2024 YPS Interim
6 Meeting, which states that “the YPS Governing Council shall appoint a 9-member nominating
7 committee composed of 3 members of the Governing Council selected by the Governing Council
8 and 6 members that are elected by all credentialed YPS representatives at the 2024 Interim YPS
9 Assembly for endorsements for candidates running for a House elected position at Annual 2026.” A
10 nomination form was then distributed after I-24 to all credentialed YPS representatives to seek
11 committee members. Six representatives and three Governing Council members were elected, who
12 considered endorsements of A-26 candidates for Board of Trustees and elected Councils who have
13 been sponsored by an organization represented in the AMA HOD. As the YPS does not have
14 specific rules regarding an endorsement committee in the IOPs, the committee was tasked with the
15 current IOP guidelines listed. This endorsement process is now outlined in the newly established
16 Sections IX and X of the YPS Internal Operating Procedures (IOP), which is included in the
17 Appendix of this report.

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19 This informational report summarizes the new process for endorsing candidates for elected
20 positions. Additionally, this report will provide a list of YPS endorsed candidates for election at the
21 2026 Annual Meeting of the HOD.

22 23 ENDORSEMENT SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

24 The members of the Endorsement Selection Committee included: Jocelyn Young, DO, MS; Anna
25 Yap, MD; Daniel Udrea, MD; Sophia Yang, MD; Kevin Bernstein, MD, MMS; Marc Mendelsohn,
26 MD, MPH; Christopher Libby, MD, MPH, AMA-YPS Alternate Delegate; Brandi Ring, MD, MBA,
27 AMA-YPS Speaker, and Alisha Reiss, MD, AMA-YPS Chair-Elect.

28 29 ENDORSEMENT PROCESS FOR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED POSITIONS

30 AMA policy, [AMA Election Rules and Guiding Principles G-610.090](#) [IV.1], notes that active
31 campaigning for AMA elective office may not begin until the Board of Trustees announces the
32 candidates for council seats after its April meeting.

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34 Candidates seeking YPS endorsement for the A-26 election cycle were required to submit an
35 application to YPS Staff by January 15, 2025. These applications were then reviewed by the
36 Endorsement Selection Committee. Reviewers with a conflict of interest were not included in
37 deliberations regarding endorsement decisions for races where such conflicts existed.

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39 The Endorsement Selection Committee communicated endorsement decisions to candidates in a
40 timely manner. At the YPS meeting a year before the HOD elections, the YPS Governing Council
41 will present an informational report to the Assembly on any endorsements.

42 43 2026 ENDORSED CANDIDATES

44 The following candidates for elected positions have been endorsed by the YPS:

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Board of Trustees

Toluwalase A. Ajayi, MD
Alexander Ding, MD, MS, MBA
Marilyn Heine, MD

Young Physician Seat on the Board of Trustees

Samuel E. Mathis, MD, MBA

Council on Medical Service

Ravi Goel, MD
Michael Hanak, MD

Council on Science and Public Health

Joanna Bisgrove, MD
Joshua Cohen, MD, MPH
Laura E. Halpin, MD

CONCLUSION

The candidates for elected positions received notification of the YPS Endorsement Selection Committee's decision. Endorsed candidates may include the YPS endorsement on cards and other promotional materials.

The YPS Governing Council will continue to monitor its endorsement process for adherence to the AMA election rules and guiding principles. If the AMA policy on elections is modified, the YPS Governing Council will make adjustments, as appropriate, to ensure compliance and communicate these updates to the Assembly.

APPENDIX: YPS IOP RULES CONCERNING ENDORSEMENTS FOR ELECTED POSITIONS

IX. Governing Council Rules for Sponsoring Candidates for Elected and Appointed Council Candidate Positions

A. The Governing Council shall consider requests to sponsor YPS Candidates for elected or appointed positions in which a YPS member is eligible to be a candidate. The YPS shall consider only individuals who meet the AMA definition of a young physician, as defined in Bylaw 7.5.1, at the time a position commences. Candidates must submit a formal request for YPS support along with a copy of the completed application form, curriculum vitae, and any other documents requested by the Governing Council for decision. Candidates have the option to submit a photo.

B. The Governing Council shall consider sponsoring candidates only with the following experience:

1. Must be an AMA member and be a member of the YPS as specified in AMA Bylaw 7.5.1 at the time a position commences.
2. Should be active in organized medicine or involved in community or national medical entities.
3. Should have experience related to the position sought.
4. Should demonstrate knowledge of issues pertinent to the YPS.

C. All candidate applications for YPS support must be submitted by October 15 in the year prior to the election for which nomination is sought. Candidate applications may be reviewed by the Governing Council or by a committee appointed by the Governing Council.

