



Training in Policy Studies Fellowship Program

Website: <https://osteopathic.org/residents/tips-program/>

The AOA's Training in Policy Studies (TIPS) Fellowship Program is training the next generation of leaders in health policy. This program will provide residents with an understanding of current health policy issues and help them build skills necessary to tackle complex public health challenges through policy. Issues addressed in the program include effectively communicating policy proposals, payment model reform, building the future health care workforce, and policy approaches to addressing public health issues.

The program will seek to develop the following skills:

- Policy analysis: Fellows will enhance their analytical skills by reviewing policy proposals and evaluating their impact, as well as through developing their own proposals.
- Data translation: Fellows will hone their ability to translate research and data into usable information for policy makers.
- Writing for policy change: Fellows will develop a policy paper during the fellowship to adapt and apply their writing abilities to the public policy environment.
- Leadership and communication: Fellows will gain a greater understanding of how to be an effective spokesperson for their patients and for the profession. Fellows will also have the opportunity to engage with professionals in the health policy field.

Meeting Participation:

Fellows will participate in a total of seven learning sessions, including a final presentation. Of these sessions, four will be in-person, and three will be held digitally. The program will start at OMED 2019 and conclude at the 2020 Public Policy Tri-Bureau Meeting. Final presentations will be presented at the conclusion of the program. TIPS Fellows must participate in at least 80% of the meetings in order to receive a certificate at the end of the program.

Engagement:

Reading and projects outside of class sessions help support Fellows' learning and facilitate thoughtful discussion and policy analysis during meetings. We recognize the time constraints that residents face, and have worked to design assignments to be accomplished in the time allotted without overburdening residents. Assignments will include:

- Readings for each discussion session
- 1-2 policy briefs (1 page)
 - 1 policy brief will be written on a subject chosen for the full cohort, and/or
 - 1 policy brief will be based on the subject of the Fellow's choosing and will serve as a building block for starting the final research paper
- 1 final paper (3-4 pages)
 - The final paper will evaluate a unique public health or health policy issue and propose policy changes that can be implemented to address the issue. The paper will be research based and will help Fellows enhance their translation and analytical skills. The ultimate goal is to develop a manuscript that Fellows can submit to the JAOA for publication in the "Health Policy" section.

Agenda:

Meeting Dates	Subject(s)	Description and Assigned Reading Due Dates
<p>October 26, 2019 (3 hour in-person meeting at OMED 2019, Baltimore, MD)</p>	<p>Program Overview</p> <p>Part 1: Writing for Policy Change</p> <p>Part 2: Legislative Affairs and the healthcare reform debate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AOA President, Dr. Ronald Burns, will welcome the new cohort of Fellows and lead a discussion on the importance of physician involvement in policymaking. - The President of the American Osteopathic Foundation will provide a welcome to the fellows, discuss the importance of engagement with the foundation, and provide an overview of the foundation’s work. - We will discuss the objectives of the TIPS program, work that the Fellows will engage in, and approaches to writing for policy change. The writing workshop will help prepare Fellows to complete their policy paper. - A guest speaker will present and lead discussion focusing on how to produce work for publication. - The legislative affairs discussion will provide fellows with insight into the policy making process from when a bill is introduced to when it is signed into law. The discussion will address how stakeholder requests or needs are incorporated into legislation. This background will then be used to describe how physician organizations would approach the Medicare for All legislation. <p>Guest Speakers: Ronald Burns, DO, AOA President; Others to be announced.</p> <p>Suggested Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S 1129 <i>Medicare for All Act of 2019</i>
<p>Policy Brief # 1 Due 1 Week Before December Meeting (11/29/2018)</p>		
<p>December 5, 2019 (90 minute digital)</p>	<p>Part 1: Overview on State Legislative Issues and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first part of this discussion will provide a panorama on issues affecting the osteopathic profession and patients at the state level. Issues include telemedicine, liability issues, and scope of practice.

