Passionate Child Advocacy

State Advocacy  aap.org/stgovaffairs

Take advantage of resources and information from the AAP, your state chapter and coalition partners. Be active in your chapter and ensure that all pediatricians in your state use consistent information and messages about key advocacy issues. Achieve strength in numbers, maximize your credibility and increase your influence by speaking with one collective voice on behalf of pediatricians and children. Make a difference in your state and help your chapter be more effective.

Federal Advocacy  federaladvocacy.aap.org

Advocate for children and pediatricians in numerous ways with the support of the AAP Department of Federal Affairs. Become an AAP Key Contact ⭐️ by emailing kids1st@aap.org and you’ll receive important assignments, timely federal updates and information on upcoming events related to federal advocacy. Make an impact by meeting with members of Congress and writing to the media about child health priorities within federal policy.

Access advocacy education, training opportunities, consultation services, technical assistance and online advocacy resources (e.g. the AAP Advocacy Guide).

Community Pediatrics & Funding Opportunities

Community Pediatrics aims to improve child health and reduce health disparities within the context of family, school, and community. We provide resources, technical assistance, and funding opportunities to help you address child health within your community.

Community Pediatrics Training Initiative  aap.org/commpeds

This initiative trains pediatricians with the skills and knowledge needed to improve the health of all children in the community.

Community Access to Child Health (CATCH)  aap.org/catch

CATCH grants help pediatricians to remove barriers to care within their communities and increase access to medical homes. The program provides planning, implementation, and resident grants along with training and technical assistance.

Healthy Tomorrows  aap.org/htpcp

Through the Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program (HTPCP), the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) funds projects to improve the health status of mothers, infants, children, and adolescents by increasing their access to a medical home and promoting preventive services.

“When the real value of the Academy for me has been its strong focus on the health and well-being of children. Whenever I’ve brought a concern to the Academy, it’s found a way to be supportive. The opportunities I’ve had to keep child safety and pediatric emergency and disaster medicine in front of those who impact the medical care of children on the state and national levels would not have happened without the Academy.”

Steven Krug, MD, FAAP
Pediatric Emergency Medicine
Member since 1987
Chicago, IL
Get Involved & Make Compelling Connections

aap.org/getinvolved

Don’t just join, get involved with the AAP. You can make the experience whatever you want it to be depending on your available time and what’s important to you. We are here to help connect you to the opportunity that could have a life-changing impact on your professional life and for the kids that sparked your passion for pediatrics.

Chapters
Get involved and enhance your leadership skills by participating in state chapters. Shape the development and implementation of child health policy and advocate at the state and local levels through one of our 59 US chapters. Members in each chapter establish legislative priorities and volunteer their efforts to see them through. Chapters partner with other organizations in each state to advance children’s health and well-being.

Committees
AAP Members on National Committees develop the majority of policy statements published by the AAP and author books based on their area(s) of expertise. Once members are notified of all committee vacancies, they are encouraged to nominate Fellows (including themselves) for positions. All committee members are board appointed.

Sections and Councils
Pediatric generalists and subspecialists do remarkable things for children through their involvement with the AAP.

Join multiple sections and/or councils based on your member type and the criteria established by the sections or councils. Most have established annual dues that range from $10–$105 in addition to national dues.

Sections are groups within the AAP that advance their respective special interests through policy development, education, and advocacy for children. Members within each section guide AAP policies, clinical reports and practice standards, and act as AAP representatives to other organizations. Each section presents leadership opportunities through an elected executive committee and many appointed sub-committees.

Councils represent the evolution of committees and sections working in the same field into an integrated structure. Similar to sections, they generate policy, create educational programming and resources, develop and promote advocacy initiatives, support translation of policy and education into practice, and integrate and evaluate these effort to maximize impact.

“For me, it started with media, but now I spend more time with office management. As your career evolves, your involvement with the Academy can evolve as well. Through my involvement, I’ve become a better pediatrician and a better business person. I think my patients see it too.”

Alanna Levine, MD, FAAP
General Pediatrics
Member since 1999
Orangeburg, NY