Materials provided by candidates will be made available to properly credentialed YPS representatives prior to the Interim meeting. Candidates shall be presented on the floor of the YPS Assembly at the Interim meeting and be given the opportunity for brief remarks ahead of an Assembly vote. For each council only one candidate can proceed to a vote for support of their nomination by attaining a majority vote. If no candidate achieves a majority vote, the two candidates with the highest number of votes will be listed on a second ballot. If there is a tie for the candidate spot with the second highest number of votes, then the additional candidates in the tie will be included. Voting will continue in this fashion until a candidate achieves a majority vote. The candidate that achieves a majority vote will then proceed to a vote for support of their nomination, which will require a 2/3 vote of the legal votes cast. The candidates receiving a 2/3 vote may subsequently include the YPS sponsorship in their campaign materials in accordance with 12 the AMA policies G-610.020 and G-610.021.

D. A YPS sponsored candidate is automatically considered endorsed by the YPS.

E. Neither the AMA-YPS nor its Governing Council shall provide any direct or indirect financial support to sponsored candidates at any point during the campaign or election process.

X. Governing Council Rules for Endorsing Candidates for Elected Positions

A. The Governing Council shall consider endorsements of candidates for the AMA President-Elect, Board of Trustees, and elected Councils who have been sponsored by an organization represented in the AMA HOD. Preference shall be given to current young physician AMA members; however, all AMA members (including non-section members) who have demonstrated a clear history of service to the YPS may be considered at the Governing Council's discretion.

B. To apply for a YPS endorsement, all application materials must be received by the Governing Council no later than seven days following the official announcement of candidates by the American Medical Association Board of Trustees. Applications may be reviewed by the Governing Council or a committee appointed by the Governing Council. The Governing Council decisions will communicate endorsement decisions in a timely manner. Candidates must submit a formal request for YPS endorsement, along with their curriculum vitae, letter from their sponsoring organization, and questionnaire on current YPS issues. Candidates have the option to submit a photo. The questionnaire shall be composed and updated as needed by the Governing Council.

The YPS shall decline to endorse any candidate for an elected council position where there is already a YPS nominee, unless multiple vacancies exist. Where multiple vacancies exist, the Governing Council may endorse as many additional candidates as there are additional vacancies. Candidates endorsed through this process may subsequently include the YPS endorsement on cards and other promotional materials. In cases where a YPS supported candidate exits a race prior to the election, the Governing Council may reconsider previous endorsement requests by candidates who had previously been not endorsed.

C. The Governing Council shall consider all qualified candidates formally requesting an endorsement from the YPS but shall endorse no more than the available number of positions on the Council or Board. Should an endorsed candidate withdraw from a race, or an additional seat becomes available, the Governing Council reserves the right to make additional endorsements after the defined deadline outlined in the IOP. The Governing Council shall consider only candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Must be an AMA member at the time the endorsement is requested.
2. Should be active in organized medicine or involved in community or national medical entities.
3. Should have experience related to the office sought.
4. Should demonstrate knowledge of and commitment to issues pertinent to the YPS.

D. The YPS Governing Council shall submit an informational report on its plan to comply with all AMA election rules at each Interim meeting. The YPS Governing Council shall submit an informational report on any endorsements to the Assembly at the YPS meeting just prior to the HOD elections.

**XI. Governing Council Rules for Endorsements of Appointed AMA 24
Councils/Committees/ACGME Review Committees/American Medical Political Action 25
Committee (AMPAC) Board Candidates 26**

A. The Governing Council may endorse an unlimited number of candidates for any of the appointed AMA Councils/Committees/ACGME Review Committees and the AMPAC Board. The Governing Council shall consider only endorsements of candidates who have been sponsored by an organization represented in the AMA HOD. Preference shall be given to members of the YPS as specified in AMA Bylaw 7.5.1, however, any candidate who has demonstrated a clear history of service to the YPS may be considered at the Governing Council's discretion.

B. If requests for sponsorships for a position have been received, the decision for endorsements for that position will be made after the Governing Council's decision regarding sponsorships.

C. Only those candidates who complete a YPS endorsement application shall be considered. Endorsement requests must be received six weeks prior to the established deadline for AMA appointed councils, ACGME Review Committees or other AMA Committees. Candidates must submit a formal request for endorsement, along with their curriculum vitae, and a copy of the application materials submitted by an organization represented in the AMA HOD to the Governing Council for decision. Candidates have the option to submit a photo.

D. The Governing Council shall consider only candidates with the following qualifications:

1. Must be an AMA member at the time the endorsement is requested.
2. Should be active in organized medicine or involved in community or national medical entities.
3. Should have experience related to the position sought.
4. Should demonstrate knowledge of and commitment to issues pertinent to the YPS.

E. Decisions will be made after the endorsement request deadline, and candidates shall be notified of the YPS Governing Council's decision to endorse or not to endorse in a timely manner.

F. At the discretion of the YPS Governing Council, the YPS reserves the ability to put forward candidates for off-cycle appointed positions.