meeting)	<p>Policy Making:</p> <p>Part 2: What is grassroots engagement in the American political system, and how it affects policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part 2 of this meeting will address the role of grassroots efforts in the policymaking process and how stakeholders mobilize to shape policy. - Guest Speakers: Raine Richards. JD, Director of State Government Affairs for the AOA; Sean Neal, Director of OPAC <p>Suggested Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TBD
<p>February 27-28, 2020 (2 90-minute in-person meetings at LEAD Conference, Manalapan, FL)</p>	<p>Part 1: Physician Burnout and Mental Health</p> <p>Part 2: Physician engagement on quality measurement programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first 90 minute meeting will address the issue of physician burnout, mental health, and protecting physicians who seek help. This segment will feature a presentation from the American Osteopathic Foundation - The second 90 minute meeting will provide a high level overview of existing quality measurement programs, how they are often closely tied to physician burnout, and why physician engagement to reform these programs is crucial. - Guest Speaker: American Osteopathic Foundation Leadership; Speakers to be announced - Suggested Readings: - Klees et al. "Brief Summaries of Medicare & Medicaid, Title XVIII and Title XIX of the Social Security Act". CMS. November 20, 2017. https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/MedicareProgramRatesStats/Downloads/MedicareMedicaidSummaries2017.pdf - "Health Policy Brief: Implementing MACRA" <i>Health Affairs</i>, March 27, 2017. https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hpb20170327.272560/full/. - Quality Payment Program Participation Criteria for Year 2 (2018). CMS. May 19, 2018. https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/Participation-

		Criteria-for-Year-2-QPP-slides.pdf -
Policy Brief Revision/Optional Brief Due 2 Weeks Before March Meeting		
March 17-19 2020 (3 hour in-person meeting held March 19 in Washington, DC)	Part 1: Media Training Part 2: Writing Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part 1 of this segment will offer an interactive media training that will help Fellows hone their ability to communicate issues on-the-spot with the media. - Part 2, the writing workshop, will be used to help Fellows work through challenges they may be facing in developing their final papers. Fellows will review each other's briefs and provide each other with feedback. <p>Guest Presentation: Jessica Bardoulas, Director of Media Relations, AOA</p> <p>Suggested Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ryan and Ellimoottil. "The ultimate guide to writing manuscripts" The University of Michigan. November 2016.
Paper Drafts Due 2 Weeks Before May Meeting		
May 2020 (90 minute digital meeting)	Part 1: Overview of the rulemaking process Part 2: Regulations Affecting Access to Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first part of the meeting will describe the rulemaking process and its importance in implementing laws. - The second part of the meeting will address regulations that affect access to care. <p>Suggested Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Announced before meeting.
July 2020 (90 minute digital meeting)	Part 1: Prescription drug pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This meeting will focus on prescription drug costs in the US, with a particular focus on current Trump administration efforts to address drug pricing issues in Medicare.

		<p>Suggested Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President Donald J. Trump’s Blueprint to Lower Drug Prices. May 2018. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trumps-blueprint-lower-drug-prices/Department of Health and Human Services. “Blueprint to Lower Drug Prices and Reduce Out-of-Pocket Costs Request for Information.” June 2018. https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/16/2018-10435/hhs-blueprint-to-lower-drug-prices-and-reduce-out-of-pocket-costs - Jena, Anupam B. “Opinion: US drug prices higher than in the rest of the world, here’s why”. The Hill. January 19, 2018. http://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/369727-us-drug-prices-higher-than-in-the-rest-of-the-world-heres-why - Anderson, Richard. “Pharmaceutical industry gets high on fat profits”. BBC. November 6, 2014. https://www.bbc.com/news/business-28212223
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Final Papers and Presentations Due 2 Weeks before September Meeting

<p>September 2020 Tri-Bureau Meeting (3 hour in-person meeting in Washington, DC)</p>	<p>Part 1: Why Health Care Costs are So High in America, and What the Future Holds. Part 2: Policy Presentations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Part 1 will be the program’s concluding discussion on health care costs in the United States and different proposals for reforming our health care system and different models for how to pay for care. - During part 2, the fellows will present their policy proposals to the group and to members of AOA policy bureaus. Certificates will be distributed to Fellows completing the program. <p>Suggested Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parente ST. Factors Contributing to Higher Health Care Spending in the United States Compared With Other High-Income Countries. JAMA. 2018;319(10):988–990 - Papanicolaos I, Woskie L, Jha A. Health Care Spending in the United States and Other High-Income Countries. Jama [serial online]. March 13, 2018;319(10):1024-1039. Available from: MEDLINE Complete, Ipswich, MA. Accessed July 13, 2018.
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