



2021 FEDERAL PRIORITIES



SUPPORTING PHYSICIANS AND THEIR ABILITY TO CARE FOR PATIENTS

Support enactment of legislation that addresses physician burnout and wellness, and funds programs that address suicide, substance use disorders, and mental health risk in the health care workforce.

Support policies that strengthen the financial stability of independent physician practices.



STRENGTHENING THE PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE WHERE IT IS NEEDED MOST

Support enactment of legislation that increases the physician workforce through expanded student loan repayment programs and increased graduate medical education funding.

Educate Congress on the importance of physician-led care in all communities, and how federal public health programs improve physician shortages in underserved rural and urban communities.



ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

Promote patient choice and network adequacy to ensure patients have timely access to covered services.

Support enactment of legislation that alleviates arbitrary burdens in step therapy and prior authorization to improve patients' access to prescription drugs and physician services.

Support enactment of legislation that expands access to medical services and prescription drugs that treat substance use disorder and manage chronic conditions.

Support enactment of legislation that promotes non-pharmacological pain management modalities, such as osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT), and promotes greater access to substance use disorder treatment.



REGULATORY REFORM

Support policies that address systemic issues and improve payment adequacy for medical services, reduce administrative burden, eliminate barriers to coverage and care, and strengthen the patient-physician relationship.

Support value-based arrangements that provide adequate reimbursement and greater flexibility in service delivery.

Support health information technology (HIT) policies that promote interoperability, reduce physician burden through improved data sharing and exchange capabilities, and make care delivery more efficient and seamless across the healthcare spectrum.



PUBLIC HEALTH

Promote policies that reduce health disparities across ethnic, racial, geographic, socioeconomic, and other underserved populations.

Support policies that increase awareness and utilization of evidence-based vaccine guidelines for adults and pediatrics, address vaccine hesitancy, expand patient and physician education, and ensure adequate payment for the administration of vaccines.

Support policies and programs that reduce nicotine and tobacco use in any form.

Support the public health workforce and robust coordination between federal, state, and local health departments.



FY 2022 FEDERAL FUNDING PRIORITIES

Support funding to strengthen our public health infrastructure and workforce, improve pandemic preparedness and response, and facilitate greater support for osteopathic physician-researchers and osteopathic institutions.