

REPORT OF THE AMA YOUNG PHYSICIANS SECTION GOVERNING COUNCIL

AMA-YPS Report C (I-24)

Subject: 2025 and 2026 Process for YPS Endorsements of Candidates for HOD Election

Presented by: Samuel Mathis, MD, MBA, Chair

Referred to: AMA-YPS Reference Committee

1 INTRODUCTION

2 The AMA Young Physicians Section (YPS) endorses candidates for AMA House of
3 Delegates (HOD) elections. The YPS Governing Council has established a process to
4 consider endorsements of candidates for the AMA President-Elect, Board of Trustees,
5 and elected Councils who have been sponsored by an organization represented in the
6 AMA HOD. This process is outlined in Sections IX and X of the YPS Internal Operating
7 Procedures (IOP), which is included in Appendix A of this report.

8
9 This informational report summarizes the current process for endorsing candidates for
10 elected positions.

11 ENDORSEMENT PROCESS FOR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED POSITIONS AT 12 ANNUAL 2025

13 AMA policy, [AMA Election Rules and Guiding Principles G-610.090](#) [IV.1], notes that
14 active campaigning, including endorsement decisions, for AMA elective office may not
15 begin until the Board of Trustees announces the candidates for elected positions after its
16 April meeting.

17
18
19 Per current YPS IOPs, candidates seeking YPS endorsement are required to submit an
20 application to the YPS Governing Council no later than seven days following the official
21 announcement of candidates by the AMA Board of Trustees. These applications may be
22 reviewed by the Governing Council, or a committee appointed by the Governing Council.
23 Reviewers with a conflict of interest are not included in deliberations regarding
24 endorsement decisions for races where such conflicts exist.

25
26 The Governing Council communicates endorsement decisions to candidates in a timely
27 manner. At the YPS meeting prior to the HOD elections, the YPS Governing Council will
28 present an informational report to the Assembly on any endorsements.

29
30 The deadline for endorsement requests for candidates standing for election at Annual
31 2025 is April 21, 2025, which marks seven days after the Board's anticipated official
32 announcement of candidates. These candidates will be reviewed by the YPS Governing
33 Council or a committee appointed by the Governing Council and endorsements will be
34 made before the start of Annual 2025. The Governing Council will present a report on this
35 process at the Annual assembly meeting, including a list of those candidates who were
36 endorsed by the YPS.

37

1 **ENDORSEMENT PROCESS FOR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED POSITIONS AT**
2 **ANNUAL 2026**

3
4 At Annual 2024, Resolution 609 was adopted by the House of Delegates (see Appendix B
5 for full text) which outlined principles for endorsement by organizations within the
6 federation. From this resolution, the Speakers and Election Committee determined
7 operationalization of those principles to be enacted for the elections at Annual 2026. ([See](#)
8 [AMA Election Rules and Guiding Principles G-610.090, Section XI.](#), included in Appendix
9 C)

10 These new guidelines limit sponsorship of candidates to only those individuals who are
11 elected or appointed as delegates or alternate delegates to the House of Delegates for
12 that group. Groups may create an endorsement process that allows for candidates to be
13 endorsed, but they can no longer sponsor a candidate from another group, section, or
14 caucus that is not their official delegate or alternate delegate.

15
16 Based on these new guidelines for endorsement, and with a deadline for submission of
17 endorsement process by October 11th, 2024, the YPS Governing Council requested from
18 the Board of Trustees, and was granted, limited suspension of the YPS IOPs to facilitate
19 YPS endorsement of candidates for the elections at Annual 2026.

20
21 In an effort to maintain a process as consistent as possible with the IOPs previously
22 passed by the Assembly, but understanding the limitations of the new timeline, the YPS
23 Governing Council determined that the process for endorsement would be maintained
24 with an adjusted timeline. As such, the YPS Governing Council commits to the following:

- 25 - Candidates seeking YPS endorsement for 2026 elections are required to submit a
26 letter to yps@ama-assn.org requesting YPS endorsement. They must also submit
27 their CV, a letter from their sponsoring organization, the YPS endorsement
28 questionnaire found on the YPS webpage, and a high-resolution photo (optional).
29 Applicants can request information about the endorsement process until January
30 13, 2025. Applications for endorsement are due by 12:00 pm Central Time on
31 January 15, 2025.
- 32 - An ad hoc committee will be appointed by the Governing Council, including
33 members of the Assembly, to review and score the submissions for YPS
34 endorsement for elections at Annual 2026. Reviewers with a conflict of interest will
35 not be included in deliberations regarding endorsement decisions for races where
36 such conflict exists.

37
38 In addition to this process, an ad hoc committee has been assembled to solicit feedback
39 from YPS members regarding the preferred principles for YPS endorsement and to submit
40 a limited revision of the YPS IOPs for ratification by the Assembly to align our IOPs with
41 current election rules. Ideally, this ratification will occur at Annual 2025.

42
43 **CONCLUSION**

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

APPENDIX A: 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 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.

APPENDIX B: RESOLUTION A-24-609

1. Our American Medical Association requires all groups that endorse candidates turn in information about their endorsement process, the deadline, and a staff contact for applications in a timely and streamlined manner.
2. Our AMA will then post this information on the **election** website in a timely manner, with the information being easily digestible and accessible.
3. Our AMA will not allow any group that fails to provide this information in a timely manner to offer an endorsement during that **election** cycle.
4. Our AMA will create a specific period (similar to virtual elections) during which endorsements may be sought.

APPENDIX C: June 28th, 2024 Speakers' Update, selected item

New endorsement process for AMA elections

Per HOD action at the 2024 Annual Meeting, all groups that endorse candidates for AMA elections will be required to submit contact information as well as details regarding their endorsement process to the HOD office to be disseminated via our AMA election website. Candidates may only be endorsed by groups who are on this list. Groups may choose which candidates to endorse during the endorsement window for each election cycle. The window will open at 6 a.m. local time on the Friday of the interim meeting 19 months prior and will close at 5 p.m. Central on the Friday of the annual meeting one year prior to the election. This will allow candidates to include endorsements on their announcement card to be projected at the close of the annual meeting one year in advance of the election, per our current rules.

Given that 2025 Annual Meeting candidates' announcement cards with endorsements have already been projected and posted online, this rule will be enforced for the 2026 Annual Meeting election cycle. These deadlines will be enforced for the endorsement window for the 2026 Annual Meeting elections:

Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, 5 p.m. Central—submission of endorsement information

Friday, Nov. 8, 2024, 6 a.m. Eastern—endorsement window open

Friday, June 6, 2025, 5 p.m. Central—endorsement window closes

A form is being developed for groups to submit information about their endorsement process and will be shared in a HOD communication as soon as it is completed. **The deadline to submit group information for the 2026 Annual Meeting is Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, at 5 p.m. Central.** Any group that fails to provide this information will **not** be allowed to offer an endorsement to 2026 Annual Meeting candidates. The HOD office will post this information on the [AMA election website](#) in a timely manner once submitted. Candidates considering election at the 2026 Annual Meeting are encouraged to review this list frequently as it is the candidate's responsibility to seek endorsements.