

Dear Colleague,

I am excited to welcome you to the new Advocacy in Action Workshop series taking place October 25-27, 2023! This event is intended to provide grassroots advocacy training for medical students, equipping you with the necessary tools and empowering medical students to advocate on the most important issues in healthcare, preparing you to serve as true leaders in medicine. During this live webinar event, you will hear from expert speakers including a physician Member of Congress, learn about key issues in healthcare, and participate in a variety of Advocacy Skills Workshops. By the end of the Advocacy in Action Workshop series, you will be equipped to Advocate for Providers, Advocate for Patients, and Advocate for Communities.

Cultivating your advocacy skills through this Advocacy in Action Workshop series will be important for a number of reasons. Healthcare providers, including medical students, are uniquely positioned in our society, seeing and treating patients from all walks of life. It is crucial that healthcare providers use their voice, expertise, and experience to advocate and address the inequities experienced by our colleagues, patients, and communities. This training will give you the foundation to do just that. But there's more! There will also be opportunities for you to utilize these advocacy skills throughout the 2023-2024 academic year to advocate on a variety of important issues in healthcare. More information about these advocacy opportunities will be provided during this event.

As a brief overview, October 25th and October 26th will consist of live webinars providing programming and advocacy skills training, as described above. October 27th will be an Advocacy in Action Day, where students are encouraged to utilize the advocacy skills learned throughout the webinar series to advocate for physician payment reform and student loan debt, lowering drug costs, and addressing maternal mortality. An agenda and additional information can be found throughout the toolkit.

The Advocacy in Action Workshop series is meant to best serve the needs of our medical students, preparing you to serve as advocates and leaders in healthcare. I hope that you are able to take advantage of this opportunity to garner the skills to effectively advocate on the issues that matter most to you.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jessica M. McAllister (*she/her*)

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