AMA-RFS State/Specialty Society Delegate Roles and Responsibilities

AMA-RFS state and specialty society delegates are a critical communications link between the AMA and resident and fellow physicians. Specifically, representatives act as “Ambassadors of the AMA” to their resident and fellow peers in two important ways. First, they solicit residents and fellows’ input on problems that impact their training and/or their patients and how the AMA can help to address them through policy, advocacy efforts, or other offerings/programs. Second, AMA-RFS representatives promote the value of AMA membership and opportunities to join our efforts at the grassroots level. By acting as AMA Ambassadors, representatives enable state or specialty societies of residents and fellows to become more visible, active, and effective. As a result, AMA-RFS delegates help shape the AMA’s activities and advocacy to address the issues that matter most to residents and fellows.

Shape AMA’s Agenda and Activities

- Be familiar with AMA-RFS policy and actions and submit resolutions to our AMA-RFS Assembly.
- Provide input on pending AMA-RFS items of business before the Assembly (including resolutions and reports) using the virtual reference committee. Encourage your resident and fellow colleagues who do not participate in the meeting to submit their comments online.
- Be active at your state and specialty society caucuses that are convened during AMA-HOD meetings and share any input on pending AMA-RFS resolutions with the AMA-RFS delegate (or alternate delegate).
- Assembly members are encouraged to sign up for the AMA Morning Rounds Weekend Edition, a weekly e-newsletter that highlights the latest top-of-the-page news and information for physicians and physicians in training, including residents and fellows. When registering for AMA Morning Rounds, select to receive news for residents and fellows.
- Keep the AMA-RFS informed about current activities/programs that your state or specialty society has for residents and fellows and identify opportunities for co-marketing with the AMA.
- Seek input from your resident and fellow colleagues about specific member benefits that they would like to see the AMA offer and email rfs@ama-assn.org with your suggestions.
- Act as “Ambassador of the AMA” to resident and fellow peers.
- Attend the AMA-RFS Assembly meeting and report highlights back to the state or specialty society that sponsors your representation.
- Distribute actions from the AMA-RFS business meeting directly to residents and fellows in your state or specialty society.
• Utilize AMA recruiting and membership tools to distribute at other local and national meetings you attend, including AMA-RPS brochures and fliers and PowerPoint presentations.
• Invite Governing Council members to your annual state or specialty society RFS meetings so that they can provide the AMA’s perspective, learn more about grassroots concerns and solicit feedback on the AMA’s activities and agenda.
• Post valuable AMA-related information to your hospital or clinic bulletin board or display them in your staff lounge, including AMA-RFS blast e-mails, AMA-RFS Council/AMA Board and Council reports, Assembly meeting summaries of actions, and general membership information found on the AMA web site (http://www.ama-assn.org) and AMA-RFS home page (click here)
• Participate in the AMA-RFS Resident Engagement Leaders program to recruit peer members to the RFS.
• Build a communications network to promote AMA membership and involvement at the grassroots level (e.g., contact 10 residents and fellows and ask those ten people to contact ten other residents and fellows).
• Disseminate AMA-RFS publications to your colleagues.
• Use highlights of AMA-RFS Assembly meetings and Delegates’ reports in your recruitment efforts.
• Identify new residents and fellows to your state or specialty society and encourage them to get involved in both AMA activities and your state/specialty society’s activities.
• Encourage residents and fellows who have never attended an AMA-RFS meeting to do so.
• Encourage your colleagues to take an interest in running for delegate seats (from your state or specialty) to our AMA-RFS, the Governing Council, or other AMA Council or committee positions.
• Promote the importance of being involved in AMA-RFS efforts to your society’s leadership.