

The CAFP Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC) guides CAFP's legislative agenda and priorities. To carry out this function, the LAC reviews, analyzes, and recommends to the CAFP Board positions on proposed policies, regulations, legislation, ballot initiatives, and health care reform proposals. The LAC may also recommend organizational principles regarding CAFP's strategic and tactical approach to advocating on behalf of its members.

Committee Responsibilities

LAC is responsible for guiding CAFP's advocacy agenda and priorities. This includes:

- Assessing legislative, regulatory, and ballot proposals relative to existing CAFP and AAFP policy
- Recommend to the Board:
 - Positions on proposed legislation, regulation, and ballot initiatives.
 - New policies or amendments to existing policies
 - Opposing/adopting/amending assigned resolutions

Members may be asked to present on certain topics/bills during LAC meetings. In addition, members who are willing may be called to give testimony at the Capitol on CAFP's behalf, attend political events, or meet with legislators and government agency representatives to explain CAFP's position from a family physician's point of view.

Committee Structure

Membership

The LAC consists of 15 members, inclusive of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Members will be recommended by the CAFP VP of Advocacy and Policy/CAFP CEO in consultation with the committee chair, and approved by the CAFP Board.

Applicants to the LAC shall be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. Legislative/political interest and/or experience
2. Policy knowledge and experience
3. Diversity among the committee (demographic, viewpoints, mode of practice, location of practice, etc.)
4. Engagement with CAFP
5. Leadership experience

Invitations to LAC meetings are extended to five non-voting guests: Chairs of the CAFP Committee on Public Health and Equity, CAFP Medical Practice Affairs Committee, CAFP Membership Engagement Committee, as well as the Susan Hogeland Fellows (two). The LAC Chair must approve other invited guests. The CAFP CEO and President are non-voting members of the Committee.

Term Limits

LAC members are eligible for two, three-year terms or until replaced by the LAC Chair. A third term may be approved by the LAC Chair if needed to maintain committee membership numbers and expertise. The Committee chair may serve one additional term.

Committee Member Requirements and Expectations

Typically, LAC holds three face-to-face meetings each year, one in person and two by video or telephone. Other meetings may be called as necessary. Committee members must attend all meetings unless an absence is approved in advance by the Chair. Any member missing three consecutive meetings even if approved by the Chair will either be removed from the Committee or asked to take leave from the Committee to complete their term at a later date.

Committee members are expected to be responsive and prepared, including responding to email requests.

Committee members are expected to represent all family physicians/family medicine equally in their decision-making, forgoing personal ideology and interests. LAC members' responsibility is to CAFP and family physician members, not to other organizations' boards, staff, or leadership in which they are involved.

When LAC members have a conflict or think they may have a conflict, they should disclose the potential conflict and abstain from voting. All CAFP committee members are asked to complete an annual declaration of interest/conflict of interest form.