

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Puerto Rico**In this Issue:**

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***Upcoming NCE***

The AAP National Conference and Exhibition is coming up fast and will be held from October 11-14 in Boston, MA. At the conference, we will have our annual Resident Assembly that Saturday.

There will be a resident reception the night before the assembly, Friday, October 10 at 6:30 to the launch the meeting. The reception will be a great place to network and meet other delegates. In addition, the top 10 submissions to the Resident Section Clinical Case program will be on display and the winner will be announced by Dr. Kamat from the University of Michigan.

There will also be a Peds-21 pre-NCE course on Friday, October 10 prior to the NCE in Boston. Remember that all residents who pay the 1-day registration rate may attend this event. Peds-21 is an AAP initiative with them aim of addressing emerging issues that will affect the practice of pediatrics in the 21st century. This year's focus is on oral health and will feature speakers such as the former Surgeon General David Satcher, MD.

Each accredited pediatric residency program is eligible to receive one \$300 travel grant for their residency program delegate(s). Your program directors were sent information about this grant in July. Please speak to your program director if you would like to attend the NCE as a program delegate.

Everything you need to know about the NCE Resident Section Program and registration can be found at:

<http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/education>

AAP Member Benefits

Want to know what the benefits of being a Resident Section Member of the AAP are?

- ❖ Pediatrics, AAP News, Red Book
- ❖ AAP.org Members only center
- ❖ Pediatric Care On-line
- ❖ Pedialink and Resident Center
- ❖ YoungPeds Network
- ❖ AAP Policy Statements
- ❖ AAP Section on Residents Membership
- ❖ Section and Chapter membership
- ❖ National Committee participation
- ❖ Resident programs at NCE
- ❖ Discounts on AAP products/services
- ❖ PREP curriculum
- ❖ Pediatrics in Review (Print and Online Access)
- ❖ AAP Grand Rounds (print & online access)
- ❖ Pediatric Environmental Health
- ❖ International Travel Grants
- ❖ Resident Research Grants
- ❖ NCE Travel Grants,
- ❖ Anne E. Dyson Child Advocacy Award Program
- ❖ Resident Initiative Fund



Economic Loan Deferment - 20/220 Pathway

The AAP joined the AMA, ACP, AAFP, ACOG and numerous other medical organizations in sending a letter to the Secretary of Education urging her to reinstate the debt-to-income ratio of the economic hardship loan deferment ("20/220 pathway") permanently or provide an equivalent funding mechanism for loan deferments so that medical residents continue to have an option to postpone loan payments, without facing financial penalties, during a crucial time in their training.

To see the sign on letter:

http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/whats_new/07292008signonlettertoEDon%20proposed%20rule_1.pdf

Leadership Opportunities For Residents

Are you interested in becoming a leader in the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Resident Section? Each year the section recruits interested residents into leadership positions.

The following positions are open:

- District coordinator
- Assistant district coordinator
- Section secretary
- Section vice chairperson

The deadline for the above positions is October 1, 2008.

Section liaisons:

- Community Access to Child Health (CATCH)
- Medical Student Subcommittee Chair (AMSA liaison)
- Section on Administration and Practice Management
- Section on Epidemiology
- Section on Hospital Medicine
- Section on Pediatric Dentistry/Steering Committee on Oral Health

The deadline for liaison positions is November 1, 2008. More information can be found at: http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/resident/leader_opps.html

New Product For Residents: Pediatric Care On-line

We have great news for all pediatric residents for the 08-09 academic year. Starting in August 2008, the AAP will provide free of charge to all pediatric residents a 1-year subscription to [Pediatric Care Online](#) where the *Bright Futures for PDA* can be downloaded along with a host of great resources from the Academy.

Contact your Mead-Johnson representatives for access to the program at: <http://www.pediatriccareonline.org/prepared/>

International Elective Award

Each academic year, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) will have a minimum of twelve, five-hundred dollar (\$500.00) awards to be given in **two cycles** (minimum of 6 grants per cycle) to categorical or combined-training pediatric residents who wish to complete a clinical pediatric elective in the developing world during residency. Awards are given solely on the basis of the application and an accompanying letter from the applicant's program director. The selection committee is composed of members from the AAP Section on International Child Health and the AAP Section on Residents.

