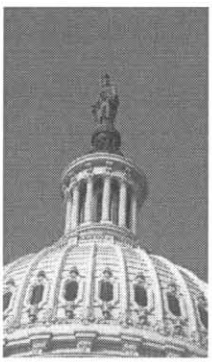
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Washington Health Policy Fellowship 2005



Purpose

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) Washington Health Policy Fellowship Program is designed to encourage participation of orthopaedic residents and fellows (i.e., those who have completed their residency training and are undertaking an additional year of study in a fellowship) in the federal health policy arena in Washington, DC.

The program seeks to foster the development of a new generation of advocates who are interested in policy-relevant topics of long-range importance and who are willing to become key members of a volunteer network built around such topics. This program offers orthopaedic residents and fellows the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the health policy process and to contribute to the development of new policies and programs.

Through interaction with senior AAOS management, project and staff work, and participation in the development and implementation of a cohesive healthcare policy strategy, health policy fellows develop a strong foundation toward becoming leaders in a challenging and exciting health care environment.

The Washington Health Policy Fellowship Program is seeking individuals who:

- Have the desire to learn about the political process and to contribute to policymaking through intensive involvement.

- Are willing to demonstrate a long-term commitment to these goals by participating in AAOS activities over the course of their careers.

- Bring a fresh and innovative approach to problem solving and a willingness to tackle perplexing healthcare issues.

- Communicate with other residents/fellows about the importance of involvement in the health policy process.

Program Description

The program will fund up to two orthopaedic residents per year and provide them the opportunity to work in the legislative and regulatory arena for a multi-week period during a 12-month period.

There are no minimum or maximum time requirements. A fellow could opt to spend a finite block of time in Washington, DC or come intermittently throughout the year as time permits. The AAOS Washington Office will work with the selected applicants to design a flexible program that meets his/her needs, interests and schedule.

Health Policy Fellows will be expected to help develop legislative proposals,

conduct meetings with both legislative and executive branch staff members, and participate in the Academy's volunteer structure as needed. Health Policy Fellows will take part in all areas of the policy process as a member of the AAOS Washington Office.

During this program, in addition to attending appropriate AAOS functions and participating in the federal legislative or regulatory process, the resident must complete a presentation or publishable paper on some aspect of the health policy issues covered during his/her fellowship program.

Eligibility

Orthopaedic residents in any year of study or fellows with experience or interest in socio-economic affairs, government relations, and the policymaking process are encouraged to apply.

Mentors

Integral to the program is a commitment by the Academy that those selected to participate will work closely with a senior Academy volunteer orthopaedic surgeon who can provide technical expertise related to the health policy fellow's daily activities, assist in accessing the Academy's resources, and help identify other collaborative opportunities within the Academy.

The program encourages co-authorship of papers and articles with Academy volunteers as appropriate.

Housing/Travel Stipend

Health Policy Fellows will be reimbursed for their housing and travel expenses to and from Washington, DC within certain specified limits.

Application Process

An application package must include the following documents:

❶ **A packet from the applicant** containing:

- ☐ A ***cover letter*** that includes your complete contact information throughout the application period;
- ☐ An up-to-date ***curriculum vitae***;
- ☐ ***Brief essays*** on the following topics:

(1) The reasons why you want to be an AAOS Washington Health Policy Fellow, including a discussion of your major strengths and qualifications for the program. (250-300 words)

AND

(2a) What do you believe are the most difficult challenge(s) facing the healthcare delivery system today and what solutions should policymakers explore and why. (250-300 words)

OR

(2b) Discuss whether you believe there is a need for healthcare reform and if so, what reforms would you implement and why. (250-300 words)

❷ **A letter of recommendation from the applicant's program chair/director** containing an evaluation of the applicant's qualifications and an endorsement of applicant's participation in this program.

Application Deadline

In order to be considered for acceptance into the program, all applications must be received no later than ***September 15, 2004.***

All applications and inquiries about the program should be directed to:

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