The International Elective Awards will be given within two cycles, due **September 15** and **March 15**. Recipients of the September cycle will be notified by November 15 and recipients of the March cycle will be notified by May 15 each year. The online application will be available year round at http://www.aap.org/sections/ypn/r/funding_awards/intertravelgrant-form.html

For more information, contact Kimberley VandenBrook, Program Coordinator Resident Initiatives, at kvandenbrook@aap.org or 800/433-9016 ext. 7134.

Residents Respond About Their Adolescent Training

The AAP Adolescent Health Partnership Project recently completed an assessment on residents' perspectives on their adolescent health competencies and related issues to caring for adolescents. The results will be used to develop adolescent health training resources and activities targeted for residents and residency programs.

Over 300 residents completed the assessment during January- April 2008. The respondents were of nearly equal proportion between PGY1, PGY2, and PGY3, with a smaller proportion of the respondents from the PGY4 level. The majority of the residents felt comfortable caring for adolescent patients; however the enjoyment level decreased as the age of the adolescent increased. The respondents also rated their skill level for managing adolescent patients and a broad number of adolescent health issues.

To receive more information about the results of the resident assessment on adolescent health training, or the AAP Adolescent Health Partnership Project, contact Charlotte O. Zia, MPH, CHES, Program Manager, at czia@aap.org or 847-434-7870.

FDA Tobacco Bill Resident Advocacy

TELL CONGRESS: Protect Children from the Harms of Tobacco! The American Academy of Pediatrics supports giving the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) strong authority to regulate tobacco products and tobacco marketing to children and adolescents. The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (H.R. 1108/S. 625), will adopt a science-based approach to protecting children and the public from the dangers of tobacco.

For more information, and to contact your representatives regarding this legislation, please visit <http://aap.grassroots.com/fdatobacco/> now and show your support for the bill!

Starting In Practice Handbook: Getting Started

Joining or starting a practice is an exciting and challenging career step for pediatricians. The [Starting in Practice Handbook](#) is a practical, innovative, and evolving resource developed by a working group consisting of American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) [Practice Management Online](#) (PMO) editorial advisory board members and representatives of the AAP Section on Resident and Section on Young Physicians.

The first section of this series is posted on PMO. Section 1 was designed to help pediatricians choose a location to practice medicine or open a practice. The following topics are addressed in this section: personal and family needs, financial considerations, assessing the community, practice types, current trends in malpractice and professional relationships and opportunities. Check back often for updates as new content will continue to be added.

Uniform Fellowship Application Progress

At the 2003 NCE, the Section on Residents approved a resolution to “examine the feasibility to develop a uniform application and application date one year prior to the start of fellowship [rather than the usual two years].” The concerns that prompted the resolution included the complexity of the process and the pressure residents felt at making a career choice prior to (1) a broad exposure to the options or (2) completing interviews at other programs.

Four years and much effort later, the recommendations are official. Here is an overview of what we set into motion (accomplished!!!) with the resolution.

Link to the Federation of Pediatric Organizations policy statement:

<http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics:114/1/295>

Summary of the CoPS recommendations:

1. Recommend that all Pediatric Subspecialties utilize ERAS:
 - Each subspecialty would choose the best ERAS application release date (either July 15th or December 1st) for their group.
 - Goal: All eligible subspecialties would be encouraged to utilize ERAS by the 2010 cycle
2. In order to allow flexibility for subspecialties and enhance fairness to the applicants, we recommend utilizing a match, but suggest two match dates from which subspecialties could choose. These dates would be in the late spring and late fall.
 - These suggested dates would dovetail with the ERAS release dates:
 1. 3rd week in May (13 1/2 months prior to starting fellowship) to coincide with a December application ERAS release date

or

 2. 1st week in December (7 months prior to starting fellowship) to coincide with a July ERAS application release date.
 - If a subspecialty is currently utilizing a match date different than the two suggested above, they do not have to change.
3. The evolution of this process will be reassessed by CoPS on a yearly basis by communication with ERAS, NRMP, and surveys of fellows and program directors. Results of the yearly assessment will be made available to the entire subspecialty community.

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***American
Academy of
Pediatrics***

***Section on
Residents***

Visit the resident Section Website!

<http://www.aap.org/ypr/r>

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New program delegates have been elected and will be announced at the NCE